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PROGRESSIVE
DEMOCRATS
OF AMERICA



Progressive Democrats Endorse Jorge Elorza for Mayor of Providence

The Rhode Island Progressive Democrats are proud to endorse Jorge Elorza for Mayor of Providence. We believe he is both the most progressive and the most viable candidate in the race.

What distinguishes Jorge Elorza is not just his commitment to basic Democratic principles but his passion for improving the lives of working families. Of the three candidates, he shows the strongest commitment to progressive tax policy. He is the only candidate to commit on our questionnaire to supporting a repeal of the state's 2006 tax cuts, which led to devastating cuts in municipal aid and an increase in the regressive property and car taxes. (The other candidates were undecided.) He is the most skeptical of the large tax breaks the city hands out to favored developments, and we trust him to take a rigorous approach to evaluating these deals.

When it comes to the environment, Jorge is the most supportive of bicycle, pedestrian, and transit infrastructure. He shares our concerns with racial and economic segregation in the City of Providence, and he understands the role our zoning code plays in dividing neighborhoods.

Most importantly, his personal story displays a deep commitment to progressive values. From providing free legal services to those who could not afford it to taking on the big banks as a Housing Court judge, Jorge's story speaks for itself.

We want to thank all three main Democratic candidates for participating in our endorsement process. Each of them is a real Democrat who believes in basic party principles like a woman's right to choose and common-sense gun safety reforms—something that sadly cannot be said of far too many Rhode Island Democratic politicians. We would support any of them over former Republican Buddy Cianci in the general.

However, we have serious concerns about the viability of the other Democrats in the general, and we believe Jorge Elorza is the right candidate to draw a sharp contrast from the corrupt machine politics that have served our city so badly. We see him as the only candidate with a truly city-wide base of support and a message that appeals to every neighborhood. And we have great confidence in the strong campaign team he has assembled.

That is why we are so pleased to announce our support for Jorge Elorza for Mayor of Providence. We look forward to helping him win the primary and general and working with him as Mayor.