



ENDORSEMENT QUESTIONNAIRE 2022

Shaniqua “Shan” Rose

**Running for
Florida House of Representatives
District 41**

Candidate Information

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1. What motivated you to run for this position?

The job of a legislator is to legislate and appropriate funds; during the 2022 legislative session, no appropriations were brought forward by the house for District 41(46), leaving Central Florida falling behind in addressing the needs of the community

2. What does being an ally or advocate for the LGBTQ+ community mean to you?

Being an LGBTQ+ ally means unconditional kindness with no judgment. It also means using my influence in a positive way to help the community.

As a black woman, I know what discrimination means and I will always stand up to protect other discriminated communities.

3. Please summarize your history of community involvement. This may include city boards, civic associations, non-profits, etc.

I run a nonprofit where I mentor youth and do community outreach.

League of women voters treasurer

NAACP secretary

American Red Cross lead

4. Please summarize any work you have performed in the past five years to further LGBTQ+ rights. This may include paid positions, volunteer work, and donations.

I have signed petitions, marched, donated money. Orange County member.

Questions

5. **The rise in anti-LGBTQ+ legislation barreling down from Tallahassee has caused a sharp increase in discrimination and violence against the LGBTQ+ community in Orange County. How would you go about reducing discrimination in your district or local community? How would you measure your progress?**

Listen to the needs of the community

Create more safe spaces throughout the community(OPD program)

Create pledges for organizations to sign

Work with local municipalities and organizations to create zero tolerance policies

Appropriate funds for programming and various campaigning

Ensure more LGBTQ+ members and allies sit on certain boards(giving a seat at the table)

6. **Elected officials and office staff are still woefully under-educated on the transgender community. This means that the services their offices provide are often ignorant of the needs of the transgender community. What actions would you take to ensure that the services your office will provide will be educated on and cognizant of the needs of the transgender community?**

Listen to the needs of the community

More training

Create pledges to sign

create zero tolerance policies

7. **The Florida Republican Party is leading the country in stripping away LGBTQ+ rights, starting with our children. Students are having their lives and livelihoods placed at risk by laws such as the Transgender Sports Ban, the so-called Parental Bill of Rights, and now Don't Say Gay. These shamelessly discriminatory bills are forcing LGBTQ+ families to reconsider their future in Florida. What would you tell the parents of LGBTQ+ children in your district who feel they need to leave Florida in order to protect their children?**

You have someone that has your back; I know all too well what bullying looks like, children already have it bad with bullying and I would ensure zero tolerance policies are in place, review the bullying policy and make adjustments as needed.

- 8. The Trevor Project's 2022 National Survey on LGBTQ Youth Mental Health found that 45% of LGBTQ+ students seriously considered attempting suicide and 1-in-5 LGBTQ+ attempt it. How would you lead on this issue and work to decrease these statistics over the course of your term in office?**

Take guidance from the community on where appropriations should be, figure out how to create safe spaces so individuals do not feel like they are hopeless, write legislation as needed, and continue to be a voice.

- 9. The same survey by The Trevor Project found that nearly all transgender and non-binary students have had to worry about their access to gender-affirming healthcare, bathrooms, and sports teams being taken away from them. How would you work to take this fear off their shoulders so that they can go back to just being kids?**

Take guidance from the community on where appropriations should be, figure out how to create safe spaces so individuals do not feel like they are hopeless, write legislation as needed, and continue to be a voice.

- 10. Far-right groups are pushing to ban books on any topic they find disagreeable, such as books on Black history and experiences, immigration, the LGBTQ+ community, climate change, etc. Do you support these book bans? If not, what is your plan to counter them and ensure students have access to a full array of age-appropriate knowledge and experiences?**

No I do not support the book bans. I will work to fight against this legislation, but also figure out where else the books can be placed, for example libraries, after-school programs, and continue to find private funding to pay for the books.

https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/restoring-america/patriotism-unity/state-farm-donating-transgender-books-for-5-year-olds-to-schools-in-florida?fbclid=IwAR3dOBc2WWvYxeyXi4mQ1ofbrZN5GtRrxt_94upukdrSAAvC70umPIZqe34

- 11. During a town hall in your district, a constituent describes being gay or transgender as a "lifestyle choice." What is incorrect about their description? How would you constructively respond in this situation?**

Sexual preference is biologically determined. Government should protect the LGBTQ+ community from discrimination. I would let the person know they are misinformed, that is disrespectful and we will not tolerate that behavior.

12. During a board meeting, the board chair purposely refers to a transgender woman as “he” and “him” as the woman attempts to give her public comment. The woman corrects the board chair each time, insisting that her pronouns are “she” and “her.” The board chair continues to misgender the woman until she eventually leaves the chamber in tears. How would you respond in this situation?

I would let the chair know they are misinformed, that is disrespectful and we will not tolerate that behavior. I would ask for a recess to apologize to the individual for the chair's poor behavior and ask her to return to the meeting.

13. A parent approaches you at an event, insisting that her son’s teachers have “groomed” him into liking boys. Her son is at her side when she says this. How do you respond to the parent’s statement such that the young boy leaves feeling better about himself?

We all have the right to be free of judgement, you are precious and loved, I want you to never forget that. Never let the words of others direct who you are, you have people, including myself, who you can always speak with about your feelings and it is our job to protect you.

14. Orange County continues to embrace urban sprawl, despite a plethora of data that links urban sprawl to severe strains on our housing, employment, healthcare, and public transit systems (to name a few). What are your thoughts on Orange County's growth? What could Orange County do in terms of development that would better serve the communities in your district?

I believe there needs to be a consistent vision plan that shows how development impacts other areas, such as does a new complex have access to healthcare options or public transit. We need to protect our environment and work to control the outrageous rent prices.

15. Do you support the idea of constructing more multi-family homes in neighborhoods traditionally zoned for single-family homes? What impact would this have on your district?

Yes

Infill housing is a great way to use up land and create more housing to address the cross we are in.

16. Homeowner Associations often prevent homeowners from transitioning their lawns away from non-functional grasses such as turf and towards sustainable options such as native Florida plants and edible landscapes. HOAs insist that moving away from the traditional pristine green lawn would lower housing prices. What is your opinion on this issue?

Provide studies done, the significance, and create pilot programs to show the benefits.

17. What are the top environmental concerns you are seeing in your District and what are the solutions you plan to bring forward if you were elected?

Air pollution, urban sprawl, waste disposal, water pollution, and climate change.

Create policies to protect the environment.

Also Educate and encourage people to:

- Replace disposable items with reusable
- Conserve water & electricity
- Support local & environmentally friendly places
- Recycling

18. Contributions are typically linked to poor environmental policies being passed. Are you pledging to stay away from any particular contributions?

Yes

19. Understanding our economic position, how do you plan to localize and strengthen our food system?

I will work to adopt new, environmentally-friendly policies around farming.

- Optimize Agricultural Land Use-implement strategies that more efficiently utilize our land.
- Improve Efficiency Throughout the Supply Chain
- Educating and encouraging individual to change to a more sustainable diet.