

**Central Valley Progressive Political Action Committee
Endorsement Questionnaire for Congressional District 16
Candidates**

Name Jim Costa 16th Congressional District

Name of Campaign Committee _____

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For the first 5 questions answer yes or no:

- Do you support Roe v. Wade in which the Supreme Court ruled that the Constitution of the United States protects a pregnant woman's liberty to choose to have an abortion without excessive government restriction?

Yes, I have always supported a woman's right to choose.

- Do you support overturning Citizens United?

Yes, this is a start but much more campaign finance reform is needed.

- Do you support the single payer healthcare for all model?

I believe in a healthcare for all model.

- Do you support the impeachment of Donald Trump and his removal from office?

The evidence gathered so far by the impeachment inquiry grows more alarming by the day. We cannot turn a blind eye to abuse of power. As a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, I am working every day to determine if the President attempted to undermine our democracy. We must follow the facts where they lead. Until the House Judiciary Committee brings forward specific articles of impeachment I cannot provide a yes or no answer.

- **Do you Support the Green New Deal?**

No, however I do believe in climate change and see its effects in my own district everyday. We here in California have made great steps in combating its effects and I believe all states and countries should follow the California standard. I protested President Trump's withdrawal from the Paris Climate Agreement, and I cosponsored and voted to approve HR-9 (The Climate Action Now Act).

Please limit your responses to no more than 800 words for the following 4 questions (200 words per question).

- **Please comment on the use of private companies for detaining immigrants and your reaction to separating children from their parents and putting them in cages.**

This is an outrageous policy. I think it is morally disgusting and un-American. For over a decade I have been calling for bipartisan and comprehensive reform to fix our broken immigration system. For too long, our nation's immigration policy has been the result of slapping together short-term, narrow-sighted, and often contradictory policies. We must come together as Democrats and Republicans and find a bipartisan, long-term solution that makes our immigration system fair and functional. The privatization of detention centers does not allow for appropriate oversight. I have supported numerous pieces of legislation that call for an end to this unjust policy. I have also supported and continuously voted for the passage of the DREAM Act to protect our dreamers.

- Do you support raising the federal minimum wage and if so, what do you think it should be?

Yes, I have voted for the Raise The Wage Act (HR-582), which would raise the federal minimum wage to fifteen dollars. I know the federal minimum wage has not been raised in over a decade and has not kept up with inflation and has left working families behind.

- What measures would you take to guarantee clean and safe drinking water for all residents in California?

Everything depends on being able to trust the water coming out of your tap. It is impossible to be clean, productive, and healthy without clean and safe drinking water. I have long supported ensuring sufficient water supply is available to our valley communities. Many of our communities depend on both surface and ground water for their drinking water. That's why I advocate for a comprehensive approach for ensuring sufficient water through legislation such as The Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act. I've worked to ensure we have the flexibility necessary to deliver water where it is needed. By supporting innovation in ground water recharge we are working to ensure the quality of our valley's groundwater can be maintained at a high level.

- What is your plan to end homelessness?

Homelessness is one of the most difficult and multi faceted issues we face today. The causes of homelessness are vast from high rent and low wages, substance abuse, to mental illness there are many different approaches to address this issue in our communities. Approximately 8.5% of the homeless population are veterans. That is why I have worked hard to secure \$92 Millions dollars in funding to open the Fresno Veterans Home and worked to improve veteran's healthcare. Obviously there is much more we need to do together locally, statewide, and on the federal level. We must have a coherent strategy in place and I am working to that end.

Thank you so much for your time and energy in completing this questionnaire. Your answers will be distributed to our members prior to the December 7, 2019 endorsement meeting through the CVPPAC Website.

Please return this questionnaire by email to Mike Rhodes <mikerhodes@comcast.net>.
The deadline is Wednesday, November 27 at 11:59 p.m.