



Shefali Razdan Duggal

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Ro Khanna Raises Record War Chest for Possible House Bid

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and open to my ideas,” Khanna told **India-West**, stating further that he would only run for the seat when Stark signaled that it was open.

“He has served our community very well, and I look forward to working with him to help create jobs in the community and improve the life for the middle class,” said Khanna, adding that it would be presumptuous of him to speculate when Stark might vacate his seat.

“I gave (Stark) my word that I would support him for his upcoming election,” he said.

Khanna, 35, raised \$440,000 at his first fundraiser at the Los Altos, Calif. home of Silicon Valley icon Vinod Khosla.

House Minority leader Nancy Pelosi and Rep. Anna Eshoo attended that event. Salesforce CEO Marc Benioff and Telesoft founder Arjun Gupta jointly held a fundraiser for Khanna Nov. 17 and former U.S. Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta attended an event for him Nov. 19.

Khanna’s individual donors are not listed in his FEC filings, but in an executive summary of donors, he did list Google investor Ram

Shriram, Tibco founder Vivek Ranadive, Adobe CEO Shantanu Narayen, entrepreneurs Talat and Kamil Hasan, venture capitalist Yogen Dalal, and political activist Shefali Razdan Duggal.

Outside of the local Indian American community, Khanna said he has received support from Democratic stalwarts Penny Pritzker and Benioff; Reid Hoffman, founder of LinkedIn; Peter Thiel, founder of PayPal; Marc Andreessen, founder of Netscape; and venture capitalists John Draper and Brook Byer of the venture capital firm Kleiner Perkins Caulfield and Byers.

Khanna also lists the financial backing of Larry Sonsini, founding partner at Wilson Sonsini Goodrich and Rosati, where Khanna currently works after he quit Commerce in August.

Significantly, Khanna states he has taken no money from political action committees.

“We need to help lift our middle class,” Khanna told **India-West**. “I meet people who are struggling to find work - folks who are budgeting only \$10 a day to buy their groceries because a spouse has lost a job, or they have gone part-time.”



Ro Khanna, left, with supporters Shefali Razdan Duggal, Rajat Duggal, and San Jose City, Calif. city councilman Ash Kalra.

“I want to help these individuals get good paying jobs and the

skill set for the 21st century,” he said, adding that he will focus on

creating jobs in the manufacturing and service sectors.