

Coastside Democrats Survey, Assembly District 23 Candidates

Marc Berman

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 Assembly District 23? *

As your assemblymember, I am leading the fight to protect our democracy, expand reproductive freedom, address the climate crisis, and reduce gun violence.

I'm running for re-election to continue making progress on housing and homelessness, supporting our students, and tackling the toughest challenges facing our communities.

I helped pass the largest per-pupil education budget in state history, supported universal pre-K for all 4-year-olds, and made it easier for community college students to achieve their educational goals.

MAGA extremists are threatening our rights, our democracy, and our planet. I'm fighting back. As the only candidate endorsed by Planned Parenthood, I will always protect abortion access. And I wrote the law to make California a permanent vote-by-mail state.

I am proud to be endorsed by the CA Democratic Party, CA Labor Federation, and Governor Gavin Newsom.

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

Connectivity issues (internet, electricity, phone, sinkholes and transportation infrastructure problems), combatting the impacts of climate change including coastal erosion and flooding, farmworker housing and farmworker working conditions, the cost of housing, dealings with the CA Coastal Commission, per pupil student funding.

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

Defending our democracy, combatting the impacts of climate change, addressing our housing affordability and homelessness issues, continuing to increase k-12 per pupil funding, reducing unnecessary barriers and increasing opportunities for community college, CSU, and UC students, making sure our K-12 students are getting the skills they need to succeed in today and tomorrow's economy, protecting consumers from predatory businesses. I'm proud to have led in all of these areas and more during my seven years in the State Assembly.

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

I have served in the Assembly for over seven years. Prior to that I served on the Palo Alto City Council for four years, worked at an education non-profit, and worked as a corporate attorney for Latham & Watkins, a major international law firm. I also spent three years in between undergrad and law school working on major U.S. Senate and Governors races across the country.

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. *

Yes. I was elected to the Palo Alto City Council in 2012, and to the CA State Assembly in 2016, 18, 20, and 22. I also served as president of the Peninsula Democratic Coalition for two years.