



North Shore AFL-CIO Candidate Endorsement Questionnaire

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Website: _____ Party affiliation: _____

Office you are seeking: _____

Are you the incumbent? _____ Previous elected office, if any: _____

Education – High school: _____ College: _____

Graduate/Law school: _____

List any union membership, or union office held (include dates): _____

******Please thoroughly explain each answer to the questions below******

Privatization, Collective Bargaining, and Public Employees:

- 1) Do you believe that state, county, municipal, school board, charter school and court employees have the right to organize and bargain collectively?

Comments:

2) Do you oppose the privatization or contracting out of public services?

Comments:

3) Are there any circumstances under which you believe public services should be privatized?

If yes, please explain:

4) In 2011, the North Shore AFL-CIO strongly opposed Senate Bill 5, an unjust and politically motivated attack on working families and the organizations that represent public-sector workers. Would you actively oppose future legislation with similar provisions as Senate Bill 5?

Comments:

“Right to Work”

5) Ohio law already guarantees that no person can be forced to join a union; however, all workers in unionized workplaces are required to pay what is known as a “fair share” fee for the collectively bargained contract terms and representation they enjoy. Legislation and ballot initiatives have been introduced to allow non-members to stop paying their fair share fee. This measure is known as “Right to Work.” Do you support or oppose “Right to Work?”

Comments:

6) Would you work to defeat it?

Comments:

Wages

7) Do you support raising the state and/or federal minimum wage?

Comments:

- 8) Would you actively support legislation and/or ballot initiatives to raise Ohio's minimum wage?

Comments:

Public Education

- 9) Public Schools are funded primarily by property taxes. Tuition vouchers use public tax dollars for private schools, which drains much-needed funds from public school students. Do you support or oppose tuition vouchers for private schools?

Comments:

- 10) Similarly, charter schools also take tax money out of the public school system. The charter school system in Ohio provides few mechanisms to ensure accountability and transparency for taxpayers and students. The North Shore AFL-CIO believes that failing charter schools should be closed, and that tax dollars should not be used to fund for-profit schools. Do you agree or disagree?

Comments:

Project Labor Agreements and Prevailing Wage

- 11) When governmental entities contract for building projects, state law requires that the workers be paid the prevailing level of pay in that area for performing the work. Do you support this law, and will you oppose any attempts to erode it?

Comments:

- 12) Both public and private entities often enter into Project Labor Agreements with the Cleveland Building & Construction Trades Council to ensure that construction projects are completed on time and built with skilled labor. If elected, would you support or oppose Project Labor Agreements for publicly-funded construction projects?

Comments:

Supporting Union Workers

- 13) Elected officials in Northeast Ohio have often helped workers organize and have fought for workers' rights by writing official letters, attending rallies, passing resolutions, and engaging in various other public demonstrations of support. Will you commit to taking similar actions if elected?

Please list any past participation in such events or any ways you have helped workers organize:

- 14) Do you pledge to hold your campaign events at unionized facilities whenever possible?

Comments:

- 15) Do you plan to have your campaign literature and other printed items produced and printed by union printers?

Comments:

- 16) Please list the make and model of any vehicles you own or lease:

Comments:

- 17) The North Shore AFL-CIO adopted a "Workers Bill of Rights" in 2002. Would you be willing to sign this document? If so, please sign and return with this questionnaire.

You are welcome to list any union officers who might serve as a reference for your candidacy:

Candidate signature

Date

WORKERS' BILL OF RIGHTS

Elected officials have a special opportunity to help working people and to improve the quality of life for our community. Below is a vision of the community that working people expect our Elected Representatives to best serve our Community.

Public Services:

Citizens deserve good public services. As an elected official, I will oppose privatizing any services and work toward bringing back services currently being performed by outside contractors.

Public Education:

A thriving region must have good public schools. I will oppose public funds going to private schools, will not support school vouchers, and will oppose for-profit charter schools.

Diversity in Government: I will represent the people of my city and/or school district. I will work for diversity in all areas of government by hiring people from diverse backgrounds These include race, class, gender, age, sexual orientation, and ethnicity.

Corporate Citizenship:

Many but not all employers are good corporate citizens who work to build a better community. I will not support contracts or tax breaks to employers who violate workers' rights, environmental protection laws, or in any way discriminate.

Fair Wage Practices:

The use of public funds should not help maintain poverty wages or contribute to the lowering of wages. I will oppose giving public funds, loans, grants or tax breaks to companies unless they provide their employees with a wage that is greater than 150% of the federal poverty line. I will support and enforce living wage policies. I will advocate and support a prevailing wage for all government financed or owned projects.

Quality Health Care:

The quality of life in our community improves when working people, with or without families have health care that is comprehensive, accessible and affordable. I will speak out for and actively support efforts to expand health care coverage and access.

Affordable Housing:

I will work to create affordable housing that is accessible to all working people, support strict enforcement of the housing codes and develop land uses that benefit the community.

Workers' Rights:

Workers enjoy better wages, benefits and working conditions when they have collective bargaining agreements. Employers often use fear and intimidation to fight a worker's right to organize. I will support working people by: 1) connecting economic development with workers' rights, 2) preventing public money from going to employers who fight against workers' rights; 3) Supporting "card check" recognition. and 4) supporting the organizing of workers in my city/school district.

*Adopted by Delegates to the Cleveland AFL-CIO Federation of Labor,
3250 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115, (216-881-7200)*

Name (print)

Signature

Date