

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 3, 2022

## Fresno Unified Trustee Veva Islas Support

FRESNO—The Fresno County Democratic Party stands in support of Fresno Unified Trustee Veva Islas and her efforts to push back against medical misinformation that threatens public health. Moreover, the Party condemns the Fresno County GOP's calls for her resignation.

One of many false rumors used to discourage Americans from taking the vital COVID-19 vaccine is that the jab somehow renders men sterile. This has been debunked, as Trustee Islas shared in the tweet that drew right-wing outrage.

COVID vaccines do not impact long-term fertility; that is a fact. It is also a fact that women who are pregnant or were recently pregnant are at increased risk for severe illness with COVID-19 and are more likely to give premature birth or face an increased risk for problems such as pregnancy loss. Anti-vaxxers, who are much more likely to spread COVID, are thus an unnecessary risk to any pregnancy they are involved in.

There is nothing Veva Islas can do to "promote infertility of unvaccinated men," as neither their vaccination status nor their fertility are under her control. As a public official, all she can do is use her platform to combat disinformation and discourage risky behavior.

In a GOP press release, Islas was also "accused" of supporting a mandate of masks for our children; for that, we thank her.

For more information, contact the Fresno County Democratic Party at <u>559-495-0606</u> or dems@fresnocountydemocrats.org.

https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/coronavirus/in-depth/pregnancy-and-covid-19/art-20482639