

DSA Fort Worth Candidate Endorsement Questionnaire Responses - Yisak Worku | TX HD-91

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Yisak Worku needs five signature nominations to advance in the Endorsement Process. Sign your name below by adding it as a comment.

Signatures: [Type Your Name Here] *Rashawn Blanding, Cable Hogue, Clifton Maxwell, Bruce Banner, Hudson Floyd, Brandon Walker, Sean G., Jared Tinsley*

Candidate responses are in green and underlined.

Candidate Background

1. **Current Occupation (if applicable):**

recent graduate turned candidate.

2. **Current and previous party affiliation(s):**

democrat and d s a

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3. **Have you ever held or run for elected office before? If so, what positions and when?**

No first time

4. **Why are you seeking office?**

To push texas in progressive direction , to oppose the republicans and maga , and to give people a sense that government can actually work.

5. **How long have you lived in your jurisdiction?**

Five years

6. **Are you affiliated with any labor unions or nonprofit organizations?**

Not formally , I have some associations and parts of my campaign team have some associations with tea fund but we keep our distance for respect of the nonpartisan nature of nonprofits. Personally, I don't have many union connections. I've never been a part of a union neither is the name of my family as is the case for a lot of younger people and immigrants historically. That's an area of improvement.I'm hoping to be able to address in the coming months.

7. **Why are you seeking an endorsement from DSA Fort Worth?**

I'm seeking endorsement because I feel that the DSA represents ideologically, the future i want to see for the Democratic Party and I want to do whatever I can to further dsa policy goals being turned into policy.

8. **Please list other significant endorsements you've received for this position or for prior races?**

tarrant young dems, NET DEMS, LOCAL FOCUS, mid cities STONEWALL DEMS

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Campaign & Goals Overview

9. Where are you in the process of developing your candidacy? (Select any that apply)

I have publicly announced my candidacy	☒
I have designated a campaign treasurer	☒
I have filed for ballot placement	☒
I have started doorknocking	☒
Literature dropping	☒
Prepping GOTV	☒

10. What is your estimated win number? (Will not be shared publicly)

45k to 50k

11. What is your fundraising goal, and what is your plan to reach that goal? (Will not be shared publicly)

we've raised a bit over 10k and feel we have enough cash on hand for the upcoming gotv i tend not to be too big.\n A large fundraising amounts

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cause I'm very self-conscious about wasting people's money being an incredibly frugal person myself. I feel we more or less.Raised a reasonable amount given how much I wanna stay away from corporate and big dollar donors and focus on small dollar donations.

12. Will you accept money from:

Real Estate Developers, their Legal Counsel, or Corporate Landlords?	☐ Yes	☒ No
For-profit Corporations or Corporate PACs	☐ Yes	☒ No
Police and ICE Organizations or Individual Officers?	☐ Yes	☒ No
Healthcare Lobbyists or Executives?	☐ Yes	☒ No
Fossil Fuel Executives or Lobbyists?	☐ Yes	☒ No
Charter School Lobbyists or Executives?	☐ Yes	☒ No

13. What efforts are you making to include the voices of marginalized communities in your campaign? How successful do you feel that you have been so far?

I want to include a broad swath, of voices in my campaign.Thus , we've started by placing a black immigrant at the heart of it. myself. Jokes aside, most of my campaign team is comprised of women. Many of my volunteers

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come from hispanic dissent, and they're insight has been indispensable When it comes to deepening how I view certain policy issues. But that doesn't mean there isn't room for more. I still want to integrate more indigenous voices into my campaign, moving forward and deepen my understanding of those very complicated Historical dynamics.

- 14. What are the most commonly used languages in your district, and what languages do you plan to include on your website, in canvasses, etc?**

English Spanish Vietnamese in that order all on the website.

- 15. How will you use your office, if elected to build socialism and working class power?**

The Goal is to build policies strength and unions challenge corporate monopoly and decentralized control. Pass legislation that makes it easier to start worker and consumer cooperatives. And provide workers alternatives to the tech feudal platforms, they have been forced to put up with ie. Uber, Lyft, doordash, and replace them with worker owned alternatives.

- 16. What are the top 3 priorities you will focus on if elected?**

Affordability specifically housing affordability, opposition to the tech oligarchy, and it's Top down mandates ie data centers , flock cameras , social media monopolies , algorithmic manipulation. Lastly, medicaid expansion, closing the gaps In our medicaid coverage.

- 17. How do you plan to implement those priorities?**

A restriction on corporate entities engaging in mass speculation in texas housing market, provide. Grants for worker owned cooperatives, institute a right of first refusal, institute a drivers cooperated much like the one in

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Colorado. An institute meaningful investment in open source software to allow more corporations alternatives to the existing tech monopolies. Expand medicaid, push for increased funding and cover the millions of uninsured Texans.

18. If endorsed, what role do you expect DSA members to have in your field, communications, fundraising, and policy strategy?

Mostly field communication at this point in the campaign

19. Are you an incumbent?

No

20. Is there any additional information about your campaign that we should know?

No

DSA and Democratic Socialism

21. Are you a member of DSA?

Yes I am

22. Will you publicly identify as a democratic socialist in your campaign, including having it listed on your website and / or campaign literature (even if using the Democratic party's ballot line)?

No deep red district

23. Are you willing to endorse DSA Fort Worth's other endorsed candidates during your election cycle?

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Yes

24. Are you willing to run with other DSA-endorsed candidates as a slate?

Yes

25. Will you publicize DSA's endorsement?

Yes

26. Will you allow DSA to collaborate with you on your field plan and program?

Yes

27. Will you be open to having DSA members as staff in policy positions and / or to collaborating with our chapter on policy?

Yes

28. Will you agree to appear periodically at DSA meetings in your jurisdiction?

Already on it

29. Will you be willing to endorse and campaign for other DSA endorsed candidates in the future?

Yes!

30. Will you allow DSA to keep copies of all the data we collect through voter contact, if legal in your jurisdiction?

Yes

31. Will you also seek an endorsement from DSA National?

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Yes, though this race might be a little beneath them at this point.

32. Will you reject donations, assistance, and the endorsement of any individuals or companies (or groups lobbying on their behalf) which advocate against DSA endorsed candidates and core planks of the Workers Deserve More platform?

Yes

Workers Deserve More: Our Organizational Commitments

33. At the 2025 DSA National Convention, delegates voted to form a committee to update our national program, [Workers Deserve More](#), to meet the political moment going into the 2026 midterms. This program reflects many of the priorities and policy goals of DSA members across the country, including in DSA Fort Worth. Would you be willing to adopt the DSA National Program? If no, why not?

Yes

DSA Fort Worth Priorities

Alongside our national platform, DSA Fort Worth outlines our own specific priorities. The following questions are based on DSA Fort Worth's local platform, priorities, campaigns, and chapter goals and objectives:

34. What policies, if any, would you support to ensure that the costs of data center development, including water and energy use, environmental impacts, and infrastructure needs, are not

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disproportionately borne on working-class communities or communities of color?

Hyper scalers are engaging in cheap and rapid development and forcing communities and the environment to bear the brunt of the cost. I oppose outright the development and construction of any hyperscalers in the state of Texas and will attempt to pass legislation limiting power consumption. Severely restricting the harms of the data center's already built and making it impossible for any more hyperscalers to be meaningfully feasible.

- 35. What is your position on public incentives for data center development, including tax abatements and other subsidies? What conditions, if any, should be required for companies receiving public support?**

I stand in complete opposition to any incentives given to data centers, and that goes doubly so for any cryptocurrency or all hyperscalers

- 36. What housing and tenant protections do you believe are most needed in Texas and in your district?**

We've seen housing maintenance , neglect tenant unions , my area have focus around concerns of power and water outages , combined with constant price going in hidden fees , meant to make the experience more expensive. Additionally , I would like to see additional tenant protections meant to protect them from being forced out by landlords , looking to renovate their apartment and resell it for higher cost.

- 37. How should cities and counties respond to people experiencing homelessness, including people living in encampments? What role should the government play in supporting these efforts?**

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Housing first approach is crucial , along with a significant investment into follow up resources that make it easier for them to recover from all of homelessness comorbidities such as substance abuse and unemployment.

- 38. What is your position on immigration enforcement and federal immigration agencies such as ICE?**

Ice should be abolished. Immigrants should be treated the same as citizens and the discriminatory policy of this regime , along with the the Democrats lie to the right needs to be opposed.

- 39. What policies would you support to protect immigrant communities in Texas from unnecessary detention, deportation, and criminalization?**

End the policy of local jails collaborating with ice making up to half of their arrest in any given month

- 40. Regarding the recent trial of the Prairieland defendants, what would you do within the powers of your office to support the defendants?**

I would petition the governor and the president for the immediate release, i would do my best to draw as much attention and to coordinate as many funds as I can do their defense.

- 41. If elected, what would you do to protect the rights of protesters and political organizers facing prosecution for their political activity?**

Push for statewide anti slap suits, along with legislation designed to the exact same thing, but for physical protests make it easy or for protesters to avoid costly litigation design just to deter and chill the first amendment rights.

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42. **What changes, if any, do you believe are needed to reduce Texas' reliance on policing and incarceration while keeping communities safe?**

Decriminalizing harmless drugs like thc, introduce mandatory paid safe, leave mandates along with a rapid rehousing fund to deal with the glut of domestic abuse cases without escalating to incarceration.

43. **What does bodily autonomy mean to you, and what policies would you support to protect it for all Texans?**

I want to see the institution of pro choice policies. And return Medical discretion to doctors and their patients on how to handle nuances of certain edge case situations. The state must institute. A legal right to abortion up to viability, respecting that no woman should be forced to carry a child they do not consent to. With post viability care being a discussion between the doctor and the patient on how to best proceed.

44. **What policies would you support to protect LGBTQIA+ Texans from discrimination and restrictions on their ability to access healthcare and participate fully in public life?**

We must protect people's medical autonomy and clarify that we will not behave hypocritically. On the medical age of consent, if even if it pertains to LGBT issues such as hormone Therapy. Additionally, we must make it clear that we do not discriminate in the public and social sphere. Nor at our public schools and that we will not continue this facade of discriminatory sporting practice. So I would push for an end of gender segregated sports and the normalization of max gender rules. Additionally, make clear that we will engage no or allow no discrimination. When it comes to certain fields that people feel entitled to discriminate across the state of Texas, such as child adoption.\nOr certain legal services such as issuing marriage licenses.

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- 45. What should Texas do to protect people from gender-based and sexual violence, including supporting survivors and addressing the conditions that contribute to such violence?**

Instituting batterer , intervention programs , along with early childhood education intervention focus on conflict resolution. For survivors , we need more nursing therapy and woman shelter program to ensure we are providing everyone what they need to move forward from these traumatic experiences.

- 46. What are your priorities for improving Texas' public education system, and what changes would you support to better serve students, educators, and families?**

Increase funding, smaller class sizes, increase special education, funding abolition of standardized testing, a shift in curriculum to prioritize holistic learning instead of rote memorization, a history focused on ideas, philosophies and arts. Instead of one so heavily fixated on battlefields and dates. A reintroduction of home ec designed to treat people like they need to be educated on how to cook , clean and take care of themselves as adults instead of merely being workers for a capitalistic machine.

- 47. What role should the state play in making quality childcare affordable and accessible for working-class families?**

I believe it is the role of the state to ensure is making it as easy as possible for Mother's and fathers to have the option to continue their careers while taking care of their children and still have some energy left for themselves. I believe that the states and the whole country should begin to move both forward and back forward to a four day work week back to a world where one full-time job could sustain a household. Forward to a world where both men and women work back to a world where we knew someone\nWas taking care of the home when we were away. I want to see the institution of

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a 2 2 2 plus date night system. Two days of work for 1 partner another two for the other two days on the weekends to spend together as a family and and one extra day during the school week to spend together as a couple. But the harder the proposal is a balance of all our needs. Our needs for work and intellectual engagement. Our need for time off from relaxation and time to engage in the very taxing home care. Or need for family time? And lastly , our need to spend some time away from the children focus and reconnect with our partner.

48. What policies would you support to strengthen workers' ability to organize, form unions, and exercise power in their workplaces?

I think it is important and crucial that we make it easier for employees to form a union And push for mandatory car check recognition along with making it more difficult to fire organizers, and stepping in to offer grants if companies attempt to shut down a factory or a plant attempting to unionize to allow the workers, the funds they need for a buyout and to undergo their own cooperative construction.

49. What is your position on property tax relief, and how would you ensure that efforts to reduce property taxes benefit working-class homeowners and renters rather than primarily benefiting wealthy property owners and corporations?

As it currently stands, most of our property tax costs come from urban sprawl and suburban sprawl to deliver meaningful tax relief, we need to begin to push for denser zoning from a state level, along with ending a lot of these percentage based Homestead exemptions. And pushing for just flat rates additionally pushing back against specifically , counties attempt to freeze property tax rates and shift the cycle from one year reappraisal , to 2 benefiting the houses that rise in value the most , which tend to be the wealthy ones.

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- 50. What role should the state government play in directing public investment toward good jobs, essential services, and the economic security of working-class Texans?**

The state should explore implementing models similar to that of the jobs corps where people are trained and offered guaranteed jobs after specific training in fields that the state has deemed necessary sectors of future growth.

- 51. How would you use your position, if elected, to increase transparency, constituent participation, and public accountability in the government?**

I would love to institute a constituent call line along with leveraging the connectivity of the internet to rebroadcast the concerns that are brought to my office most often open\n Up a dialog and to show people that they are not alone in their concerns.

Anti-Zionist DSA

- 52. Do you support the Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS) movement? Will you publicize your support for the program?**

Yes and yes

- 53. Will you refrain from any affiliation with the Israeli government and Zionist lobby groups, such as, but not limited to, AIPAC, J Street, Democratic Majority for Israel (DMFI), and Christians United for Israel?**

Yes

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54. Will you pledge to oppose legislation that harms Palestinians, such as:

54.1. *Any official adoption of a redefinition of antisemitism to include opposition to Israel's policies or legal system, or support for BDS (e.g., IHRA definition of antisemitism).*

Yes

54.2. *Legislative and executive efforts to penalize individuals, universities, and entities that boycott Israel.*

Yes

54.3. *Legislative and executive efforts to send any military or economic resources to Israel.*

Yes

Final Thoughts

55. If you would like to clarify any response, please do so here:

56. Any other feedback you would like to leave about this questionnaire?

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