

EBWPA Endorsements June 2022
Candidate Profile

Candidate Name
Teresa Keng
Gender Pronouns
She/her
Office Sought
Assembly - 24th District
Party Affiliation
Democrat
Website
https://www.teresaforasassembly.com
FPPC#
1440058
Please tell us the elected office or board you serve on.
Fremont City Council
For the following questions, please check "yes," "no," or "other."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do you support the passage of a federal Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution as follows: "Equality Of Rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any state on account of sex."?
Yes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do you support requiring employers to provide paid sick days to their employees that can also be used to care for ill family members?
Yes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do you support mandatory minimum paid parental leave?
Yes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please provide an explanation for each "Other" you checked in the space provided below.
The following questions seek input regarding your position on choice. Please check "YES" if you agree or "NO" if you disagree.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A woman has the right to choose an abortion in accord with the principles of Roe v. Wade.
Yes

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A woman has the right to choose an abortion at any time during her pregnancy to protect the woman's life and health.
Yes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women of limited financial resources have a right to public funding for family planning and abortion services.
Yes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women should be able to receive an abortion without a waiting period.
Yes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive, medically accurate, age appropriate sex education should be provided to all students.
Yes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FDA-approved emergency contraception should be offered without delay to all victims of rape or incest in all hospital or clinics.
Yes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FDA-approved emergency contraception should be provided in accordance with appropriate dispensing regulations, without delay or obstruction, to all women at all pharmacies in the United States.
Yes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You may provide additional information to clarify a “Yes” or “No” answer here.
I strongly support a woman's right to choose, and in the Assembly, I will advocate for making California a sanctuary state for women and other people who can become pregnant from all states, territories, and countries.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you marked "other" for any of the above, you must provide additional information.
How would you use the platform of this elected office to advance gender equity?
I support Equal Pay for Equal Work and policies that help all people better manager life-work balance. This includes paid sick and family leave and affordable child care and health care. I also support programs that encourage women to pursue well-paying fields that have historically been dominated by men, including STEM education and labor apprenticeship programs, along with investment in mentorship programs to help women find opportunities and stick to their dreams.
How will you work to end discrimination based on age, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, immigration status, marital status, socioeconomic status, and disability?
Equity and non-discrimination are paramount issues of importance in our society. I support great investments in frontline and underserved communities, support for BIPOC and women-owned businesses, comprehensive LGBTQ+ rights protections, anti-bias training in all workforces and especially in law enforcement and our courts, and rigorous audits to ensure that the law is being applied fairly and justly.
What do you think are the top 5 issues that impact women that are relevant to the elected office you are seeking? (Please rank in order of priority)

1. Affordable housing
2. Community safety, including addressing the rise of domestic abuse during the pandemic
3. Helping students impacted by the pandemic and remote learning
4. Inequitable pay structures for women
5. Climate change

What have you done to mentor women?

I'm an active volunteer with the local PTA, where I'm especially active in mentoring parents on how to advocate for children with disabilities. I'm also an active volunteer with the SAVE (Safe Alternatives to Violent Environments), where we help women and children escape abusive households and rebuild their lives. I'm also a member of the Rotary Club, and I've striven to be an available and accessible mentor there to women looking to get involved in their community.

What is the gender breakdown of your campaign staff/volunteers?

Roughly half of my core team is comprised of women. This includes my Digital Communications Manager, two of my Community Field Managers, both Fundraisers, and Mail Designer.

If you are currently in public office, please provide examples of votes that you have taken or positions promoted which supported women's gender equality and/or reproductive health.

I voted to raise the minimum wage, which disproportionately helps women. I also voted for the Homeless Navigation Center that is helping homeless people, including women, find services, housing, and employment to rebuild their lives.

Please paste here your biography

Teresa Keng is a twice-elected Fremont City Councilmember, first-generation immigrant, small business owner, and mother to two children with disabilities, pursuing a doctoral degree in Education Leadership from San Jose State University. She is the only woman running for Assembly in the new 24th Assembly District, and if elected, she would be only the second Asian American woman in the State Assembly.

While on the Fremont City Council, she has advocated for safe communities, efficient transportation upgrades, and smart, sustained growth to support our growing population. Recognizing diversity as our city's strength, Teresa has championed community driven solutions to combat hate and violent crime.

While on Fremont's City Council, Teresa helped guide our community through difficult times - facing our challenges by working harder and smarter to get things done for our community. From exploring new methods in developing mixed-use and multi-family housing options, to creating more government accountability and transparency standards, she has provided real solutions and strategies that have helped our community.

As a long time resident of Fremont, and as a small business owner (she owns a restaurant in Fremont), Teresa brings perspectives that our needed in our state government. She understands that there is deep anxiety about whether the American Dream will exist for the next generation. She is running for Assembly because she knows we can do better.

Teresa will strengthen California schools to ensure all students have access to STEM education and technology that puts them on track to go to college, and she is laser focused on making sure that no child slips through the cracks opened by remote learning. She is also championing a new UC Silicon Valley to help Bay Area students tap into the incredible entrepreneurial and creative spirit in our region

Her priorities also include creating economic opportunity and making it easier for small businesses to operate by closing the wage gap, addressing income inequality, creating good-paying jobs, and ensuring mom and pop shops have the support they need.

As a proud mother of two boys, both of whom are on the autism spectrum, Teresa is passionate about disability access for children. During her spare time, she enjoys teaching and learning from others. Over the past 20 years, she has regularly taught English to seniors. Councilmember Keng also enjoys volunteering for her local PTA and participating in the Fremont Rotary Club. Teresa is also involved with the local organization SAVE (Safe Alternatives to Violent Environments), which helps women and children escape domestic violence and rebuild their lives.

Council Member Keng has her Bachelor of Arts in Business and Economics from UCLA, and her Masters Degree in Traditional Chinese Medicine. She is a doctoral candidate at San Jose State University pursuing a degree in Education Leadership, which has a focus on social justice, aiming to advocate for equitable education opportunities for all students. She currently resides in North Fremont with her husband Robert, an engineer and veteran, and their two children.

Additional Information or comments

Your endorsement would mean a lot to me, and I'm grateful for your consideration. I'm the only woman and only Democrat from Alameda County running in this election. I bring the perspective of a mother who had to balance work obligations while raising two children with disabilities during remote learning. I think that's a perspective that's desperately needed in Sacramento as we shape policies that will impact those children for the rest of their lives. Thank you for your consideration.