



NJ CANDIDATES QUESTIONNAIRE

In our continuing efforts to bring disability issues to the forefront of campaigns for elected office, we have prepared a candidates' questionnaire. The questionnaire, developed by disabled advocates, contains 13 questions that address disability- related issues. By filling out this questionnaire, you will help voters with disabilities make informed decisions in the upcoming midterm elections. In order for us to have ample time to distribute your responses, please return your completed questionnaire by **OCTOBER 30th 2018**. Please contact ctonks@adacil.org if you have any questions.

PART ONE: SUPPORT/OPPOSE

For this section, please mark if you support or oppose the indicated legislation or legislative goals. Please provide a comment clarifying or expanding upon your response.

1. Disability Integration Act (S. 910 / H. R. 2472)

- ☐ Support
- ☐ Oppose

Comment:

2. EMPOWER Care Act (S. 2227 / H. R. 5306)

- ☐ Support
- ☐ Oppose

Comment:

3. ADA Education and Reform Act (H. R. 620)

- ☐ Support
- ☐ Oppose

Comment:

4. Medicaid block spending and per capita systems

- ☐ Support
- ☐ Oppose

Comment:

5. Keeping All Students Safe Act (H. R. 4247)

- ☐ Support
- ☐ Oppose

Comment:

6. Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) requirement for Personal Care Assistants under the 21st Century Cures Act (H. R. 34)

- ☐ Support
- ☐ Oppose

Comment:

PART TWO: OPEN ENDED QUESTIONS

For this section, please respond to the questions with a specific answer, including details for your plan to address these disability issues.

1. In the Olmstead v. L.C. (1999) decision, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that states are required to eliminate unnecessary segregation of persons with disabilities and ensure that persons with disabilities receive services in the most integrated setting appropriate to their needs. Do you feel the state is doing what it can do to fully implement this ruling? If not, what measures does NJ need to take?

2. If elected, what will you do to ensure that people with disabilities are included in the planning and implementation of emergency preparedness efforts on the state, county, and local levels?

3. Medicaid eligibility and programmatic requirements now create barriers for individuals with disabilities seeking to enter or return to the workplace because they cannot access needed supports, assistive technology, and services. Do you support initiatives that would allow workers with disabilities to continue to work past age 65, maintain their eligibility from state to state, and carry their Medicaid benefits into private employment settings? How would you work with the private sector to address the critical independent living supports that many private insurance programs do not cover for people with disabilities?

4. Former Governor Christie shunted Medicaid funding for pure mental illness into co-occurring programs. As a result, those with serious mental illness but no substance abuse issues have lost services. What will you do to fill the gap and stabilize mental health funding in NJ?

5. According to estimates from the Corporation for Supportive Housing, New Jersey has a need for approximately 27,265 units of supportive housing, the 9th highest need in the nation. How would you propose to increase the inventory of safe, accessible, affordable housing for people with disabilities?

6. What would you do to expand access to affordable and accessible transportation for people with disabilities, especially in rural areas?

7. Do you support providing or increasing funding for new, accessible voting systems to replace the first- generation accessible voting systems that have outlived their usefulness?

8. The disability community lives by the South African proverb “Nothing about us, without us”, meaning that individuals with disabilities should be at the center of decision-making on issues affecting our community. Have you hired and incorporated PWD as part of your political team? What are you doing to make sure qualified people with disabilities will be a part of your political team and, if elected, a part of your staff?