

## Bernie defenders united

Re "Don't dismiss Bernie—yet" (Editorial, Feb. 21):

First, after not getting the Democratic nomination himself in 2016, Bernie Sanders endorsed and vigorously campaigned for Hillary Clinton.

Bernie Sanders' agenda, including improved Medicare for all, better Social Security benefits, free tuition at public universities, a \$15 minimum wage, and a Green New Deal to put people to work, indeed will benefit the majority of Americans and is supported by the majority of the people.

Sanders will stop this business of regime change, endless useless wars and will drastically cut the bloated military budget. He is the only major candidate who is for an even-handed policy to settle the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Sanders doesn't take any corporate PAC money. All of his campaign contributions come from people who donate. As a member of Congress since 1990, he's gotten

a lot of legislation enacted by the amendment process and has been able to get Republicans to work with him.

I have never been so inspired by a presidential candidate, since Robert Kennedy in 1968, as I am now by Bernie Sanders. I am proud to support him and I believe that we will nominate and elect him this time.

Walter Ballin  
Chico

I usually agree with CN&R editorials, but not this one. I am not dismissing Sanders; I'm thrilled that he's running! Your editorial assumes that Jill Stein voters would have voted for Clinton, but that is unlikely. Many Americans did not like or trust Hillary—that's why they did not support her! Many hard-working Americans did not feel that she understood their plight, while Bernie's advocacy for working people struck a deep chord.

Those who blame Bernie Sanders for Hillary's loss are in denial about the failings of the

Clinton campaign and the DNC. She ran a terrible campaign; for many voters, her vision did not light a spark. Her campaign was dragged down by revelations of ineptitude and corruption and the underhanded way they repeatedly sought to undermine Sanders' campaign—all the way through the Democratic primary. I still mourn that Donna Brazile compromised her integrity by informing Hillary of debate questions ahead of a debate with Sanders—remember that?

Without DNC interference, I believe Sanders would have won the primary and the presidency. In this 2020 round, may integrity prevail, and true visionary policies raise all boats.

Emily Alma  
Chico

In your editorial, "Don't dismiss Bernie—yet," you write that Bernie supporters "helped put us where we are today" and "many progressives have yet to atone for making a

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