



WEST LA DEMOCRATIC CLUB  
APPLICATION FOR CONSIDERATION OF ENDORSEMENT AND  
CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

ERIC ALEGRIA

**I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that I am a registered Democrat and that the statements in this document and those in any attachments are true and correct. If any part of this application or any information provided during the endorsement process is found to be false, it may be cause for an immediate revocation of any endorsement. I understand that my application is available to any WLADC member upon request.**

*Eric Alegria*

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12.17.25

Signature of Candidate

Print Full Name

Date

**Please provide written answers to the questions below:**

1. Why are you running for this office?

**I'm running for State Senate because I believe California should remain a place where hard work and determination actually lead to opportunity—and right now, too many families feel like the finish line keeps getting farther away.**

**As a competitive runner, I learned early on that a race is only fair when everyone starts from the same starting line. That lesson has guided my entire life. Growing up as the son of a teacher and an accountant, I saw how education and financial stability can give families a real foundation. But as a teenager, working alongside farmworkers in apple-packing warehouses, I also saw how people who worked just as hard faced barriers that had nothing to do with effort or character. That's when I understood that hard work alone isn't enough—government has a responsibility to remove obstacles and provide the support people need to succeed.**

**For the past three decades, that's exactly what I've tried to do. As Mayor of Rancho Palos Verdes, I brought people together to deliver real results—making our city one of the safest in California, leading through the Portuguese Bend landslide to protect homes and secure state resources, and preserving our coastline for future generations. As a school board member, educator, nonprofit leader, health care executive, and small business owner, I've worked from every angle to improve quality of life for families.**

**Now, with our current State Senator term-limited, this district needs experienced, collaborative leadership that understands both the South Bay and West Los Angeles—and knows how to get things done. I’m running to take that local problem-solving experience to Sacramento, to fight for good jobs, affordable housing, quality schools, accessible health care, and safe communities.**

**At the end of the day, this is personal. I’m a father of four. Every policy I fight for comes back to one simple question: are we giving our kids—and every family—a fair shot to succeed? I’m running for State Senate to make sure the answer is yes.**

2. What are your top 3 issues? Include the role that a State Senator can take in addressing those issues and the specific steps/plans you have.

**At its core, I’m focused on three things that determine whether families in our district can actually get ahead: affordability and economic opportunity, public safety, and making sure our kids and seniors are supported through strong schools and accessible health care.**

**Affordability and Economic Opportunity: Too many families are working hard and still feeling like they’re falling behind. Housing costs are out of control, small businesses are buried in red tape, and good jobs—especially in industries like entertainment—are leaving California. My plan is to expand job training and apprenticeship programs that lead directly to good-paying jobs, support small businesses by cutting unnecessary bureaucracy while protecting workers, expand first-time homebuyer and workforce housing programs so teachers, nurses, and first responders can live where they work, and strengthen film and television incentives to keep creative jobs here in Los Angeles County. I’ve lived this as a small business owner and former California Film Commissioner, and I know we can grow opportunity without sacrificing our values.**

**Health care: Health care is deeply personal to me—as a father of four, a health care leader, and someone who has spent nearly two decades working to improve access and outcomes for patients. Across our district, working families and seniors are feeling squeezed by rising health care costs, higher prescription drug prices, and growing uncertainty about whether care will be there when they need it. At the same time, proposed federal cuts threaten Medi-Cal, Medicare, and the community clinics that so many people rely on, putting access to care at real risk.**

**A State Senator has a critical role to play in protecting Californians from these rising costs and acting as a firewall when federal decisions put our health care system in jeopardy. In Sacramento, I’ll fight to protect and strengthen Medi-Cal and our health care safety net, lower prescription drug costs by using California’s purchasing power, and hold insurers accountable so patients and doctors aren’t forced to absorb the burden of cost-cutting. I’ll also invest in preventive care, mental and behavioral health services, and community health**

clinics—because keeping people healthy and catching problems early is better for families and far more affordable for the system as a whole.

**Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness:** The recent fires in the Pacific Palisades were a stark reminder of how real and urgent these threats are, and of the extraordinary courage and professionalism of our firefighters and first responders. Public safety and emergency preparedness are fundamental to our quality of life. People deserve to feel safe in their neighborhoods—whether that means protection from crime, wildfires, or natural disasters. As Mayor, I helped make Rancho Palos Verdes one of the safest cities in California and led recovery efforts for the Portuguese Bend landslide by moving quickly to declare a local emergency and secure state resources. In Sacramento, I'll fight to fully fund our firefighters, law enforcement, and emergency response teams; invest in wildfire prevention, early-detection, and resilience technologies; improve coordination so cities aren't left on their own during a crisis; and demand accountability so public safety and homelessness funding is spent on proven strategies that actually improve safety and dignity.

3. What do you envision for your first bill package?

**One of the first pieces of legislation I plan to introduce will focus squarely on lowering health care costs while protecting access to care—especially for working families, seniors, and people with chronic conditions. Right now, too many Californians are skipping prescriptions, delaying doctor visits, or relying on emergency rooms because care has simply become too expensive or too hard to access. At the same time, potential federal cuts threaten Medi-Cal and the community clinics that serve as the backbone of care in many neighborhoods.**

**As a State Senator, I'll advance legislation that strengthens Medi-Cal by stabilizing funding for providers and community health clinics, so patients can actually find care when they need it. Protecting coverage isn't enough if there aren't doctors, nurses, and clinics available to serve people. My bill will also include safeguards to ensure California is prepared to backfill federal cuts, so seniors, children, and vulnerable families don't lose access because of decisions made in Washington.**

**Lowering prescription drug costs will be a core part of this effort. California has real leverage as one of the largest purchasers of health care in the country, and we should be using that power to negotiate better prices, demand transparency from drug manufacturers and insurers, and stop practices that drive up costs for patients at the pharmacy counter. Families shouldn't have to choose between paying for medicine and paying the rent.**

4. Do you have any mentors in the State Senate? Who?

**I deeply admire State Senator Ben Allen, who has shown that you can be principled, pragmatic, and effective—bringing people together to deliver real results for local communities while keeping an eye on the long-term health of our coast, our economy, and our democracy.**

**While he served in the Assembly rather than the Senate, I also consider Speaker Emeritus Anthony Rendon a mentor. His leadership has had a lasting impact on how I think about governing. He understands that progress comes from listening, building trust, and doing the hard work of bringing very different perspectives to the same table. His example reinforced my belief that leadership isn't about headlines—it's about durability, fairness, and getting results that actually improve people's lives.**

5. How much do you expect your campaign to cost? How much money have you raised? How do you plan to fund the rest of your budget?

**I expect this campaign to be competitive and well-run, because District 24 is large, diverse, and requires serious resources to communicate with voters effectively. Our budget and fundraising goals are \$700,000 for the primary and \$1 million for the general election, which reflects the cost of running a strong, districtwide campaign across the South Bay and West Los Angeles.**

**To date, we've raised approximately \$150,000 since launching the campaign in March 2025, with early support from elected officials, community leaders, labor, and Democratic activists who believe in my record and our shared vision.**

**I'm an experienced candidate who has won competitive races in multicandidate fields for both Rancho Palos Verdes City Council and the Palos Verdes Peninsula School District. Through my work as an elected official, a health care executive, a nonprofit board member, a coach, and a father, I've built a deep and wide network of relationships throughout the South Bay and West Los Angeles. In this twelve-candidate field, I am the only candidate who lives in the South Bay, which gives our campaign a crucial geographic advantage and a clear path to victory in the 2026 primary.**

**I've also assembled an experienced campaign team with a strong track record in races across Los Angeles County. My general consultant is Danielle Cendejas of The Strategy Group, and our fundraisers are Melody Ramirez Avila and Lisa Stratton. With this team in place, along with early endorsements and support, we are running a disciplined, data-driven campaign with robust mail and digital communications designed to reach voters effectively and efficiently across the district.**

6. Who do you see as your main opponents in this election?

**In the 2026 California State Senate District 24 race, this is shaping up to be a crowded and competitive field, and I expect several of my fellow candidates to be among the main opponents in the primary and potentially the general election. The currently declared candidates include Amaris Dordar, John Erickson, Ellen Evans, Brian Goldsmith, Kristine Irwin, Brittany McKinley, Zoe Muntaner, Michael Newhouse, Dr. Sion Roy, and Nico Ruderma.n**

**Each of these candidates brings a different background and base of support, and the primary will be competitive because the top two vote-getters advance under California's nonpartisan blanket primary system.**

**I am the only candidate in this race who lives in the South Bay, which represents a significant share of the district's voters and turnout. I've won competitive elections in multi-candidate fields here before, and through my work as an elected official, health care executive, nonprofit board member, coach, and father, I've built deep, long-standing relationships across South Bay communities. That geographic and community connection matters—it gives me a strong base, a clear path to advancing out of the primary, and ensures that the South Bay has a representative who understands its priorities and can effectively advocate for them in Sacramento, while also connecting authentically with voters across West Los Angeles.**

7. Please list your top five (5) individual and organizational endorsements.

**International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 40**

**Los Angeles Association of Deputy District Attorneys**

**Anthony Rendon, Former Speaker of the California State Assembly**

**John Chiang, Former California State Treasurer**

**Mike Gatto, Former California State Assemblymember**

8. How long have you been a registered Democrat? Have you been registered as a member of another political party? If so, which party and why? **I have been a registered Democrat my entire life**

9. Please list any Democratic clubs and/or organizations with which you are a member, including the length of your membership and any leadership position you have held in each Democratic club and/or organization.

- **Palos Verdes Democrats - current**
- **Los Angeles County Democratic Party (Alternate Delegate) - current**

10. Please list any organizations you are a member of, including the length of your membership and any leadership positions you have held in each organization.

- **YMCA San Pedro/Peninsula - Boardmember (2024 - Present)**
- **South Bay Association of Chambers of Commerce - Board member (2023 – 2024)**
- **Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission - Commissioner (2021 – 2023)**
- **Peninsula Public Safety Committee - Chair and Member (2017 - 2023)**
- **California Film Commission - State Commissioner (2016 – 2019)**
- **California Prison Industry Board - State Commissioner (2013 – 2016)**
- **City of Rancho Palos Verdes-Finance Advisory Committee - Committee Member (2013 – 2017)**
- **University of Southern California Alumni Board of Directors - Board member (2011 – 2015)**
- **Los Angeles County Democratic Party - Associate and Alternate Member (2012 – 2013 and 2020- Present)**
- **California State Occupational Therapy Board - State Commissioner (2011 – 2013)**
- **City of El Segundo-Environmental Council - Chairman (2008 – 2011)**
- **American Society for Public Administration - Vice President & Board member (2009 – 2012)**
- **Graduate Policy Administration Community/USC - Public Administration Committee Co-Chair (2004 – 2005)**

11. Please feel free to include any other information you would like us to know about you.

**As a lifelong Democrat, I would be honored to earn your support in this campaign. I believe this election represents a real opportunity to grow our party's base of support across West Los Angeles and the South Bay at a time when people are hungry for leaders who don't just talk, but deliver real results.**

**Throughout my career—as a mayor, school board member, health care leader, nonprofit executive, and small business owner—I've focused on bringing people together to solve problems and improve quality of life. That approach is especially important right now, as we work to engage new voters, energize Democrats who may feel disconnected from politics, and demonstrate that Democratic leadership can make a tangible difference in people's everyday lives.**

**I would be honored to work in partnership with the west LA Democratic Club to expand our base, strengthen grassroots engagement, and elect Democrats**

**up and down the ballot. Together, we can ensure our communities across the Westside and South Bay are represented by leaders who share our values, protect our progress, and deliver for the people we serve.**

**Candidate's Signature** *Eric Alegria*