

## 2019 Municipal/County Government Questionnaire

Including: All executive and legislative offices, County and city row offices.  
District Attorney should complete Judicial Questionnaire.

NAME: John DeFazio  
OFFICE SOUGHT: Allegheny County Council At-Large  
CAMPAIGN CONTACT NAME: Mike Mikus  
EMAIL: [info@johndefazio.com](mailto:info@johndefazio.com)  
WEBSITE: <http://johndefazio.com> (Coming soon!)

1. Do you identify as LGBTQ? No.
2. Please briefly share your biography.

I served on the Allegheny County Council since it's inception in 2000. As President of Council, I led the fight to hold the line on taxes while growing the fund balance which has resulted in the county's highest bond rating in 35 years. We worked to make Allegheny County a more welcoming community when we established the Human Relations Commission which seeks to ensure that all are afforded equal protection regardless of sex, race or sexual orientation.

I have long been active in organized labor. I currently serve on the Executive Board of the Allegheny – Fayette Central Labor Council. I previously served as President of United Steelworkers District 10 which encompasses the entire state of Pennsylvania.

3. Please describe in detail your experience with the LGBTQ Community. What have you done to be a.) a vocal ally or b.) to fight for your fellow LGBTQ Pennsylvanians? Why is the Steel City Stonewall Democrats endorsement important to you?

- a.) I am proud to have been a vocal supporter equality for all on County Council.
- b.) As council president, I led the effort to establish the Human Relations Commission which which seeks to ensure that all are afforded equal protection regardless of sex, race or sexual orientation.

c.)It would be a honor to receive the endorsement of the Steel City Stonewall Democrats because I am committed to ending discrimination of all kinds. Whether it is serving on the Civil Rights Committee here in Western PA or fighting on council for the Human Relations Commission, I spent my professional career fighting for justice for all.

4. Pennsylvania has still not outlawed discrimination in housing, employment, and public accommodation based on sexual orientation or gender identity/expression. Does the jurisdiction in which you're running have a local protection for LGBTQ individuals?
  - a. If so, how will you ensure that this legislation is adequately enforced?

We do have an ordinance here in Allegheny County outlawing discrimination. I was instrumental in passing the Human Relations Commission and I will continue to ensure that it has the resources to investigate any complaints.

5. Many jurisdictions have outlawed the misnomered practice of conversion therapy in which young LGBTQ individuals are tortured in an attempt to “cure” them. Does the jurisdiction in which you’re running have a law/ordinance outlawing the practice?

a. If not, will you commit to introducing and advocating for such legislation?

I would be willing to introduce and advocate for legislation banning conversion therapy

6. Our organization is committed to electing not only candidates who support our community, but those who commit to the core principles of the Democratic Party. How will you use your office to help solve problems like these and make your community a better place? Please share with us your top three priorities if elected.

As a lifelong Democrat and former Democratic Committee Chair in Shaler, I have always been committed to the core values of the Democratic Party. My top three priorities are continuing our work on Council to continue to transform the local economy that will result in more high paying jobs, continuing our efforts to improve air quality, and making our county government even more inclusive so those from disadvantaged communities can have more opportunity.

7. Please list any other endorsements, accolades, or achievements you have received.

I am endorsed by County Executive Rich Fitzgerald and Senator Wayne Fontana. I have been endorsed by the Allegheny – Fayette Labor Council in every previous campaign that I have run.