

## Coastside Democrats Survey, Central Committee Candidates

### Julie Lythcott-Haims

Please state how long you have been registered to vote as a Democrat. \*

- Always been a registered Democrat
- Have been a registered Democrat for the last ten years
- Have been a registered Democrat for the last five years
- Just registered as a Democrat this election cycle

Why are you running to represent Congressional District 16? \*

I'm a mother of two, educator, Palo Alto City Councilmember, former lawyer, former Stanford University dean and best-selling author who has dedicated her career to helping people thrive. I've led on the issues of affordable housing, youth mental health, climate change.

Our Congressional District is one of the most prosperous communities on the planet, yet so many have been left behind. Every year, the cost-of-living outpaces wages and salaries. Our kids do everything we ask of them, yet can't afford to live here as adults. They feel the warming planet. They worry their future may be bleak. Their mental health suffers. On the national level, we are seeing the rise of authoritarianism and our rights are being stripped away: our reproductive health care rights, our right to bodily autonomy, our right to vote, our right to know the full and complete story of America's history, our right to love who we love and be who we are. Something has to change. That is why I'm running for Congress.

What do you see as the major issues on the Coastside? \*

I've spent time on the coastside listening. I heard a lot about education funding – I don't believe that the quality of a child's education should be determined by the wealth of their community. I saw the crumbling infrastructure, and heard politicians playing the blame game instead of trying to solve problems. I saw a community struggling with cost-of-living skyrocketing, while wages barely crept up. This is a strong community, that deserves a representative that will listen. I spoke to the Pacifica Democrats recently: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jvw-vp8239Y>

What will your top priorities be if you are elected? \*

My top priorities are fighting to keep down the cost of living, protecting abortion rights, combating climate change, and stricter gun control.

Please explain how your background and experience have prepared you for the office you are seeking. \*

I am a Harvard educated attorney, elected official, former Stanford dean, and bestselling author on books on human development. I've traveled the country listening to parents, educators, and kids talk about the challenges they face.

Prior to running (I've taken a leave from all boards for the time being) I served on the nonprofit board of Black Women's Health Imperative, on the Board of Trustees at California College of the Arts, and on the advisory boards of LeanIn.Org, Sir Ken Robinson Foundation and Baldwin For the Arts. Prior recent board service includes Common Sense Media, Global Citizen Year, Foundation for a College Education. I was recruited to run for the Palo Alto City Council, because of my strong voice on housing as one of the leading equity and social justice issues of our day. The NAACP of Silicon Valley presented me with their Willy Brown Legislator of the Year Award in 2023. Marc Berman named me "Woman of the Year" in his Assembly district in 2021.

Have you ever run for political office, served on a political committee, or been identified publicly with a political organization, candidate, ballot measure or issue? If so, please provide the details of your involvement. \*

Palo Alto City Council, elected 2022

Elected Obama delegate to 2008 Democratic National Convention on behalf of the district in which I'm currently running for office.