

Healthcare, Housing, and Justice for All.



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**SAN LEANDRO VICE MAYOR VICTOR AGUILAR  
LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN FOR ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 18**

San Leandro, CA (April 19, 2021) - San Leandro Vice Mayor Victor Aguilar announced his candidacy today in the upcoming District 18 special election for California Assembly.

“I have dedicated my life to empowering underrepresented members of my community and amplifying their voices and concerns. I am running for the California State Assembly to fight for healthcare, housing and justice for all,” Aguilar stated.

Raised in a union-household by parents whose families emigrated from Mexico, Victor Aguilar won his 2018 race for San Leandro City Council, and became the first openly gay person to serve in that role. Victor is married and serves as President of the Board of Directors of Lavender Seniors of the East Bay who have, “paved the way for my husband and I to live our lives freely and openly,” said Aguilar.

Victor is also an elected member of the Alameda County Democratic Central Committee, and serves as the body’s Vice Chair for Assembly District 18. He previously served as a Human Services Commissioner in San Leandro, and a Trustee on the Board of Education for the San Leandro Unified School District.

“I see our campaign as an opportunity to fight for progressive values,” said Aguilar. “Californians need someone who is willing to champion high-impact programs that will benefit everyone-- and prioritize the delivery of direct services toward the people who need it most. Universal healthcare, affordable housing, climate resilience and criminal justice reform are the issues I will champion once elected to represent District 18 in Sacramento.”

“I personally know the profound grief and heart wrenching pain countless families are experiencing everyday due to the horrors of the pandemic,” Aguilar reflected. “My loving mother died last month from COVID-19. I will honor her memory and spirit by standing up for all who have been harmed, and all who continue to struggle during the pandemic.

“COVID-19 has shown us how vulnerable we are without universal single payer healthcare in California,” Aguilar continued. “I can’t help but wonder how much more effective our response would have been if the profit motive were removed from our healthcare systems. Uninsured Californians and communities of color have borne the brunt of the pandemic. We must invest in systems that bridge the gap, and provide access to quality care for all Californians.”

In addition to healthcare access for all, Victor believes that housing for all is essential to health and public welfare. “Providing permanent, supportive housing for the chronically homeless is the pathway to ending homelessness in California and ultimately less expensive than not addressing the problem.” Aguilar said. “But, cities can’t afford to take on these costs alone. It’s a statewide problem that requires statewide solutions.”

Victor’s platform includes a commitment to justice for all Californians. “I’m fighting for justice--inclusion, diversity and equity--for everyone,” Aguilar stated. “Our criminal justice system, from policing to incarceration, is rife with unequal treatment and targeting of communities of color. We must stop relying on policing to address our social problems. Instead, let’s invest in supporting our communities directly.”

Victor’s record of pushing for tenants’ rights, supporting police oversight, and leadership in the East Bay LGBTQIA+ community, makes him uniquely qualified to take on these challenges in Sacramento. “I’ve been in this fight,” said Aguilar. “I’ve experienced first-hand the discrimination against the Latinx community, the anxiety caused by lack of healthcare and housing, and the pain of personal loss from inadequate systemic responses to this pandemic. I am running to advance concrete solutions, and enrich the lives of all Oakland, Alameda and San Leandro residents.”

More information about Vice Mayor Victor Aguilar, as well as his full platform and how to donate or volunteer for the campaign, can be found at [www.VictorForCA.com](http://www.VictorForCA.com).

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