Indivisible Berkeley’s Position on Endorsements

Indivisible Berkeley fulfills its mission through action by collections of individuals, primarily organized by and through teams.

As an organization, Indivisible Berkeley does not explicitly - whether verbally or in writing - endorse candidates, specific policies (e.g. legislation, regulations, initiatives), groups/coalitions, or events hosted by other groups. Individual participants and teams also do not use Indivisible Berkeley’s name - whether visually or verbally - to suggest that they represent the views of a team or of Indivisible Berkeley as a whole.

Indivisible Berkeley teams develop actions that may indicate support for a particular candidate, policy, group/coalition or event, and individual participants may opt into or out of participation in such actions. It is the responsibility of teams and individuals to request and persuade others to opt into their proposed actions.

In certain, limited cases, Indivisible Berkeley may be represented visually (e.g. signs, banner) by a group of individual participants: Events of a national, general, common progressive interest (e.g. March for Science).

Examples:

Do

- Show up for actions you support
- Work with your team to develop actions and publicize widely to draw in more individuals (e.g. postcard/letter writing, phone banking, canvassing, nonviolent direct action, tabling, attending marches/demonstrations)
- Form relationships to make actions happen as individuals
- Join other individuals who are showing up to participate in events of a national, general, common progressive interest
- Ask the Steering Team if you’re not sure whether an action constitutes an endorsement
- Talk about your personally held views on a candidate, bill, etc.

Don’t

- Announce yourself verbally (e.g., state your affiliation) or represent yourself visually (e.g. sign, t-shirt) as a representative of IB when speaking in public (e.g. at meetings, town halls, demonstrations, policy hearings)
- Explicitly or implicitly represent that you as an individual represent the views of IB (e.g. in meetings with policymakers or staff)
- Sign on as a team or as IB to specific policies (e.g. legislation, initiatives), events not sponsored by IB, partnerships with other groups