



Monterey County Elections
CANDIDATE STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS FORM

November 5, 2024, General Election

REC'D AUG 01 2024

All candidate statements will be of uniform format, font, size, spacing, darkness, and will be printed in a block paragraph in the Monterey County Voter Information Guide.

Restrictions include but are not limited to:

- Shall be limited to a candidate's own personal background and qualifications.
- Shall not in any way make reference to another candidate.
- Local non-partisan candidate shall not include party preference nor membership or activity in partisan political organizations.
- No statement shall contain any false, slanderous, or libelous statements. Authors are not exempt from any civil or criminal action or penalty.

The following is not permitted:

- Handwritten statements
- Bullet or outline formats
- Special formatting including bolding, italics, underlining, or ALL CAPITAL LETTERS (except for titles & acronyms)
- Special characters or symbols (including but not limited to (diamonds, stars, bullets, circles, boxes, check marks, asterisks, #, +, etc.)
- Statements addressing opponents or elected officials

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
Gina Martinez, Registrar of Voters Monterey County Elections Official
By: _____
Date Received: _____

CANDIDATE NAME:	John Laird	AGE:	
OCCUPATION:	California State Senator, District 17		

(CANDIDATE STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS)

Four years ago, I pledged to work for affordable housing and universal health insurance, tackle climate change and improve public education. As Senator, I've done just that by authoring 46 bills signed into law. Some examples include addressing climate change, improving fire prevention, and requiring more efficient state buildings. I also authored the original bill that led to development of the Fort Ord Veterans Cemetery. When the children of fallen officers did not get the same survivor benefits as others, I authored a law to fix that.

While serving as Senate Education Budget Subcommittee Chair, a substantial increase in public education funding was approved, as well as billions for higher education housing. I achieved restoration of UC's Cooperative Agriculture Extension, supporting 4-H Clubs and helping small farms.

I was a leader in getting the Pajaro River levee project fully funded. I helped get funds to address local homelessness. I negotiated a compromise for the Coastal Trail in Big Sur. I secured funding for the arts in Seaside and a senior center in Marina. I'm committed to a sustainable water supply on the Monterey Peninsula and support for South County dam repair.

In the years since I first represented Monterey County as a legislator, we have weathered atmospheric rivers, flooding, fires, road closures, a housing crisis – and much more. In many cases, we've thrived in the process of resolving our challenges.

There is much more to do – especially on climate change, healthcare and housing. I'm energized and ready to continue contributing my experience and drive to serve our community. I respectfully ask for your vote.