Central Valley Progressive Political Action Committee
Endorsement Questionnaire for 2018 State Assembly Candidates

Name __Jose Sigala_____District #__26_____

Name of Campaign Committee _Sigala For Assembly 2018_____

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Candidate's Signature _____ *Jose Sigala* _____ Date ____April 19,2018___

<u>Please limit your responses to no more than 300 words per question.</u>

1) Do you support single-payer healthcare in the state of California? Why or why not? What will you do to ensure access to high-quality, affordable healthcare? **I do support single payer health care for all Californians because I firmly believe that affordable and quality healthcare should be available to everyone. As a Legislator I will advocate for and vote for single payer healthcare legislation.**

2) What will you do to address the pressing environmental issues faced by the Central Valley, including improving air quality, as well as access to clean water and promotion of water conservation? **I will ask and lobby the leadership to be appointed to the appropriate legislative committee that addresses this issue to assure the central valley is not left behind when it comes to resources and funds needed to address this issue. I have a long standing record of advocating for clean air, water and protecting natural resources that will allow me to work with advocates to make a difference.**

3) Are you supportive of California's leadership in defending immigrant communities and resisting national policies attacking immigrants, particularly undocumented communities? Would you work to strengthen this role? Explain. **Yes, I am a supporter of California's leadership in defending immigrant communities and resisting attacks on all immigrants regardless of legal status. I would work to strengthen this goal and continue to be an advocate as I have as a Member of the Tulare City Council. I was very proud to have been one of the few council members in Tulare county to have garnered support for DACA recipients and to bring forward a discussion on SB 54 which highlighted the role of our local police in no enforcing immigration law.**

4) Consider the state's $7.5 billion state general fund surplus. What would be your top three or four priorities for this money? **My priority will be funding access to**

healthcare, strengthening the educational system, protecting the environment and addressing poverty across my district. I strongly believe more can be done to address these issues in the central valley, especially in the south valley where we are often ignored.

5) What will you do to defend, support, and expand access to high-quality public education in the state of California? Be sure your answer addresses the public university as well as K-12 systems. **I will work to assure that a portion of any new funding is dedicated to public education. I oppose any public funds going to expand charter schools and oppose strongly any funds used for voucher programs. Assuring access to higher education for students by keeping tuition rates low and working towards a free colleges system is a priority for me.**

6) What concerns you about the state's criminal justice systems? Include in your discussion your thoughts on the elimination of the state bail-bond system. What will you do to address these concerns? **I support the effort in the legislature to reform our bail-bond system. I will work with advocates to support efforts to not only address this issue but continue to focus on a number of issues that impact people of color in the criminal justice system. There are still a number of issues that need to be addressed, such as, sentencing, police brutality, access to adequate legal services, targeting and over population in our prisons.**

7) What will you do to support and protect equality in voting access, encourage equal voting participation and combat voter suppression in the State of California? **I will work to make sure there is adequate oversight to assure all 58 counties are working to expand and not reduce equal voting participation. I will work with the Secretary of State to assure there is legislation introduced to address any issues and shortcomings regarding this issue.**

8) What will you do to address poverty and lack of high quality jobs in the Central Valley? **Addressing poverty and improving the quality of life for the residents of the 26th District is one of my top priorities. Assuring the adequate resources are in place is very important in addressing this issue. Making sure are schools are top notch and that we work to think outside the box to bring new high quality jobs to the central valley is key to reducing poverty.**

9) What specifically do you plan to do to help ensure the state's stock of affordable, safe and decent housing increases significantly? **First and foremost make this a priority for the district. Unfortunately, the current leadership does not see this as a priority. There are millions of dollars statewide to address this issue and we need someone who will work to draw down on these funds to make sure we get our fair share in the central valley. I will work with housing advocates in my district to see who we and lay out a plan to work with cities and counties to assure we increase affordable housing.**

10) In conclusion, tell us what you consider to be the top three progressive priorities of your campaign (these can include issues addressed above, or add details not yet addressed in this questionnaire). **My top three priorities for the district are encompassed in my overall campaign theme to improve the quality of life for the residents of the 26th Assembly District. This includes, addressing poverty, education, the environment (including water issues) and creating high quality jobs to reduce the "brain drain" in the central valley.**

Thank you so much for your time and energy in completing this questionnaire. Your answers will be distributed to our members prior to our March endorsement meeting through the CVPPAC Web site.