NIAC Action is a 501(c)4 non-profit dedicated to building political power for the Iranian-American community. NIAC Action supports Iranian-American candidates and allies who are committed to advancing peace & diplomacy, securing equitable immigration policies, and protecting the civil and human rights of all communities in America.

To be considered for an official endorsement from NIAC Action, please complete this candidate questionnaire and return to [pac@niacaction.org](mailto:pac@niacaction.org).

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Full Name:

Campaign Committee Name:

Office Sought:

Party Affiliation:

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Campaign Website:

Campaign Social Media (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, etc):

Campaign Manager:

Campaign Manager Email Address:

Campaign Manager Phone Number:

Please list any paid consultants you are working with (General consulting, fundraising, digital, etc.):

**CAMPAIGN INFORMATION**

Why are you running?

What are the three most important issues in your race?

Have you ever run for office before? If yes, have you ever sought NIAC Action’s endorsement before?

Please list your endorsements:

What is your fundraising goal? How much money have you raised to date?

What is your win number? Briefly explain how you plan to get there.

**ELECTION INFORMATION**

Is this an open seat? (Y/N)

Who are your opponents? Please list full names and party affiliations.

When is your election date? Please list Primary and General dates.

What is the Iranian-American population of your district (if known)?

**ON THE ISSUES**

Are you Iranian American? (Y/N)

Do you have a relationship with the Iranian-American community either inside or outside of your district?

Why are you seeking NIAC Action’s endorsement?

How has your past work experience related specifically to the issues that impact Iranian-Americans? (ie: Have you ever worked or volunteered for a pro-diplomacy, civil rights, immigration, or Iranian-American organization?)

*Donald Trump issued multiple Executive Orders followed by a Presidential Proclamation that indefinitely banned entry into the U.S. for individuals from primarily Muslim-majority countries, with some vague and limited exceptions. Iranian Americans and their families in Iran were especially impacted by this ban, with Iranians representing 62% of the typical recipients of non-immigrant visas that were banned. Thankfully, President Biden repealed the Muslim Ban through Executive Order on his first day in office, but the threat of future bans and family separation still exists. Legislation has been introduced, the* [*NO BAN Act*](https://www.niacouncil.org/news/the-no-ban-act-how-to-stop-future-abuses-of-the-immigration-and-nationality-act-ina/)*, that would bar any future actions like Trump's Muslim Ban.* **Do you oppose Donald Trump’s Muslim ban? Do you support the NO BAN Act? Please explain.**

*After Donald Trump’s call for a Muslim ban on the campaign trail in 2015, Congress inserted a provision into its omnibus package restricting individuals from the Visa Waiver Program based on both their national origin and travel history. See Section 203* [*here*](https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/2029/text)*. The legislation resulted in nationals of U.S. partners that enjoy Visa Waiver Program privileges being singled out for exclusion from the program if they hold dual nationality in or have traveled to Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen. NIAC warned at the time that the restrictions would widely discriminate against individuals because of their ethnic heritage – Iranian citizenship is automatically passed through the father by birth – and become a slippery slope to further targeting of Iranian nationals and other groups.*

*Unfortunately, the restrictions remained on the books, creating a discriminatory precedent for Trump to take advantage of. The seven countries targeted in Trump’s initial Muslim ban were the very same ones that Congress forced the Obama administration to restrict in 2015 and 2016. In defending its discriminatory ban, the Trump administration frequently cited this fact to* [*deflect political pressure*](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/fact-checker/wp/2017/02/07/trumps-claim-that-obama-first-identified-the-seven-countries-in-his-travel-ban/) *and defend its various bans in court, including at the* [*Supreme Court*](https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/17pdf/17-965_h315.pdf)*.* **Will you support efforts to rescind discriminatory Visa Waiver Program restrictions enacted by Congress, and all forms of immigration discrimination?**

*In July 2015, Iran and the U.S., Britain, Germany, France, China, and Russia achieved a diplomatic breakthrough and agreed to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), also known as the Iran nuclear deal. Under the accord, Iran agreed to roll back, cap and eliminate elements of its nuclear program and subject the program to permanent intrusive inspections. In exchange, the U.S. and major powers agreed to lift nuclear-related sanctions against Iran. Unfortunately, President Trump unilaterally exited the agreement and began imposing "maximum pressure" sanctions on Iran in violation of the accord. Ordinary Iranians have borne the brunt of the sanctions, Iran's government is breeching far-reaching nonproliferation restrictions in response to the U.S. abdication, and the U.S. and Iran moved to the brink of war at least twice under Trump's policy. President Biden, and all the major presidential challengers, condemned Trump's dangerous Iran policy and pledged to return the U.S. to the accord and to reinvigorate diplomacy with Iran if elected.* **Do you oppose war with Iran? Do you support the restoration of the Iran nuclear deal? Will you oppose broad-based sanctions that punish the Iranian people? Please explain.**

*Geopolitical tensions between the U.S. and Iran are not easily contained, and often lead to harmful spillover effects on individuals of Iranian heritage here in the United States. This includes detentions and hostile secondary questioning at U.S. ports of entry, banks over-enforcing U.S. sanctions by shuttering accounts of individuals on the basis of their national heritage and postal services rejecting packages intended for loved ones in Iran on an ad hoc basis.* **If elected, what will you do to stand up for the rights of the Iranian-American community?**

*The Persian New Year, or Norooz, is a very important holiday for the Iranian-American community - as well as other groups with roots in South Asia - marking the spring equinox.* **If elected, will you explore opportunities to celebrate Iranian-American heritage and ensure official recognition of Norooz within your jurisdiction?**

**CONFIRMATION**

Anything else you would like us to know?

Please sign and date below, then return this questionnaire to [pac@niacaction.org](mailto:pac@niacaction.org) to be considered for NIAC Action’s endorsement. By signing below, you affirm that the information you provided in this questionnaire is accurate and true to the best of your knowledge.

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Signature

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Name (please print)

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Date