

# Gay and Lesbian Activists Alliance

*Fighting for equal rights since 1971*  
P.O. Box 75265, Washington, DC 20013

## **For Release:**

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## **GLAA Revises Candidate Ratings for Bonds, Others**

The Gay and Lesbian Activists Alliance has considered new information provided by several D.C. Council candidates in the November 4 general election, and adjusted the rating of each, as shown below. GLAA has a longstanding policy of reserving the right to re-rate candidates based on new information received during the campaign. GLAA ratings are on a scale of -10 to +10. GLAA does not make endorsements in partisan races.

**Anita Bonds (Democratic At-Large incumbent, original rating +6, revised rating +7.5)** added substance to her questionnaire and provided additional record information. Her recent LGBT-related record includes supporting Council member Cheh's successful effort to obtain nearly \$1 million in additional funding for homeless LGBT youth; working with the Dept. of Corrections to institute a program offering voluntary HIV/AIDS/STD testing upon release from DC Jail; supporting legislation that expands the list of qualifying conditions for medical marijuana; working with Health Committee Chair Alexander to give authority to the Dept. of Health to administer \$1.5 million in grants for HIV prevention and intervention programs in FY15; and supporting repeal of Prostitution Free Zones in the Judiciary Committee.

**Kishan Putta (Independent At-Large candidate, original rating 0, revised rating +6)** agrees with GLAA on nearly all the issues, and offered some substance. His record includes working in planning and executing DC Health Link outreach and enrollment; working to lift the outdated liquor license moratorium on 17th Street, NW; and testifying for the Repeal of Prostitution Free Zones Amendment Act.

**Khalid Pitts (Independent At-Large candidate, original rating 0, revised rating +5)** agrees with GLAA on most issues, but offered limited substance. He defended the rights of LGBT inmates at DC Jail, and worked with SEIU and as a member of the D.C. Health Exchange board for non-discrimination in health coverage.

**Kris Hammond (Republican Council Chair candidate, original rating 0, revised rating +3.5)** agrees with GLAA on most issues, and offered some substance. He earns credit for his public advocacy of marriage equality.

**Preston Cornish (Libertarian Ward 5 candidate, original rating 0, revised rating +1.5)** has a political philosophy that aligns with GLAA on some issues but not others. He cited his

employment at the Reason Foundation, which supports marriage equality and drug legalization, but he did not specify what he himself has done to advance those issues. Also, that organization in its libertarianism opposes anti-discrimination laws that GLAA supports.

GLAA President Rick Rosendall stated, "Highlights of GLAA's re-ratings are the revised rating of Democrat Anita Bonds (+7.5), which puts her in the upper cluster of At-Large Council candidates; and that of Independent At-Large candidate Kishan Putta (+6), who has made good use of his time on the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission. We appreciate all of the candidates who responded to our questionnaire. Voters can review their answers on our website to make their own judgments."

The candidates' revised submissions are provided on GLAA's website at the links below.

Anita Bonds, Democrat for At-Large Council

Revised rating: +7.5

<http://glaa.org/archive/2014/cqbondsrev.pdf>

Kishan Putta, Independent for At-Large Council

Revised rating: +6

<http://glaa.org/archive/2014/cqputta.pdf>

Khalid Pitts, Independent for At-Large Council

Revised rating: +5

<http://glaa.org/archive/2014/cqpitts.pdf>

Kris Hammond, Republican for Council Chair

Revised rating: +3.5

<http://glaa.org/archive/2014/cqhammond.pdf>

Preston Cornish, Libertarian for Ward 5 Council

Revised rating: +1.5

<http://glaa.org/archive/2014/cqcornish.pdf>

A revised breakdown of the ratings points awarded to each candidate is online at:

<http://glaa.org/archive/2014/generalratingsbreakdownrev.shtml>

GLAA's main election project page is online at:

<http://glaa.org/archive/2014/election2014.shtml>

Founded in 1971, the Gay and Lesbian Activists Alliance of Washington (GLAA) is an all-volunteer, non-partisan, non-profit political organization that defends the civil rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people in the Nation's Capital. GLAA lobbies the D.C. Council, monitors government agencies, educates and rates local candidates, and works in coalitions to defend the safety, health, and equal rights of LGBT families.

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