

Candidate Name (*as it appears on the ballot*): Betty T. Yee

Office Seeking: Controller

District (*Senate and Assembly*): Statewide

Hometown: San Francisco

Candidate Campaign Website and Contact Information (*optional*):

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1. In which ways have you supported the disability community in the past, and how do you plan to continue your support in the future?

Answer: As the former Chief Deputy Director for Budget in the California Department of Finance, I advocated for funding to ensure In-Home Supportive Services caregivers are paid a minimum wage and provided a supplement for health care coverage. I also have hired persons with disabilities on my staff. In the future, I will continue to work on expanded opportunities for persons with disabilities, especially in the areas of affordable special needs housing (the Controller serves on the California Tax Credit Allocation Committee for affordable housing) and hiring persons with disabilities on to my staff.

2. Do you support the right of a person with a disability to live independently in the community? If so, what would your approach be to ensure people can transition from nursing homes to living independently?

Answer: Yes, I support the right of a person with a disability to live independently in the community. Affordable and accessible supportive housing would provide supportive services to persons with disabilities so they may live safely and independently in the community.

3. How will you support students with disabilities to receive an accessible and equitable quality education if you are elected?

Answer: Not applicable.

4. How would you propose to build the capacity of the In Home Supportive Services program to sustain opportunities for seniors and people with disabilities to live independently in their communities?

Answer: Not applicable. However, building the capacity of the In-Home Supportive Services program may include independent living core services, independent living training, information and referral services, communication services, and other services that provide meaningful support for seniors and persons with disabilities to live independently in their communities.

5. What would you do to increase opportunities for people with disabilities to have access to affordable, accessible, integrated housing?

Answer: As Controller, I would in my work on affordable housing, focus attention on permanent supportive housing for persons with disabilities that facilitates integration into the community pursuant to employment, community service, and other activities. I also would make the case that permanent supportive housing reduces costs and provides more long-term stability than transitional housing options or institutionalization.

6. What will you do to ensure that people with disabilities are part of the planning and oversight systems for upgrading public transportation systems in California?

Answer: Not applicable. However, I can serve as a vocal advocate for persons with disabilities to be part of the planning and oversight

systems. These persons comprise one of the larger users and consumers of public transportation who can best inform planning and oversight.

7. What would you do to increase job training and employment opportunities for people with disabilities?

Answer: Not applicable. While not the policy jurisdiction of the Controller's, the State can model job training and creating employment opportunities for persons with disabilities. This may be accomplished by investing in adaptive tools and technologies as well as focusing on career advancement strategies.

8. What would you do to protect the rights of people with disabilities to have access to elections and cast an independent and private vote?

Answer: Not applicable. However, I believe every person should have the right to cast an independent and private vote, without regard to disability. The issue of those who are mentally or developmentally disabled being able to fully participate in the voting process is now before the courts, testing the constitutional right to vote.

9. What would you do to ensure that upcoming changes in healthcare delivery for people with disabilities will maintain the integrity and consistency of care on which they have relied?

Answer: Not applicable. However, I believe increased access to health care should not be at the expense of eliminating the services, supports, and resources on which persons with disabilities have relied.

10. In your view, do you think California is spending too much, too little or just the right amount of its resources to support people with disabilities? Please explain.

Answer: I do not believe California is spending enough to support persons with disabilities, especially with regard to supportive services to facilitate independent living, This may be able to be addressed in part by better integrating resources to achieve better integration of persons with disabilities with the community at-large.