



League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania

Citizen Education Fund

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**Voters Guide
General Election
November 3, 2020**

Publication of the Voter Guide was made possible by the League
of Women Voters of Pennsylvania-Citizen Education Fund

Patriot-News/PENN LIVE

Laurel Foundation

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FOR ELECTION INFORMATION

Contact your county Board of Elections or visit www.VotesPA.com. The League of Women Voters of Greater Pittsburgh also provides election information. Call 412-261-4284 with any questions.

ABOUT THIS GUIDE

The material in this Guide was compiled by the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania- Citizen Education Fund. This material may not be altered or reprinted without the permission of the League. Each candidate's reply has been printed as submitted. Candidates were invited to participate in the Vote411 online voters' guide sponsored by the LWV-PA-CEF and Patriot- News/PennLive via email. All reasonable efforts were made to encourage candidates to participate.

The candidates listed are those whose names appear on the ballot. They are listed according to their ballot order. Nothing in this guide should be construed as an endorsement or non- endorsement of any candidate, party, or initiative by the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania-Citizen Education Fund.

ABSENTEE VOTING

Registered voters who are ill, disabled, or will be absent from the municipality on Election Day may vote by absentee ballot. **Completed**

League of Women Voters Non-Partisan Voters Guide © October 14, 2020

applications for civilian absentee ballots for the November 3, 2020 election must be received by the county election office by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, October 27, 2020. Completed civilian absentee ballots must be postmarked by 8 p.m. November 3 and received by the county election office by 5 p.m. on Friday, November 6 to be counted. If an emergency arises (such as an unexpected illness or disability or last-minute absence) after the Tuesday application deadline, call the county Board of Elections for information on Emergency Alternative Ballot. An emergency application and ballot can be obtained and voted by 8 P.M. on November 3.

Any disabled voter having questions regarding the accessibility of a polling place should consult the county Board of Elections located at 542 Forbes Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15219 Room 604 (412-350-4500).

MAIL-IN VOTING

Voters have the option to vote

by mail without providing any reason or excuse. To apply online, go to www.votespa.com. Contact the county election office to request a paper application. Applications for a mail-in ballot must be received by your county election office by 5 pm on October 27. Completed mail-in ballots must be postmarked by 8 p.m. election day, November 3, and received by the county election office by 5 p.m. on Friday, November 6 to be counted.

FIND YOUR POLLING PLACE

For the November 3 election, with few exceptions, we will be returning to the same polling places that were used for the November 2019 election. Postcards will be sent to all voters of their November 3 polling place. To determine the location of your polling place, contact the Allegheny County Elections Division at 412-350-4500 or go to votes.pa.com.

WRITE-IN VOTING

Information for write-in voting will be available at the polling place as well as printed on your main-in or absentee ballot. You are not allowed to use stickers or paste-on labels for write-in candidates because the ballot scanning machines cannot read them and may become jammed. The law now says that write-in names may be written or stamped.

ELECTION DAY PROBLEMS

If your right to vote is challenged at the polls on Election Day and the problem cannot be resolved at the polling place, the judge of elections at the polling place should telephone the County Board of Elections. The problem could be resolved by phone if your name appears on the county records. If it does not and you want to try to resolve the problem, then you can go in person to the County Board of Elections where a judge from the Court of Common Pleas will be on duty to resolve election problems. Alternatively you can ask for, and vote, by provisional ballot. If it is later determined that you were eligible to vote your ballot

will be counted. You will be given instructions on how to determine if your vote was counted. If you have any questions or need to report any problems, call 1-866-687-8683 or the Allegheny County Elections Division at 412-350-4500.

IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW VOTERS

If you are a new voter or if you are voting at a polling place for the first time then you must bring your voter ID card or a photo ID such as a driver's license, student ID or some other form of Federal or State government issued ID. Some forms of non-photo ID are also acceptable such as a firearm permit, current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, or government check. If you do not have any acceptable ID then you must be allowed to vote by provisional ballot. **If you are not a new voter and are not voting at your polling place for the first time, you are NOT required to bring or provide identification.**

ON-LINE VOTERS GUIDE

The Vote411 Online Voters Guide is available at www.vote411.org. Links to this guide as well as links to Vote411 and other useful information for voters can be found on the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania homepage: www.palwv.org.

U.S. PRESIDENT

Duties: The President is: the head of state of the United States of America; the Chief Executive Officer; and, the Commander in Chief of all military forces. The powers of the President are prescribed in the Constitution and federal law. The President appoints the members of the Cabinet, ambassadors to other nations and the United Nations, Supreme Court Justices, and federal judges, subject to Senate approval. The President, along with the Cabinet and its agencies, is responsible for carrying out and enforcing the laws of the United States. The President may also recommend legislation to the United States Congress.

Term: Four years. Limit of two terms.

Base Salary: \$400,000 per year.

Note: All candidates who will appear on your state's ballot are listed below but only those that meet the following criteria were invited to respond to the League's questions in this guide.

1. The candidate must have made a public announcement of her/his intention to run for President.

2. The candidate must meet the Presidential Election Campaign Fund Act's minimum contribution threshold requirements for qualifying for matching funds, based on the most recent data publicly avail-

able on the Federal Elections Commission website. 3. The candidate must qualify for the ballot in enough states to win a majority of electoral votes

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATE

JOE BIDEN (DEM)

Biographical Information

Campaign Website: <http://www.joebiden.com/>

Campaign Email: info@joebiden.com

Campaign Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/joebiden/>

Campaign Twitter: @joebiden

Campaign Instagram: <http://www.instagram.com/joebiden/>

Campaign YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWNpXi-tY8eJ-ku6M-v25MKw>

Mailing Address: Biden for President PO Box 58174 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102

Q: What actions would you take to balance public health and economic recovery in the US, both in light of COVID-19 and for the long term?

Joe Biden: It's a false choice to think we have to choose between our public health and economy; they're linked.



JOE BIDEN

On Day One, I'll implement the COVID strategy I've laid out since March – surging testing and protective gear; distributing vaccines safely and free of politics; helping schools and small businesses cover costs; and getting state and local governments resources to keep educators, cops, and firefighters on the job. I'll respect science and tell the truth, period. And I'll build our economy back better, creating millions of good-paying jobs. I'll revitalize manufacturing, build a clean energy economy, and boost caregiving – easing the squeeze on working families, providing paid leave, and getting caregivers the respect and pay they deserve.

Q: What is the most important issue facing our country and how do you plan to address it during your first 100 days in office?

Joe Biden: Pandemic. Recession. Racial injustice. Climate change. We're facing historic crises; we have to tackle them all at once. Character and experience count. I'll listen to scientists, tell the truth, and make sure we're never so unprepared for a pandemic again. I'll expand the Affordable Care Act, lowering costs and making health care a right for all. I'll build our economy back better, and make racial equity central to recovery. In these crises, we have an enormous opportunity, if we come together. As President, I'll draw on the best of us, not the worst. I'll work as hard for those who don't support me as for those who do. That's a president's job: to represent us all. To take responsibility. To protect the nation. To unite and to heal.

How will you address racial injustice in our country on day one of your administration?

Joe Biden: America is at an inflection point. It's past time to end our inequities and deal with the denial of our nation's promise to too many for too long. I'll fight to end the health inequities that COVID-19 amplifies; and give every child the same strong start in life by offering universal Pre-K, tripling funding for Title I schools, and making public college debt-free for most families. I'll make racial equity central to our recovery, closing the racial wealth and income gaps, boosting home ownership, and investing in communities and entrepreneurs of color – building a stronger, more inclusive middle class for the future. And, I'll work for real police reform and invest in shifting our criminal justice focus from incarceration to prevention.

What aspects of our current immigration policy will your administration address first?

Joe Biden: My immigration policy is built around keeping families together. It's past time to reform our broken system, restoring family unification and diversity as its core pillars. As President, I'll reverse Trump's assault on our values on Day One, ending his cruel border policies that rip children from their mothers' arms. I'll act immediately to protect Dreamers and their families, and invest real political capital in finally delivering legislative immigration reform, with a roadmap to citizenship for the nearly 11 million undocumented people who already do so much to make our communities strong. We have to enforce our laws, but in a way that's humane, respects due process, honors our values, and sees the big picture.

What will you do over the long term to ensure access to quality healthcare for all?

Joe Biden: This pandemic makes clear: All Americans need access to quality, affordable health insurance. That's why I'll protect and build on the Affordable Care Act. I helped to secure the final key votes to pass that landmark law, protecting 100 million Americans who can no longer be turned away or denied coverage for pre-existing conditions, and bringing coverage to 20 million more. As President, I'll build on that progress with a public option and lower health care and prescription drug costs. I'll make all COVID-19 testing, treatment, and vaccines free; double funding for community health centers that are so often on the frontlines of care; and much more.

REPUBLICAN PARTY CANDIDATE (VOTE FOR ONE)

DONALD J. TRUMP (REP)

Biographical Information

Campaign Website: <http://www.donaldjtrump.com/>

Campaign Email: info@donaldtrump.com/

Campaign Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/DonaldTrump/>

Campaign Twitter: [@realDonaldTrump](https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump)

Campaign Instagram: <http://www.instagram.com/team-trump/>

Campaign YouTube:

<http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAql2DyGU2un1Ei2nMYsqOA>

What actions would you take to balance public health and economic recovery in the U.S., both in light of COVID-19 and for the long term?

Donald J. Trump: Candidate has not yet responded.
What is the most important issue facing our country and how do you plan to address it during



DONALD TRUMP

your first 100 days in office?

Donald J. Trump: Candidate has not yet responded.
How will you address racial injustice in our country on day one of your administration?

Donald J. Trump: Candidate has not yet responded.
What aspects of our current immigration policy will your administration address first?

Donald J. Trump: Candidate has not yet responded.
What will you do over the long term to ensure access to quality healthcare for all?

Donald J. Trump: Candidate has not yet responded.

LIBERTARIAN PARTY CANDIDATE (VOTE FOR ONE)

JO JORGENSEN (LIB)

Biographical Information

What actions would you take to balance public health and economic recovery in the U.S., both in light of COVID-19 and for the long term?

Jo Jorgensen: Candidate does not meet the criteria noted above.

What is the most important issue facing our country and how do you plan to address it during your first 100 days in office?

Jo Jorgensen: Candidate does not meet the criteria noted above.

How will you address racial injustice in our country on day one of your administration?

Jo Jorgensen: Candidate does not meet the criteria noted above.

What aspects of our current immigration policy will your administration address first?

Jo Jorgensen: Candidate does not meet the criteria noted above.

What will you do over the long term to ensure access to quality healthcare for all?

Jo Jorgensen: Candidate does not meet the criteria noted above.

ATTORNEY GENERAL PENNSYLVANIA ATTORNEY GENERAL

STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Description of office: The basic duties of the Attorney General, as outlined by the Commonwealth Attorneys Act, are to: serve as the Commonwealth's chief law enforcement officer; collect all debts, taxes, and accounts due to the Commonwealth; represent the Commonwealth and all its agencies in any action brought by or against the Commonwealth; administer the provision relating to consumer protection laws; represent the Commonwealth and its citizens in any action brought about for violation of the antitrust laws.

Term: 4 years

Salary: \$167,838

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATE (VOTE FOR ONE)

JOSH SHAPIRO (DEM)

Biographical Info:

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 22635 Philadelphia, PA 19110?

Education: Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from University of Rochester, Class of 1995. Juris Doctor degree, Georgetown Law, Class of 2002.?

campaign website: <http://www.joshshapiro.org/>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/JoshShapiroPA/>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/JoshShapiroPA>



JOSH SHAPIRO

Questions:

Q: What are your top three priorities to address as Attorney General?

A: We must continue battling the heroin and opioid crisis that is taking 12 Pennsylvanians' lives each day. Our efforts must focus on a multi-pronged approach of prosecuting high-level drug dealers, holding pharmaceutical companies accountable and making treatment more accessible and affordable. We must stand up for consumers against predatory lending companies, scammers, and others trying to take advantage of Pennsylvanians. That includes ensuring Pennsylvanians have access to affordable, quality health care. We must keep our communities safe, by collaborating effectively across law enforcement, reforming our criminal justice system to ensure equal enforcement, taking crime guns off our streets, and much more.?

Q: The Office of the Pennsylvania Attorney General is responsible for law enforcement and the equal protection of law for all citizens. What do you see as the primary challenges to achieving equality under the law??

A: Throughout my career in public service, I've always been someone who has stood up to defend all Pennsylvanians—no matter what they look like, where they come from, who they love, or who they pray or don't pray to. I have consistently defended the rule of law and Pennsylvanians' rights against anyone, from high-level drug dealers, to predatory lending companies, to greedy pharmaceutical companies, to the federal government, and more. The laws of our Commonwealth and our country must be applied equally, and that can only be done by enforcing the law without fear or favor. We must also ensure the highest ethical standards across law enforcement and our entire government.?

Q: What role will your administration play in reforming systemic problems and supporting restorative justice in our criminal justice system??

A: I've taken steps to reduce PA's prison population and recidivism rate, and to instead focus on data-driven programs to eliminate bias in the system. I've also worked with Governor Wolf to form PA's first statewide reentry council to reduce barriers for those returning from prison. And I've created a statewide Conviction Integrity Unit to review past convictions. This year, I brought together law enforcement, union leaders, and activists from across the Commonwealth to pass a bill that ends the practice of law enforcement agencies unknowingly hiring officers with documented patterns of excessive use of force or other misconduct. I'm committed to finding fair methods that will reduce incarceration rates and discrimination.

REPUBLICAN PARTY CANDIDATE (VOTE FOR ONE)

HEATHER HEIDELBAUGH (REP)

Biographical Info:

County: Allegheny

Mailing Address: PO Box 23538 Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Education: J.D., University of Missouri-Columbia School of Law; B.A. in Economics and Political Science, University of Missouri-Columbia

Qualifications: Experienced trial lawyer with more than 35 years of courtroom experience who understands



HEATHER HEIDELBAUGH

the complexities of the law, the intersection between policy and law, and how the law impacts the lives of citizens

campaign website: <http://heatherheidelbaugh.com/>

Facebook: <http://facebook.com/HeatherforAG/>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/heidelbaugh4ag>

Questions:

Q: What are your top three priorities to address as Attorney General?

A: 1. Keep PA Safe-The Commonwealth Attorneys Act states one of the main roles of the AG is criminal prosecutions. This would be my top priority. The AG works with local DAs and law enforcement to keep PA residents safe, including a strong commitment to addressing drug trafficking and the opioid crisis. 2. Put People Before Politics-Restore the AG's Office to following mandates set forth in the Commonwealth Attorneys Act and perform lawyering for the people of PA versus using the office for political gain. 3. Protect the Mentally Ill-Establish a Blue Ribbon Panel of experts from PA to examine the treatment of the mentally ill, address the current state of mental illness, and more. The panel would issue a Report suggesting structural changes.

Q: The Office of the Pennsylvania Attorney General is responsible for law enforcement and the equal protection of law for all citizens. What do you see as the primary challenges to achieving equality under the law?

A: Keeping PA safe has to be the top priority of the AG. The AG's statutory role is the prosecutor of crime. The AG has to prioritize resources, so scarce resources are used for the highest priority tasks of the office. Crime enforcement, in conjunction with the DAs is the first priority. Crime operates across County and jurisdictional lines, so coordination with multiple County DAs is critical. Investigations that may take years and cost millions can't be wasted by prosecutors failing to follow criminal procedure. The AG must take an active role in the management of the office. The purpose of prosecuting crime is to ensure safety, not create headlines. With that purpose in mind, equal protection for all should be achieved.

Q: What role will your administration play in reforming systemic problems and supporting restorative justice in our criminal justice system?

A: As the County Councilperson At Large on Allegheny County Council, I was critical of the operation of the county jail. The Allegheny County jail had more suicides than any other jail in the country. I determined that one county employee had repeatedly failed to process the proper release of a large number of people from the jail, and she was terminated. Each day someone is in jail, it cost taxpayers, they become a suicide risk and lose their liberty unnecessarily. As AG, I would continue to advocate for government institutions to properly run jails and prisons. Jails and/or prisons must be properly run so we have the space to jail criminals, not those who don't belong there.

LIBERTARIAN PARTY CANDIDATE
(VOTE FOR ONE)

DANIEL WASSMER (LIB)

Biographical Info:

County: Pike

Mailing Address: 1433 Route 590 Hawley, PA 18428

Education: BA - Adelphi University 1983 MBA - Adelphi University 1986 JD - New York Law School 1989

Qualifications: Educator, government attorney

and someone with actual knowledge from courtrooms not a self aggrandized aspirational political office seat warmer....

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/2705423013115791>

Questions:

Q: What are your top three priorities to address as Attorney General?

A: -Major Criminal Justice Police Reform. -Decriminalize Marijuana (and other drugs) shifting to a medical treatment options (someone with a state authorized "license" can sell drugs reaping a huge profit but a person selling a nickel bag of marijuana is charged with a crime - shouldn't be!) -Stopping the threat of Anti-Trust litigation by BOTH old parties which is used simply as a ploy to leverage "campaign contributions" as a form of legalized extortion against our competitive big tech firms and permitting a real "free market" to pick winners and losers (Note: This is the only time in modern history where companies delivering "convenience" and "lower prices for consumers" have been shaken down allegedly to protect consumers [what nonsense])

Q: The Office of the Pennsylvania Attorney General is responsible for law enforcement and the equal protection of law for all citizens. What do you see as the primary challenges to achieving equality under the law?

A: Education and I am the only educator in the field! Secondly Police Reform and I am the only person who has ever worked in a firm handling matters as an FOP outside counsel. In that role I personally saw the negatives of policing as well as people who were honest hard working "peace keeping" officers. We need fewer police and more peacekeepers. I have a plan including a non-confrontational resolution option which PA ought to explore as well as a plan to remove bad officers by removing the "wall of silence" within police departments. Lastly the silencing of people with "atypical ideas" created by the two OLD PARTIES needs to stop! Both of these parties purposefully engage in speech chilling behavior which is detrimental to IDEAS!

Q: What role will your administration play in reforming systemic problems and supporting restorative justice in our criminal justice system?

A: That is my number one concern. The PA criminal system is a joke and the incumbent has literally done nothing to address it! He now wants 4 more years. Moreover the other OLD PARTY candidate also simply looks at this as a mental health issue and fails to address: economic issues, educational opportunities, rehabilitation, purposeful systematic discrimination literally caused by the US government, disparity in sentencing, how the justice system operates, etc.. I don't see that the incumbent has ever held a position ever in the private labor market! Moreover the other OLD PARTY candidate seems inclined to handle election law challenges as a primary function. This is NOT what we need in PA from an Attorney General.

GREEN PARTY CANDIDATE
(VOTE FOR ONE)

RICHARD L. WEISS (GRN)

Biographical Info:

County: Allegheny



DANIEL WASSMER

Mailing Address: 107 Old Village Lane Bethel Park, PA 15102

Education: B.A. University of Pittsburgh J.D. University of Denver LL.M. American University M.B.A. University of Chicago

Qualifications: Admitted to the Attorney Bar in Pennsylvania and New York.

campaign website: http://www.greenslate2020.org/attorney_general

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/richard.l.weiss.1485537>

Twitter: <http://@RichardLWeiss>

Questions:

Q: What are your top three priorities to address as Attorney General?

A: 1. Save the taxpayers' money. Reduce prison population by 50%, by not seeking cash bail, not bringing charges merely for drug possession or consensual relations between adults. Only those who are actually a threat to the community should be incarcerated. Others should be diverted from the prison system to programs designed to help them pay their debt to society and reintegrate into the community. Prosecutorial resources can then be directed to addressing violent crime, combating corruption and consumer protection. 2. Reformation of the system of policing. Citizen Review Boards are only a start. Community and police must establish standards of conduct and need special prosecutors for police misconduct. 3. Promote Restorative Justice.

Q: The Office of the Pennsylvania Attorney General is responsible for law enforcement and the equal protection of law for all citizens. What do you see as the primary challenges to achieving equality under the law?

A: The primary responsibility of the Attorney General is public safety, with the goal of attaining peace characterized by a community that is inclusive and harmonious. Conflict must be resolved in a way that restores peaceful social life. This can only be accomplished through respect of all members. The primary challenge now is lack of faith of the community in the police and of the police in the community. Our system of justice is based on the principle that it is better to let a guilty person go free than to convict an innocent one. I would rather take a bullet than shoot an innocent person. Let us develop a system of policing based on that principle. We must refrain from attacking, arresting or shooting anyone not actually a threat.

Q: What role will your administration play in reforming systemic problems and supporting restorative justice in our criminal justice system?

A: My administration will support restorative justice, which is another way of viewing crime and how to respond to it. Restorative justice includes all parties in a collaborative process of apology, changed behavior, repair of the harm, and reintegration of parties with their communities. This process has a better record of reforming offenders and healing victims than simply punishment which has had a low success rate. It also diverts offenders from incarceration to alternatives like community service, but as agreed by offenders and victims, who are more likely to view it as a sincere apology if voluntarily undertaken than sentenced. I support the statements of former Austin District Attorney Ronnie Earl in this video: tinyurl.com/RonEarl.



RICHARD L. WEISS

AUDITOR GENERAL PENNSYLVANIA ATTORNEY GENERAL

Description: STATE AUDITOR GENERAL

Description of office: The principal role of the Auditor General is to determine whether state funds are being used in accordance with the purpose and guidelines that govern each use of the Commonwealth's dollars. The Auditor General conducts financial and performance audits of individuals, state agencies, and organizations that receive state funds, including school districts, state liquor stores, and public employee pension funds. These audits are designed to measure how effectively government programs are using public money to meet their stated goals and objectives. The office performs more than 6,000 audits each year, and is responsible for auditing all Pennsylvania state programs that are allocated federal funds.

Term: 4 years

Salary: \$167,838

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

NINA AHMAD (DEM)

Biographical Info:

County: Philadelphia

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 40681 Philadelphia, PA 19107

Education: Ph.D. in Chemistry, Postdoctoral Training in Molecular Genetics

Qualifications: Policy Maker (Deputy Mayor & Advisor to President Obama on AAPI) Co-owner-Community Development finance business Trustee of Foundation, Grant making Chair-\$40MM in grants and Investment Committee: oversight on half-billion-dollar endowment. Board Member, National Organization for Women
campaign website: <http://www.ninaforpa.com>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/NinaforPA/>
Twitter: <http://twitter.com/NinaAhmadPHL>

Questions:

Q: What are your top three priorities in office?

A: Healthcare, Education and Jobs: To reduce healthcare costs I will find efficiencies in reimbursements to pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs), 3rd-party administrators of prescription drug programs. I will lead the design of an audit to assess pandemic preparedness incorporating the lessons learned from the current COVID-19 pandemic on all fronts including healthcare, education, and the economy. Developing data-driven analyses to identify funding gaps in education, I will advocate for equitable funding, universal pre-K, and affordable post-secondary education. I will harness science and technology to create family sustaining jobs of the future and will advocate for work force development dollars to be invested in this sector.

Q: What distinguishes you from other candidates who are seeking to be Pennsylvania's next Auditor General?

A: I believe the Auditor General's office can be a powerful tool for progressive change. As the chief fiscal watch dog, I will ensure tax dollars are used with integrity, transparency and accountability and assess the equitable use of the dollars. As a scientist



NINA AHMAD

trained to understand the value of data, I will use audit data to generate public policy information to support equitable legislation. As a small business owner and a former Deputy Mayor of Philadelphia, I am well versed in looking for efficiencies to maximize the impact of our dollars. As the former President of the Philadelphia chapter of the NOW and having served on President Obama's Commission for AAPI, I deeply understand the power advocacy and its role in equitable public policy.

REPUBLICAN PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

TIMOTHY DEFOOR (REP)

Biographical Info:

County: Dauphin

Mailing Address: 604 North 4th Street Harrisburg, PA 17101

Education: Harrisburg Area Community College, Associates of Arts, Para Legal Studies; University of Pittsburgh, Bachelor of Arts, General Studies (concentration Sociology and History); Harrisburg University, Master's of Science, Project Management

Qualifications: Former Special Investigator, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Office of Inspector General; Retired Special Agent, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Office of Attorney General; Dauphin County Controller (2016 to present); Former Certified Internal Auditor with the International Organization for Standards
campaign website: <http://www.defoor4pa.com/>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/DeFoor4PA>

Questions:

Q: What are your top three priorities in office?

A: 1) We are in a COVID-19 world. Both the federal and state governments are distributing grants and other COVID-19 funding to individuals, small business, and large businesses. My first priority as Auditor General is to make sure those funds were allocated to those individuals and businesses for who they were intended. 2) Work to have a more transparent government. For example, I will work to end political loopholes like the "honor system" that allows state agencies to keep high-dollar, taxpayer funded contracts hidden from the public. 3) Bring in subject matter experts to audit the progress and performance of any new and expensive initiatives and projects to determine how and if tax payer dollars are being spent wisely.

Q: What distinguishes you from other candidates who are seeking to be Pennsylvania's next Auditor General?

A: My 25 years of experience fighting fraud and waste sets me apart from other candidates. I feel passionately about the need to ensure government accountability and have devoted my career to eliminating fraud from both public and private sectors. I first served the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as a Special Agent for the Office of Attorney General. I then served as a Special Investigator for the Office of Inspector General. After that I ventured into the private sector as an internal auditor and fraud investigator for University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Health Plan and various federal contractors. I currently serve as the Dauphin County Controller, being the only African



TIMOTHY DEFOOR

American to be elected as a Row Officer in Dauphin County history.

LIBERTARIAN PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

JENNIFER MOORE (LIB)

Biographical Info:

County: Montgomery

Mailing Address: 209 Lovers Ln Upper Providence, PA 19453

Education: Master's of Business Administration-Grand Valley State University Bachelors of Business Administration-Management, Grand Valley State University

Qualifications: Chair of the Board of Auditors, Upper Providence Township

Questions:

Q: What are your top three priorities in office?

A: 1. Transparency: How many times have you heard a fellow Pennsylvanian joke about the "temporary" Johnstown flood tax that we have been paying since 1936? How about the the gas tax, or turnpike tolls that are consistently repurposed for other projects? Taxpayers deserve to know where their money is going. Funds should be spent on what they were appropriated for. 2. Covid-19 has significantly impacted our state. Areas like education, healthcare, small business and unemployment have all been affected. It will be very important to audit the performance of related programs as well as ensuring that funds were properly allocated. 3. Combat government waste and inefficiency. I will work to ensure effective use of taxpayer dollars.

Q: What distinguishes you from other candidates who are seeking to be Pennsylvania's next Auditor General?

A: As a Libertarian, I am independent of the politicians who are making financial decisions for the Commonwealth. As an Auditor, this allows me to be a truly non-partisan fiscal watch dog. Professionally, I have spent almost twenty years in healthcare finance. I have extensive experience in looking for irregularities in financials and insuring data integrity. I was elected to the Upper Providence Board of Auditors in 2017 and have been serving as the Chair of the Board for the past two years.



JENNIFER MOORE

GREEN PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

OLIVIA FAISON (GRN)

Biographical Info:

County: Philadelphia

Mailing Address: 5522 Spruce St Philadelphia, PA 19139

Education: Queens College - Flushing, NY BA Degree - February, 1985 Major: Biology - Minors: Chemistry; Music University of Nebraska Medical Center - Minority Health Careers Opportunity Baccalaureate Program 1983 Highest Academic Achievement Award - 4.0 GPA - 1983 Oratory Award - 1983 Citizenship Award - 1983

Qualifications: I am a mother, a grand mother and



OLIVIA FAISON

a great grand mother (my most impressive qualifications). I have worked as a receptionist, a legal secretary, and a medical secretary, a lab technician, a computer, math, and science teacher, an analytical chemist and a scientist at the time of my retirement.

Questions:

Q: What are your top three priorities in office?

A: 1) There is a desperate need for a third party. I welcome the values that the Green Party Pillars describe - Grassroots Democracy, Ecological Wisdom, Social Justice, and Peace. (I would like to throw in Honesty and Respect). 2) Racist Laws like the Supreme Court's Dred Scott Decision show how deep racism is ingrained in our society. Unfair laws and practices like voter suppression, purging voters off lists, and long voting lines must end. 3) Quality Education & Climate Change - Growing up, I remember the fog being so thick, you could not see down the street. Upon my return, no one can recall the last time they have seen fog hit the streets of Philly. We have lost a very important regular occurring weather pattern without anyone noticing!

Q: What distinguishes you from other candidates who are seeking to be Pennsylvania's next Auditor General?

A: I was not groomed to be a politician, however having been blessed with a natural curiosity, and being a highly trained professional analytical chemist, I am well-equipped for the task of problem solving. The scientific approach enables me to view problems from a fresh point of view.

STATE TREASURER PENNSYLVANIA STATE TREASURER

Description: STATE TREASURER

Description of office: The duty of the Pennsylvania Treasurer is to safeguard the Commonwealth's financial assets, which total more than \$120 billion in public monies. The office manages several programs in order to better serve the financial needs of Pennsylvanians. The Treasury Department is also responsible for: reuniting unclaimed property with its rightful owner; investigating loss, theft, and fraud involving Commonwealth checks; reviewing real estate leases and contracts entered into by Commonwealth agencies; maintaining the Pennsylvania contracts electronic library. The Treasurer has specific duties in addition to the oversight of the Department: serves as chair of the Board of Finance and Revenue, which selects banks to serve as depositories for state money; setting interest rates paid on Commonwealth deposits; and hearing and deciding state tax appeals.

Term: 4 years **Salary:** \$167,838

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

JOE TORSELLA (DEM)

Biographical Info:

County: Montgomery

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 626 Flourtown, PA 19031

Education: University of Pennsylvania (B.A.); New College, Oxford University

Qualifications: Current Treasurer of Pennsylvania; former Ambassador to the UN for Management and Reform; former President and CEO of the National Constitution Center; former Philadelphia Deputy



JOE TORSELLA

Mayor for Policy and Planning

campaign website: <http://www.joetorsella.com>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/JoeTorsellafor-Treasurer>

Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/JoeTorsella>

Questions:

Q: What is the most important duty of the State Treasurer? If elected, how would you carry out that duty?

A: From Day One, my most important duty has been restoring integrity to an office too often marred by scandal: 3 of the last 5 elected Treasurers have been indicted. Upon taking office, I immediately banned the use of middlemen to win investment contracts and introduced Treasury's first conflict-of-interest policy and Chief Integrity Officer. My top priority now is building solutions to help Pennsylvanians recover from Covid-19 on solid financial ground. We created the Keystone Scholars program, which gives at-birth college and career savings accounts to every child born or adopted in Pennsylvania, and we fight to hold Wall Street accountable to taxpayers, as trustees for our public pension systems and through legal action when necessary.

Q: What distinguishes you from your opponent in the general election?

A: I have spent my career in the public sector, fighting for the responsible use of taxpayer funds in our civic institutions. Before serving as Treasurer, I was the U.S. Ambassador for UN Management and Reform. Prior to that, I was the founding President and CEO of the National Constitution Center and Philadelphia's Deputy Mayor for Policy and Planning. What these roles have in common is a dedication to the highest and best use of funds, contributed by the masses, toward a common goal. They each require the careful stewardship of someone else's contribution: to reinforce effective international cooperation; to build a beautiful civic resource for our nation; or to resolve a \$1.25 billion deficit and revitalize a vibrant major American city.

REPUBLICAN PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

STACY L. GARRITY (REP)

Questions: No Response

LIBERTARIAN PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

JOE SOLOSKI (LIB)

Biographical Info:

County: Centre

Mailing Address: 141 Buckhorn Rd Port Matilda, PA 16871

Education: Indiana University of Pennsylvania -- Bachelors of Science Degree in Business Administration -- Accounting Major Passed the CPA Examination in 1985

Qualifications: I'm a Libertarian that advocates for small government. I also operated my own accounting practice for more than 30 years.

campaign website: <http://joesoloski.com>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/SoloskiForLiberty>

Questions:

Q: What is the most important duty of the State Treasurer? If elected, how would you carry out that duty?

A: The State Treasurer must monitor the revenue inflows



JOE SOLOSKI

and disbursement outflows of the Commonwealth, as well as managing the invested funds of the State of Pennsylvania. My years of background as a Certified Public Accountant lend themselves well towards those responsibilities.

Managing and working with people within the Treasurer's Office is also an important requirement. Having worked with hundreds of clients, over the years, as well as working with my clients' employees, I will take that operating experience with me to the Office of the Treasurer to make that Office a great place to work as well as operating the Office at the lowest cost and most efficient way possible.

Q: What distinguishes you from your opponent in the general election?

A: I am a Libertarian. My principles are very liberty-minded and I abhor wasteful and unnecessary government. I will be bringing a fresh attitude that advocates for the Taxpayers of Pennsylvania. The position of Treasurer is an administrative one; not one that enacts policy, as does the State Legislature and the Governor. To that end, I will be working to influence the Governor and the Legislature to minimize taxes, and cut the costs of government wherever possible. The budget of the Commonwealth has exploded over the past 20 years and the Republicans and Democrats, who have been in power for more than 150 years, are doing little to curb the runaway growth of state government and advocate for the taxpayers of Pennsylvania.

GREEN PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

TIMOTHY RUNKLE (GRN)

Biographical Info:

County: Lancaster

Mailing Address: 15 Teakwood Circle Elizabethtown, PA 17022

Education: BS Geology, Millersville University

Qualifications: EcoDistricts Accredited Professional, Green Party of Pennsylvania Treasurer (2017 - present)

campaign website: <http://www.greenslate2020.org/>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/Tim4Elect-edOffice>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/LancasterGreens>

Questions:

Q: What is the most important duty of the State Treasurer? If elected, how would you carry out that duty?

A: Through the many boards on which the State Treasurer serves, they function as the head investor of the Commonwealth's financial investments. The State Treasurer has the ability to direct sustainable and ethical investments including which banks hold your tax dollars or how the state pension funds are managed. The duty of transparency, through right-to-know legislation requires the State Treasurer to be clear about the State's business. I will take the office beyond transparency and to a place of responsible management of your investments.

Q: What distinguishes you from your opponent in the general election?

A: I intend to use my office to push forward an agenda that is future focused and serves the people of Pennsylvania. Every monetary decision I make will consider how we can 1) prepare the State for a Green



TIMOTHY RUNKLE

New Deal by investing in sustainable jobs and eliminating dirty industry handouts, 2) restructure our outdated tax code by closing corporate tax evasion loopholes and providing for equitable taxation, and 3) reform the criminal justice system by ending cash bail and reducing incarceration and recidivism

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE DISTRICT 17

Description:

REPRESENTATIVE IN THE U.S. CONGRESS
Description of office: Congress, the legislative branch of the federal government, is composed of two houses. The upper house is the Senate. The lower house is the House of Representatives. A majority vote in both houses is necessary to pass a law. All bills must pass the House and Senate and be signed by the President. The U.S. Constitution requires that the House of Representatives be composed of elected Representatives (also called Congressmen or Congresswomen) from each State. There are 435 members of the House of Representatives. The number of Representatives from each state is proportioned according to its population, with 18 Representatives from Pennsylvania. A U.S. Representative must be at least 25 years old, have been a citizen of the United States for the past seven years, and be an inhabitant of the state they represent at the time of the election. The House of Representatives is responsible for creating the budget and initiating bills to collect taxes and other money. The House is also responsible for impeaching federal officials (the Senate then tries the case) and electing the President if there is a tie in the Electoral College.

Term: 2 years

Salary: \$174,000

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

CONOR LAMB (DEM)

Biographical Info:

County: Allegheny

Mailing Address: Po Box 10381 Pittsburgh, PA 15234

Education: Pittsburgh Central Catholic High School
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pennsylvania Law School

Qualifications: U.S. Marine Corps, 2009-2013 U.S. Marine Corps Reserves, 2013-2020 Assistant U.S. Attorney, 2013-2017

campaign website: <http://conorlamb.com>

Facebook: <http://facebook.com/ConorLambPA>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/ConorLambPA>

Questions:

Q: What would be your top priorities as a U.S. Representative over the next two years?

A: My top priorities over the next two years include helping get our country through this pandemic and making sure people have the resources, support and health care they need to survive; to help us recover from the pandemic and put people back to work, including by making major investments in infrastructure; to reduce prescription drug prices by ensuring the Senate passes our bill to let Medicare negotiate for lower prices; to protect and improve the Affordable Care Act so that all Americans can afford high quality health care; and to protect and expand So-



CONOR LAMB

cial Security and Medicare.

Q: The landmark Shelby v. Holder decision overturned protections in the Voting Rights Act of 1965 that required certain states and local governments to obtain federal preclearance before implementing voting laws or practices. Since then, the U.S. has experienced a surge of legislation that makes it more difficult for many people to vote. What voting reforms do you see as essential to making U.S. elections accessible and secure?

A: I was proud to cosponsor and vote for the Voting Rights Advancement Act (now called the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Act of 2020), which we passed in the House in December 2019. This bill would reverse the Shelby v. Holder decision, restoring and expanding protections against discriminatory voting laws. Protecting the right to vote always has to be a priority. I will keep working to get this bill signed into law, and to support efforts to ensure that all eligible Americans can exercise their right to vote.

Q: How would you go about finding consensus and reducing gridlock in Washington, D.C.?

A: This has been a focus for me since the day I came to Congress. I've made an effort to build relationships with colleagues across the aisle and try to find common ground, and I've found that there is a lot of common ground if you're willing to work for it. That's how I've gotten several bills signed into law by President Trump to help veterans and combat the heroin epidemic. That will continue to be my approach, because I believe the most important thing our constituents expect from us is that we find ways to bridge the partisan divide, break through the gridlock, and get things done for the people we serve.

REPUBLICAN PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

Sean Parnell (REP)

Questions: No Response

PENNSYLVANIA U.S. HOUSE DISTRICT 18

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

MIKE DOYLE (DEM)

Biographical Info:

County: Allegheny County

Mailing Address: PO Box 17426 Pittsburgh, PA 15235

Education: B.S., Penn State University

Qualifications: Served in the United States Congress since 1995

campaign website: <http://mikedoyleforcongress.com/>

Facebook: <http://facebook.com/doyleforcongress/>

Twitter: http://twitter.com/rep_doyle

Questions:

Q: What would be your top priorities as a U.S. Representative over the next two years?

A: My top priority is ensuring that we, as a nation and as a region, get through the current crisis due to COVID-19. I am working to help workers who lost their jobs, small businesses that are struggling, and



MIKE DOYLE

working to expand access to unemployment compensation. I am focused on other issues like fighting climate change, making prescriptions more affordable, defending Social Security, and protecting and improving Obamacare. I support common-sense gun safety measures like an assault weapons ban and universal background checks.

Q: The landmark Shelby v. Holder decision overturned protections in the Voting Rights Act of 1965 that required certain states and local governments to obtain federal preclearance before implementing voting laws or practices. Since then, the U.S. has experienced a surge of legislation that makes it more difficult for many people to vote. What voting reforms do you see as essential to making U.S. elections accessible and secure?

A: I strongly opposed the Supreme Court's Shelby v. Holder decision. In response, I joined my colleagues in the House to pass the For The People Act (H.R. 1) last year. This legislation included expanded early voting and automatic voter registration. In addition to making these critical changes to make it easier for people to vote, the legislation also tackled dark money spending by outside groups and ending gerrymandering of legislative and Congressional Districts. While this legislation is stalled by Mitch McConnell in the Senate, I will continue to fight to remove obstacles that make it harder for people to exercise their right to vote and to remove big money from political campaigns.

Q: How would you go about finding consensus and reducing gridlock in Washington, D.C.?

A: In Congress, I have shown that I can work with Members of Congress whom I disagree with on a number of issues. In the current Congress, I was able to pass four pieces of legislation despite the partisan divide in Washington. Two bills were passed on a bipartisan basis and were signed into law, including legislation that will stop spam phone calls to all our cell phones. I am able to build consensus and pass legislation because I look for common ground with other Members, even if we disagree on other issues. That was my approach when I first went to Congress and that will continue to be my approach should I be fortunate enough to return for another term.

REPUBLICAN PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

LUKE EDISON NEGRON (REP)

Biographical Info:

County: Allegheny

Mailing Address: PO Box 23556 Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Education: Grove City College

Qualifications: US Air Force, The Pittsburgh Project, The Mentor Project, Samaritan's Purse, City Lights, The Green Beret Project, International Justice Mission, Patriot Voices, Republican Leadership Initiative, Local Borough Government Intern, Political Science, Communications, and National Security studies

campaign website: <http://negron2020.com>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/negronforcongress/>

Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/LukeEdison20>

Questions:



LUKE EDISON NEGRON

Q: What would be your top priorities as a U.S. Representative over the next two years?

A: My top priorities start with a matter of conduct rather than a matter of policy; I believe that local reps must be expected to be in touch with the citizenry they represent. Officials who win elections and proceed to hide from their districts while enjoying an elitist lifestyle should be ashamed of their actions. Members of the US House are meant to be representative of their district, not separate from or above their district. 2020 sees far too many career politicians who know nothing about what the average working class American experiences. My pledge for my first year representing PA18 is to either write or support policy pushing for congressional term limits.

Q: The landmark Shelby v. Holder decision overturned protections in the Voting Rights Act of 1965 that required certain states and local governments to obtain federal preclearance before implementing voting laws or practices. Since then, the U.S. has experienced a surge of legislation that makes it more difficult for many people to vote. What voting reforms do you see as essential to making U.S. elections accessible and secure?

A: I believe that voting for future American leaders is a sacred right which has been preserved by men and women sacrificing life, time, and effort. Because of the gravity of the situation, a government issued ID must be presented prior to casting a vote. Mail-in/absentee ballots which can be properly screened and legally recorded are also acceptable for the elderly, the disabled, military members on orders, and the like.

Q: How would you go about finding consensus and reducing gridlock in Washington, D.C.?

A: I believe that if each representative were involved in a well-established state of communication with their citizenry AND bound by congressional term limits, we would see less political pandering, less safe politics in favor of re-election, and more passionate changes in US leadership. We need to stop viewing politicians as D's and R's and start knowing the individual statesman or stateswoman. Party lines tend to serve as a big box to throw names into - this leads to a great deal of gridlock.

PA STATE SENATOR PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE DISTRICT 37

Description:**SENATOR IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

Description of office: The General Assembly is the legislative branch of government in Pennsylvania. It is composed of two houses: the Senate is the upper house and the House of Representatives is the lower house. A majority vote in both houses is necessary to pass a law. The Senate consists of 50 members. Senators must be at least 25 years old, have been citizens and lived in their respective districts one year before their election, and must live in their districts during their terms of service.

Term: 4 years

Salary: \$90,335

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

PAM IOVINO (DEM)**Biographical Info:**

County: Allegheny

Mailing Address: 750 Washington Rd #201 Pittsburgh, PA 15228

Education: Gettysburg College, B.A. in Political

Science & U.S. Naval War College, M.A. in National Security and Strategic Studies
Qualifications: 23 Year US Navy Veteran and Captain, Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Legislative Affairs (Presidential confirmed position), Director of the Allegheny County Department of Veteran's Affairs, PA State Senator - District 37, Member of the PA Council of Arts and Commission of Women

campaign website: <http://www.pamforpa.com>

Facebook: <http://facebook.com/pamforpa>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/pamforpa>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: I was proud to support Governor Wolf's recent initiative to implement no excuse mail-in-ballot voting, as well as extended voter registration and mail-in / absentee return deadlines. While this was a very important move to expand ballot access, there is still more work we can do to further ensure all citizens have equal access to the ballot box. I support same-day voter registration and mailing every voter a mail-in ballot for the 2020 primary. During these unprecedented times, all citizens must be given a safe, secure method to cast their ballot.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: During the current COVID-19 pandemic, continuity of government and education, at all levels, has depended on cooperation and bipartisan communication. I believe the most important thing we can do to expedite the legislative process in Harrisburg is to strengthen relationships outside my caucus, which is why I have introduced three significant pieces of legislation with colleagues from across the aisle. As someone who assumed a Senate-confirmed, Presidential appointment position when the GOP controlled both the White House and U.S. Senate, I've seen first-hand the importance of these relationships, and I have always prided myself on being able to reach across the aisle when it matters most to get things done.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: I am a strong supporter of creating such a commission to oversee the redrawing of both the state and congressional districts before the 2022 primary election. I am a co-sponsor to Senate Bill 22, Senate Bill 1022, and Senate Bill 1023, which together would create such a commission in the most expedient way.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with dis-

**PAM IOVINO**

abilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: I have introduced legislation (Senate Bill 914) that would require all public, state-owned buildings and large, public facilities to install adult changing stations, making many spaces and activities accessible to differently abled individuals and their families. I am also proud to support Senate Bill 580, which would create a paid sick leave program in the state, allowing family members to care for loved ones during times of tragedy, and am a co-sponsor of Senate Bill 890, which would allow workers with disabilities to increase their earnings while remaining eligible for Medical Assistance. I believe passing these bills would be a tremendous start to continue to improve accessibility for people with disabilities around our Commonwealth.

REPUBLICAN PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

DEVLIN ROBINSON (REP)

Questions: No Response

PENNSYLVANIA SENATE DISTRICT 43

Description:**SENATOR IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

Description of office: In Pennsylvania, the legislative branch of government is composed of two houses: The Senate is the upper house and the General Assembly is the lower house. A majority vote by both houses is necessary to pass a law. Senators must be at least 25 years old, have been citizens and lived in their respective districts one year before their election, and must live in their districts during their terms of service.

Term: 4 years

Salary: \$90,335

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

JAY COSTA JR. (DEM)**Biographical Info:**

County: Allegheny

Mailing Address: 314 Newport Rd Pittsburgh, PA 15221

Education: Community College of Allegheny County / A.S. Indiana University of Pennsylvania / B.A. Duquesne University School of Law / JD

Qualifications: Allegheny County Register of Wills PA State Senator - District 43 / Democratic Leader campaign website: <http://jaycosta.org>

Facebook: <http://facebook.com/jaycostapa/>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/jaycostapa>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

**JAY COSTA JR.**

A: Voting is a fundamental right. While we have made several major changes to our election law in the last year, we need to make sure that citizens have access to the ballot box. Same day registration would help to make voting more accessible. Additionally, we need to open primaries to allow non affiliated voters a chance to vote in a primary election. Everyone should be able to vote privately and securely. Finally, we need to prevent the passage of real ID measures that disproportionately impact our senior and minority voters.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: Committee membership should more accurately reflect the chamber composition. One reform would be to require that all bills introduced be given at a minimum committee vote. We could also hold joint Senate-House hearings on legislation. Additionally, adopt an annual member training and updates on chamber and operating rules. We need to continue working across the aisle on issues to move legislation forward.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: Yes, an independent commission will keep those who draw the maps accountable to the citizens of Pennsylvania, not party officials or special interest groups looking out for their own interests. I introduced the idea of having an independent commission. In the coming term, I will be supporting S.B. 1022 and S.B. 1023, that will create an independent commission and guarantee this commission exists for generations to come.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

PA STATE SENATOR PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE DISTRICT 45

Description:

SENATOR IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Description of office: In Pennsylvania, the legislative branch of government is composed of two houses: The Senate is the upper house and the General Assembly is the lower house. A majority vote by both houses is necessary to pass a law. Senators must be at least 25 years old, have been citizens and lived in their respective districts one year before their election, and must live in their districts during their terms of service.

Term: 4 years

Salary: \$90,335

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

JIM BREWSTER (DEM)

Biographical Info:

County: Allegheny and Westmoreland

Mailing Address: 455 29Th Street Pittsburgh, PA 15132

Education: California University of Pennsylvania / B.S.

Qualifications: Mayor of McKeesport State Senator District 45

campaign website: <http://brewster4senate.com>

Facebook: <http://facebook.com/brewster4senate/>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/brewster4senate>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: Access to the ballot box for all is critical. Pennsylvania policymakers have a responsibility to ensure that there are more opportunities to participate in the electoral process. Early voting, no-excuse absentee voting, increased mail-in ballots and greater flexibility are critical components of voter accessibility - all things I strongly support. Given the pandemic, policymakers will be challenged to find new ways to increase safe and secure access to the ballot. The consideration of additional safe and secure options, greater voter education, easier voter registration, paper backup of electronic voting so that votes can be audited and recounted are critical pieces of a state-of-the-art voting system.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: There are many opportunities to reform the legislation process to ensure greater transparency and openness. First, we need to institute reforms that impact how lawmakers are reimbursed for expenses and revise our spending practices. Second, to increase accountability and open the range of bills considered, and the General Assembly should consider changing its rules to require committees to consider legislation offered by members of the minority party. Finally, develop a reapportionment process that produces more districts that are less partisan. A better reapportionment creates more mainstream districts, a search for common ground and less gridlock and dysfunction.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: I offered my colleagues in the Senate a thoughtful and thorough reapportionment process that would be run by leading scholars from higher education. Any appointed, elected or candidate for public office, political party officer or someone with ties to the House or Senate, a lobbyist or others involved in politics could not serve on the commission. My goal would be to create a non-political body that would be free of political ties to create well-defined districts. As part of the discussion of changes in the reapportionment process, during Senate consideration I offered my detailed approach to my colleagues to ensure the creation of fair districts.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: A lot more can be done to expand benefits for those with disabilities. The first step is to ensure that adequate funding is available to expand services. Unfortunately, in tight fiscal times, one of the first places budget-cutters



JIM BREWSTER

look to claw back revenues are in lines devoted to helping those with disabilities. This should be the last place that funding is removed. Meeting health care needs, addressing employment, finding more vocational opportunities, and growing the support networks to bolster programs must also be a priority. All should have equal access to opportunities. Beyond funding programs properly, we must do more to develop new initiatives.

REPUBLICAN PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

NICOLE ZICCARELLI (REP)

Biographical Info:

County: Westmoreland

Mailing Address: 2300 Freeport Road Suite 3 New Kensington, PA 15068

Education: Nicole is a 1999 graduate of McKeesport Area High School, a 2003 graduate of Penn State University, and a 2006 graduate of Penn State Dickinson School of Law.

Qualifications: Nicole is a wife, mother of four young children, and small business owner. In addition to her law practice, Nicole has also served an adjunct instructor at Penn State University. Nicole is an active member of her local community and a lifelong resident of District 45.

campaign website: <http://www.nicoleziccarelli.com>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/NicoleZiccarelliPA/>

Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/PaZiccarelli>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

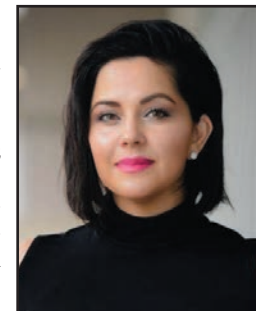
A: Once Covid-19 is behind us, allowing early voting, perhaps the Saturday before Election Day may be a way to allow some working people, who can't vote on a Tuesday, to vote in person. Voting by mail is now allowed but, in talking to voters, many would still prefer to vote in person and we should make it possible for more people to do so by giving alternatives.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: One of the reforms I would champion is that each legislator would be allowed to designate a few bills each session that are guaranteed to get a floor vote. In many cases, the Majority Party bottles up good legislation simply because someone in the Minority Party proposes it or the Committee Chair opposes it. This would allow more viable and beneficial legislation to receive a vote by the House and Senate.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: I would support an independent Commission



NICOLE ZICCARELLI

to draw districts. In 2017, the PA Supreme Court allowed one professor from Stanford University in California to draw the Congressional map after ruling the existing map was unconstitutional. Both Parties attempt to draw districts to favor their Party. A true independent Commission that would draw fair districts where both Parties could compete is best for the people.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: Society has made great strides in providing accessibility for people with disabilities. We need to constantly monitor these efforts and improve them where possible.

PA STATE REPRESENTATIVE PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE DISTRICT 16

Description:

REPRESENTATIVE IN THE PA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Description of office: The General Assembly is the legislative branch of government in Pennsylvania. It is composed of two houses: the Senate is the upper house and the House of Representatives is the lower house. A majority vote in both houses is necessary to pass a law. The House of Representatives consists of 203 members. Representatives must be at least 21 years old, have been citizens and lived in their respective districts one year before their election, and must live in their districts during their terms of service.

Term: 2 years

Salary: \$90,335

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

ROBERT F. MATZIE (DEM)

Biographical Info:

County: Beaver & Allegheny

Mailing Address: 1028 Highland Ave Ambridge, PA 15003

Education: Associate Degree in High Technology Communications from the Community College of Beaver County and a Bachelor's Degree in Journalism and Communications from Point Park University. Qualifications: Serving my sixth term as a member of the PA House Of Representatives.

Senate staff member for 14 years, served as Mayor of Ambridge and was elected to the Democratic State Committee. Board Member Point Park University, Board Member VisitPittsburgh. Commissioner PHMC. Former Broadcaster.

campaign website: <http://robmatzie.com>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/rob.matzie>

Twitter: <http://@RobMatzie>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If



ROBERT F. MATZIE

elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: If it was up to me, I would have Pennsylvania's elections be conducted entirely by mail. I've introduced legislation to do just that for two terms. In fact, it was the language from my bill (HB 1059) that was used to authorize voting by mail in the election code modernization cited above. In our current system, I'm supportive of automatic voter registration, same day voter registration, early voting and permitting high school students to register ahead of their 18th birthday. I have also authorized paper ballot only legislation.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: I respectfully take exception to the term "dysfunctional." Gridlock is sometimes an unavoidable result of divided government. I would support reforms to give the minority a bigger voice in legislative matters—committee structure, floor votes, and legislative process—but, as those reforms would have to be supported by the majority, they are unlikely.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: I do and I am a co-sponsor of the legislation. It's simple, the closer a district is to 50/50, the better those vying for the seat will consider the views of all sides. Gerrymandering, over time, causes elected officials to move further and further toward the extreme sides of their respective parties.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: What I've done for 12 years, identify issues faced by those with disabilities—from communication with my constituents or through proposed legislation—and act accordingly to address them. Whether it be a floor vote or acting as a conduit and advocate in dealing with state agencies, I work to ensure ALL Pennsylvanians have every opportunity to participate and succeed. I have authored resolutions recognizing Limb Loss Awareness and in 2017 the state House of Representatives unanimously adopted my resolution designating Monday, Jan. 30, as "Pennsylvanians with Disabilities Day."

REPUBLICAN PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

RICO ELMORE (REP)

Biographical Info:

County: Beaver

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 103 Rochester, PA 15074

Education: BA Criminal Justice - Pennsylvania State University

Qualifications: Military Leadership, Youth Mentor Attention to Detail Integrity

Facebook: <http://Elmore/202020>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election

code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: In 2019, Pennsylvania took a major step in election reform by allowing voters to cast their ballots through mail, Extended the registration deadline from 30 days before election day to 15 days before election day, extended the deadline to return mailing absentee ballots to 8 PM on election day and passed funding for new and more secure voting machines. These reforms are great strides in making very more convenient, safe and secure. We should allow time for these reforms to be implemented so we can see the areas we need to improve upon.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: I believe one person doesn't know all. I think it is important for our elected officials to surround themselves with and seek out people that have full knowledge of particular subjects. This way they can learn and make an informed decision. While the legislative process is slow, I understand the purpose of vetting legislation to ensure it is what is best for Pennsylvania. As a reformer myself I am always open to ways to make government more proficient and effective.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: I am open to the idea of an independent commission for redistricting. I believe in free and fair elections, so I am going to support legislation that does so. However, with the proposed commission, there are accountability and transparency factors that need to be answered. I will need to see legislation before I commit to anything.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: Protecting Pennsylvanians with disabilities is a must. I am willing to review and support any legislation that will help those with disabilities across the Commonwealth.



RICO ELMORE

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 19

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

JAKE WHEATLEY (DEM)

Biographical Info:

County: Allegheny

Mailing Address: PO Box 53044 Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Education: BA Political Science North Carolina A&T State University MPA University of Pittsburgh

Qualifications: Decorated United States Marine PA

State House Democratic Chairman of Finance Committee Community Organizer/servant of the People

campaign website: <http://jakewheatley.com>

Facebook: <http://Citizens for Jake Wheatley>

Twitter: <http://@jakewheatleypa>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: Same day voter registration and voting. Real early voting. Allow all citizens, even those incarcerated to participate in all elections. I would also continue to push the concept that every eligible citizen (when they reach the required age) is automatically registered as an eligible voter and they must make a request to be taken off the voter rolls. Also, Election Day is a paid official state holiday. Also, I would like to provide an incentive for those who participate to receive a sales tax break with the showing of their voter sub. It's redeemable within a week of any election or something equivalent. The basic premise is to create an incentive for citizens to participate.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: Many in the general public only see or read about the negative or disagreements of our democracy, but I have been apart and witnessed many more positive of how bipartisanship has worked. In politics, by its very nature there will always be differences and disagreements but our process, when needed has worked. Where we need change is how and what our citizens support. Members reflect, in most instances, the areas that they represent. They carry the values and concerns of their districts to Harrisburg and are their citizens eyes, ears, and voice. If change is needed, its in that process. I also believe that the 24/7 access and news or social media has brought both positive and negatives with it, as it relates to how we do the our work.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: I will not support any reform to how we draw our congressional or legislative districts that does not also include how we count our citizens who are incarcerated. There can not be fair districts that are still based on proportional and structural racism. The fact that many of our citizens from urban areas are being housed in correctional facilities in rural areas and those citizens for purposes of legislative apportionment are counted as citizens in those rural areas and not counted from their home counties is meant to dilute and political power of those individuals and their home counties. Thus, until that is change, I will not and cannot support any false concept of a fair and nonpolitical "independent commission."

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?



JAKE WHEATLEY

riers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: I will continue to be a strong voice and advocate for breaking down all discriminatory practices, policies, and barriers. We have a very difficult and long road to create a truly equitable society, especially as it relates to our citizens who have disabilities. The fact that many of our skilled and talented citizens still high extremely high unemployment or are underemployed based upon our structural barriers and discriminatory practices requires strong voices and constant advocacy from people in these positions and that is what I want to continue to be for all of the citizens of Pennsylvania.

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 20

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

EMILY KINKEAD (DEM)

Biographical Info:

County: Allegheny

Education: B.S. Biology, B.A. Political Science, Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania, 2009 J.D., University of Pittsburgh School of Law, 2016

Qualifications: Over 15 years of experience advocating for LGBTQIA+ equality, reproductive justice, disability rights, criminal justice reform, medical research funding, campaign finance reform, gerrymandering reform, immigrant rights, tenant rights, and other issues as both an attorney and policy advocate.

campaign website: <http://www.emily4pa20.com>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/emily4pa20>

Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/emily4pa20>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: In college, I got involved with an organization that works on issues of good government reform - access to voting, campaign finance reform, and gerrymandering reform. We lobbied Harrisburg and Congress, held all-day educational dialogues, teach-ins, and lunch-and-learns to push for policies that ensure that our government works for the people and not wealthy special interests. If elected I will continue to champion the pro-democracy policies we need: automatic voter registration, early voting, same-day voter registration, an independent redistricting commission, and real campaign finance reform. While not all directly related to voting, each policy has a direct result on the ability of voters to confidently select their elected leaders.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: As mentioned previously, I believe that we must have an independent redistricting commission. Elected lead-



EMILY KINKEAD

ers should not be in charge of selecting who gets to vote them into office. It is a conflict of interest that only the most cynical would dispute. Regarding partisan gridlock, I believe that we need to make systemic changes to the rules within the Legislature. For a start, committee chairs should be required to provide legitimate cause for refusing to bring proposed legislation to a vote. Amendments to bills should be fully debated before being accepted or rejected. Additionally, I believe that Harrisburg must be much more proactive in alerting citizens about the status of legislation and explaining what each bill does.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: Absolutely. I believe an independent redistricting commission is one of the most fundamental protections we can establish for our democracy to ensure that it works for the people. I would further require that this redistricting commission count prisoners as residents of their home municipality and not where they are incarcerated. The current system of prison gerrymandering disenfranchises already vulnerable communities and distributes representation unfairly.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: As a legislator, I would turn to the stakeholders within communities with disabilities to ensure that their needs are being properly addressed and considered as we make all of our decisions. As someone who used to work in a community for persons with disabilities, I know that the best people to advocate for persons with disabilities are those persons, themselves. I am privileged to live without a disability and for that reason it is my responsibility to listen to the people who are impacted most when we fail to consider accommodations for those with disabilities when we make our decisions. With their input, I would fight for the funding and resources needed to provide adequate accommodations in all areas for people with disabilities.

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 21

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

SARA INNAMORATO (DEM)

Biographical Info:

County: Allegheny

Mailing Address: PO Box 40393 Pittsburgh, PA 15201

Education: North Hills High School; BS in Business Administration with a major in Marketing from the University of Pittsburgh

Qualifications: Founder, Innamo Co., a communications agency for social good; Co-founder, She Runs SWPA, an organization encouraging women to run for office

campaign website: <http://www.saraforpa.com>

Facebook: <http://facebook.com/SaraforPA>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/Innamo>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most im-



SARA INNAMORATO

portant rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: I believe it should be easier to vote – Pennsylvania should have same-day voter registration, election day as a holiday and early voting. I've sponsored HB1556, which would automatically register people to vote when they interact with PennDOT, the state departments of Health or Human Services, or any other state agency.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: I support a gift ban for legislators to build trust between them and the people they represent. I also support campaign finance reform, and my campaign does not accept corporate contributions. We must ensure that legislators represent the interests of their constituents, not powerful corporations.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: Yes, I support Fair Districts' legislation to use a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw voting districts. We need to strengthen our democracy at every level, which means eliminating the conflict of interest that comes with legislators draw their own districts.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: I support a ban on subminimum wages for all people, including persons with disabilities. I believe that any state and public dollars that go to corporations must come with caveats. Pennsylvania has the opportunity to prioritize incentives to companies that guarantee integrated workplaces that provide meaningful work for individuals with disabilities. In the short term, Pennsylvania should offer a consumer-directed care option in the waiver system so that assistance can be more specialized to an individual's needs, so that more people can be supported. In the long term, Pennsylvania should not only pass a Medicare for All program, but also ensure that care for individuals with disabilities under such a program would be consumer-directed.

REPUBLICAN PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

JOHN WAUGH (REP)

Biographical Info:

County: Allegheny

Mailing Address: P.O. BOX 11081 Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Education: Indiana University of Pennsylvania, double majoring in accounting and finance **Qualifications:** 5+ years as a state revenue auditor, 10 years experience in accounting. **campaign website:** <http://www.JohnforPA.com>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/johnforpa21/>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there

are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: Voter records need to be better maintained. Out of date voter rolls present a huge problem. I think Pennsylvania has a fairly good system for voter registration. The interface could use some improvements and I would like to see more programs to educate students in high school about the voting process and registering to vote.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: Pennsylvania has one of the most expensive state legislatures in the country, yet it performs near the bottom of the spectrum. Reducing the cost of our government is a crucial first step. Unfortunately, in the case of elected officials, their power and status are usually tied to the size of the budget they have authority over. This disincentivizes reducing government spending. In terms of making the overall process more effective. What I would like to see is legislation that is targeted only at one issue and not a scatter shot of special interest issues that causes the type of gridlock that this question mentions.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: There is a lot of room for improvement with how our congressional and legislative districts are drawn. I feel that the more pragmatic approach to this issue is to form an independent commission without a constitutional amendment. The reason I say that is because when people start hearing constitutional amendment there is nearly always a large amount of backlash and effort to prevent it from happening. This would tie into the legislative gridlock mentioned in the previous question.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: One of my primary campaign platforms is mental health advocacy and de-stigmatization. In a perfect world physical health and mental health would not be separate conversations in our society. There are numerous barriers to care that could be eliminated or reduced in order to improve the lives of those that need access to these services the most. There has been a noted decline in the number of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities "IDD" who have competitive employment. They deserve the same opportunities to work and that includes the same quality that all Americans want.



JOHN WAUGH

DAN FRANKEL (DEM)

Biographical Info:

County: Allegheny

Mailing Address: 5329 Fair Oaks St Pittsburgh, PA 15217

Education: The Pennington School, 1974 Kenyon College, B.A. 1978 John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, Certificate Program for Senior Executives in State and Local Government

Qualifications: Dan Frankel has represented the 23rd District since 1999. He also worked for his family business in Squirrel Hill, Dan helped lead several cultural and civil organizations, including the Pennsylvania Jewish Coalition, the Jewish Family and Children's Services board and the Urban Redevelopment Board.

campaign website: <http://votedanfrankel.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RepDanFrankel>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/RepDanFrankel>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: I believe that mail in voting is so important, and I am hopeful that a silver lining of the Covid-19 crisis is that we will be forced to smooth out the kinks and make it work. I am a cosponsor on many other bills that would make it easier to vote in person, as well – I think there's a place for both. I favor a system to allow people the flexibility to vote on their own timetable and I also support automatic voter registration for residents when they interact with PennDOT, access Pennsylvania's health and human services benefit programs, or any other state service.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: Pennsylvanians deserve representatives who act on behalf of their constituents — not their contributors — and who use campaign donations to fight for like-minded candidates, and not line their own pockets. There is probably no reform that could make a bigger difference in mending the dysfunction in Harrisburg than setting campaign contribution limits. Incredibly, we are one of just 8 states that have zero limits on campaign giving. I have consistently supported bills to change that.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: I have always supported apportionment and redistricting based largely on population of all voting districts, with additional consideration given to other factors, such as municipal boundaries, keeping the districts compact and contiguous, and not dividing communities of interest if possible. I support an independent special commission whose members reflect PA's diversity to conduct both legislative and Congressional redistricting. It would



DAN FRANKEL

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 23

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

need to conduct its work in a way that is transparent, accountable, and fair.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: We have learned in the last 3 decades that making the world more accessible to disabled people benefits everyone. You cannot always anticipate whose voices and contributions we are missing out on because we have failed to ensure broad access. We need the contributions of disabled people, but then we find that adding more flexibility and technology to the workplace and other places also allows us to benefit from more participation from parents of young children or other groups that weren't initially obvious. I will always support regulations that get more people to the table to work, attend school, vote, exercise and play. It benefits marginalized people, but really, it benefits all of us because we need those voices.

GREEN PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

JAY TING WALKER (GRN)

Biographical Info:

County: Allegheny

Mailing Address: 5806 Howe St Apartment 7R Pittsburgh, PA 15232

Education: 2004-2008 Stuyvesant High School 2008-2012 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute 2017 Civic Leadership Academy Always; Countless forums, panels, activist meetings, protests, and newspaper articles. I am a glutton for information.

Qualifications: Employed as Community Organizer for Clean Air Council. I'm the President of the Allegheny County Transit Council. I'm also a member of Pittsburghers for Public Transit, the Democratic Socialists of America, Shadyside Complete Streets and Stop Banking the Bomb (antiwar). Medicare for all supporter!
campaign website: <http://jaytingwalker.com/>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/JayTingWalker>
Twitter: <http://twitter.com/Jaytingwalker>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: I support the reforms included on the March on Harrisburg "Reform Menu". All of these reforms have already been implemented in multiple states for years. These include (1) automatic voter registration (citizens become registered after registering with the state for any license. They can choose to opt out), (2) same day voter registration (voters can provide proof of address and identity and register at the polling place as is), (3) sending ballots to all registered voters, and (4) providing prepaid return envelopes for ballots. I also support Early Voting, Election Day holiday reforms, and Proportional Representation.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that

Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: This is a focus of my campaign, I'd vote to get money out of politics. I'm campaigning on a gift ban to make defacto bribery illegal. I would limit campaign contributions to \$1000 per person per candidate. I'd address dysfunction by voting to reform the legislature rules as advocated for by Fair Districts PA. Current rules allow legislation with massive support to be completely ignored by a tiny group of legislators. Lots of good legislation is held on ice without ever seeing a vote. I agree that bills cosponsored by a majority of house members should move to the floor and that legislation with many committee cosponsors should get a vote in committee. I also agree that legislation shouldn't be amended right before it sees a final vote.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: I support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts. Our existing method of letting state legislators create both maps has very clearly been shown to be corrupt with whoever is in power choosing to contort districts to benefit their own party using highly sophisticated computer software. These maps are often negotiated with the minority party causing our state to be carved into pieces as if we're spoils. Our gerrymandered districts make general elections less competitive leading to representatives that are selected in primary elections that are only open to some and that strongly favor incumbents.

I massively support proportional representation. No more coronations!

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: I would make sure that municipalities actually enforce the Americans with Disabilities Act so that our Commonwealth is accessible to all. I would also ensure that the disability community is at the table not only for legislation that is focused on them but for all legislation.

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 24

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

ED GAINEY (DEM)

Biographical Info:

County: Allegheny

Mailing Address: 6451 Apple Street Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Education: Morgan State University

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/RepEdGainey/>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/RepGainey>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected,



ED GAINEY

what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: I believe that we took the first step last year, but I believe that considering the Covid-19 pandemic we need to ensure that every Pennsylvanian can cast a ballot no matter the situation. I am about to introduce a bill that will help achieve this by making it so that instead of requiring people to apply for a mail in ballot they will instead be sent a mail in ballot automatically by their counties.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: The one reform that I feel that we need is ensuring more transparency in our campaign finance system. We need to know how much private money is influencing public policy.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: Yes, I believe that an independent council would be fairer. It would take redistricting out of the hands of politicians and put it in the hands of the people; as long as it reflects the diversity of the state.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: I believe that one of the best things we can do is increase pay for care workers. Better pay will mean better care in the long run. I would also like to see it made so that it is easy as possible for those who can live alone to do so, but still get the support they need.

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 25

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

BRANDON J. MARKOSEK (DEM)

Questions: No Response

REPUBLICAN PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

JOHN RITTER (REP)

Questions: No Response

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 27

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

DAN DEASY (DEM)

Biographical Info:

County: Allegheny

Mailing Address: 2093 Noblestown Rd Pittsburgh, PA 15205

Education: University of Pittsburgh

Qualifications: Member of PA House of Representatives since 2009.

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most im-

portant rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: One of the most important things we must do as elected officials is to preserve the right to vote. We cannot allow our system to disenfranchise any group or demographic of our population from their fundamental right to vote. We know that mail-in voting is safe and secure. The mail-in process was effective, safe and secure when utilized in Pennsylvania for this year's Primary election. Many states have utilized ballot drop boxes to ensure that every voter has access to cast their vote safely and securely. Additionally, with more residents in PA than ever before utilizing the mail-in ballot option, I believe we should look at ways to allow county election departments to pre-canvass ballots prior to Election Day.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: I believe it is vital to address the reapportionment process as well as meaningful campaign finance reform and I have co-sponsored many pieces of legislation over the years to address these vital issues. The current reapportionment system allows for gerrymandering of districts which fosters an unfair system of control. When one party has a large majority over another, you stifle the process. When the majority has a large advantage, there is less willingness for compromise and meaningful debate. This needs to change and meaningful reapportionment and campaign finance reform would be important steps to effect that change.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: I believe that there should be a fair process for reapportionment and that redistricting lines are not drawn to ensure party affiliation control. The only way to achieve that is through an independent commission. I am a co-sponsor of House Bill 22, which proposes a constitutional amendment to reform the current processes by which Pennsylvania conducts the decennial redistricting of both congressional and state legislative districts (House and Senate). This bill will create an 11-member Independent Redistricting Commission to replace the existing Legislative Reapportionment Commission. This legislation would have House and Senate district lines drawn by a randomly selected group of voters from both major political parties and independents.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: I believe now more than ever, we are a divided society and I think we must strive to be more inclusive. Part of that inclusivity is educating our children if we are going to make more meaningful progress. In particular, phys-



DAN DEASY

ical and mental disabilities are often misunderstood and stigmatized, leaving disabled individuals, particularly children, to face discrimination and exclusion from their peers. House Bill 2785 will mandate the inclusion of the political, economic, and social contributions of disabled individuals in Pennsylvania's K-12 curriculum. By teaching our children about influential disabled individuals, we can demonstrate the profound impact that disabled individuals have had on society and work to create a more tolerant world

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 28

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

EMILY SKOPOV (DEM)

Biographical Info:

County: Allegheny

Mailing Address: 105 Archberry Dr. Wexford, PA 15090

Education: Bachelor of Arts in English Literature from Columbia University; Master of Fine Arts in Screenwriting and Film from the University of California Los Angeles

Qualifications: Before starting her own arts & environmental nonprofit, No Crayon Left Behind, Emily had a successful screenwriting & directing career. She is an active volunteer in her community & schools, & serves on the Marshall Township Parks & Recreation Board, as well as the board of Northland Public Library.

campaign website: <http://electemily4pa.com>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/ElectEmily4PA/>

Twitter: <http://eskovp16>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: Recent efforts to modernize our elections are commendable, but we can do more. I will work to open PA's primaries to all voters. Our process excludes thousands of Independent, third-party and unaffiliated voters, and there is no excuse for this kind of disenfranchisement. We should emulate other states by instituting in-person early voting, in addition to mail in ballots. Mail in ballots are a huge step forward, but people experiencing homelessness or others who may not have a mailing address for whatever reason are still excluded from that process. Early in-person voting expands the franchise to the folks most in need of representatives who will be advocates.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative



EMILY SKOPOV

process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: Redistricting reform is paramount for a properly functioning democracy & I'll work to achieve that from day one. I'll put in place policies that promote transparency & hold true to my mission of representing all of HD28. My campaign is releasing an Accountability Pledge outlining my commitment to: 4 Town Halls a year; all calls & emails will receive a response within 48 hours; my calendar will be public; I will declare all real or perceived conflicts of interest; I will have a user-friendly legislative tracker on my website; I will seek public comments on legislation; if budget negotiations extend beyond the deadline, I will not take a salary until the budget is passed; I will not leave Harrisburg until the budget is passed.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: Absolutely. We can not rely on the State Supreme Court as a backstop to ensure that our legislators don't continue to run roughshod over our democratic process. If a truly independent commission is not enshrined into law, we have seen first hand what enemies of free and fair elections are willing to do to put partisanship over people and permanently enshrine their majorities through any means necessary.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: The ADA is civil rights legislation that has never gone far enough to make our society truly accessible to all. We treat people with disabilities as people requiring accommodation, rather than recognizing that the culture & constructs we've created must be changed to have a society that is accessible to all. People with disabilities aren't an afterthought & we must move toward crafting legislation in line with the principles of Universal Design. I support establishing independent commissions or agencies on the state level to ensure proper enforcement and oversight of ADA regulations. I will work with all parties to bring stakeholders to the table, and allow those stakeholders to lead on their issues, so that democracy works for everyone.

REPUBLICAN PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

ROB MERCURI (REP)

Biographical Info:

County: Allegheny

Mailing Address: 3000 Village Run Rd, Ste 103 - 300 Wexford, PA 15090

Education: West Point Graduate, Commissioned US Army Officer, BS in Economics and master's in business administration (MBA) from University of Massachusetts.

Qualifications: Married, father of three school aged children; US Army Captain, two tours of duty in Iraq, earned the Bronze Star, worked in financial services at two prominent accounting firms, PNC Bank Senior Vice President, local small business owner. Active volunteer in the community & a deacon in his church.

campaign website: <http://www.robmercuri.com>



ROB MERCURI

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/Mercuri4PA>

Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/Mercuri4PA>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: The no-excuse absentee mail-in ballot process provides another option for voters to access and cast their ballot in Pennsylvania. Further measures should be taken to ensure the integrity of the election by making the voter registration rolls accurate and making sure each county is equipped to process all mail-in ballots timely and without errors. Each county should be required to audit its election process to ensure that all voter irregularities are addressed promptly and that every voter has to the opportunity to cast their ballot in secret and without intimidation.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: My first commitment is to a highly responsive legislative office in my district that will address constituent questions & provide access to government resources. I will work to ensure all calls & emails receive a response within 24 hours. I will work to ensure transparency regarding all real or perceived conflicts of interest. Prior to voting, I will seek public comments on legislation and the budget. I support suspending legislative salaries when budget deadlines are not met which provides appropriate incentives for efficient and effective government. I reject legislative privilege and will work to restart the economy safely for all workers.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: Drawing Congressional and legislative districts are among the most consequential activities of the state legislature. While an independent commission sounds appealing, it is important that accountability remain in place for elected officials rather than placing it into the hands of an unelected and unaccountable commission. The current process must allow for non-governmental independent commissions and citizens to participate and for the courts to review and rule on their objections.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: The Americans with Disabilities Act is a landmark piece of legislation that has benefited countless Pennsylvanians. I will work to defend the rights and concept contained within the ADA and will be an advocate for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth. I will work to effectively use employer and housing tax credits to ensure employment and housing for Pennsylvanians with disabilities.

LISSA GEIGER SHULMAN (DEM)

Biographical Info:

County: Allegheny

Mailing Address: PO Box 107 Allison Park, PA 15101

Education: BA University of Pittsburgh; MA in Education University of Missouri-St. Louis

Qualifications: Teacher.

Advocate: Leader.

campaign website: <http://lissaforpa.com>

Facebook: <http://facebook.com/LissaforPA>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/LissaforPA>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: Pennsylvania's recent addition of mail-in voting is welcome and necessary. Now voters do not have to choose between their health and their civic duty. I am glad that Allegheny County will be mailing ballot applications to all voters, including pre-paid return envelopes. I would like to see this expanded across our state. Furthermore, I support public awareness campaigns to publicize and grow vote-by-mail in the future. In addition to vote-by-mail, I support same-day voter registration which would further expand voting rights to all eligible voters in our state. I also support automatic voter registration anytime an individual interacts with a state entity with the default being that individuals are registered as opposed to an opt-in system.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: Too many of our constituents have a negative view of politicians, and this loss of confidence in elected officials will slowly erode our democracy. Therefore, I am in favor of reforms including ending gerrymandering, campaign finance reform, and ending the "old boys" culture in Harrisburg. Specifically, I support campaign contribution limits, a gift ban for elected officials, more transparent and searchable campaign finance reports on the state's website, addressing sexual harassment in the state Capitol, professionalizing legislative staff, and replacing per diems with an expense reimbursement system. My full government reform platform is available at lissaforpa.com/govreform

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: Politicians on both sides of the aisle are guilty of working to craft districts that benefit themselves and their friends. This also creates districts that are safe for one party, benefiting candidates who are more partisan. We need competitive districts so that our elected officials work together to solve problems and effectively govern, not score political points by holding radical positions. I support an independent redistricting committee who can use data and technology to craft districts that meet the constitutional requirements of being compact and contiguous, respecting municipal



LISSA GEIGER SHULMAN

boundaries, and keeping communities of interest together.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: I am proud of my work to develop Rep. Dan Miller's annual Disability and Mental Health Summit. The event always includes a legislative panel to discuss relevant state policy issues. As a state legislator, I will engage with the Autism & Intellectual Disabilities caucus and advocacy groups to keep informed on current issues in the disability community. Initial priorities include: addressing waiting lists for waiver services, growing community-based services, passing paid family leave, and increasing access to early intervention by expanding quality early learning programs. Additionally, I would engage with local and municipal officials to address physical accessibility issues, particularly in relation to transit, within House District 30.

REPUBLICAN PARTY CANDIDATES
(VOTE FOR ONE)

LORI MIZGORSKI (REP)

Biographical Info:

County: Allegheny County

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 354 Glenshaw, PA 15116

Education: B.A., Hood College, Frederick, MD

Qualifications: Chief of Staff to former State Representative Hal English, served nine years on the Shaler Township Board of Commissioners and North Hills Council of Governments, currently serve on the Shaler North Hills Library Board of Directors and Port Authority of Allegheny County Board of Directors.

campaign website: <http://lorimizgorski.com>

Facebook: <http://Lori Mizgorski for State Representative>

Twitter: <http://Lori4PA>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: In 2019 I voted "yes" to an historic election reform bill that made the most significant improvement to elections in more than 80 years. Act 77 of 2019 gives all registered voters the option to vote by mail without needing to provide a reason for doing so. The bill extends the deadline to register to vote to 15 days before the election instead of 30. The deadline for returning an absentee ballot has also been extended until 8:00 pm on Election Day. Additionally, voters with permanent disabilities may request to be placed on a permanent absentee voter list. Finally, the Act provides \$90 million in funding for new voting systems which will improve voting integrity and provide a paper trail.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in



LORI MIZGORSKI

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 30

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES
(VOTE FOR ONE)

Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: I work with people, not political parties. When I was a local elected official, I collaborated with my fellow township commissioners to serve the residents of my community without regard to political affiliation. I have continued my record of bi-partisan leadership in Harrisburg. My first bill, House Bill 318 Changes to Do Not Call List, was voted unanimously in the House and Senate and was signed into law by the governor in October of 2019. I also introduced House Bill 1970 PA Local Solar, and Senator Jay Costa introduced similar legislation in the Senate. I continue to demonstrate my willingness to find common ground and work with House and Senate members on both sides of the aisle.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: I have supported the initiative to create an independent commission for redistricting by co-sponsoring House Bill 22 and 23. Creating an independent commission would increase transparency and allow members of the General Assembly to be one step removed from the process. I have also co-sponsored House Bill 2638, the Legislative and Congressional Redistricting Act. This legislation would establish clear, measurable map-drawing criteria, include public hearings and give Pennsylvania residents the opportunity to submit citizen maps. It would also increase transparency and prohibit gerrymandering.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: From my late mother who utilized a wheel chair, to my former co-worker with autism, to the many constituents I helped receive human services when I worked for my predecessor, helping others overcome challenges has always been a priority for me. That's why I was honored to be one of two prime-sponsors of House Resolution 543 Recognizing the 30th Anniversary of the Americans with Disability Act. I am proud of voting for increased funding for human services with focus on help for individuals with disabilities. As legislators we must continue to work to provide inclusive education and expanded work opportunities so more Pennsylvanians can utilize their abilities and lead fulfilling lives.

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 32

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

TONY DELUCA (DEM)

Questions: No Response

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 33

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

FRANK DERMODY (DEM)

Biographical Info:

County: Allegheny, Westmoreland

Mailing Address: P. O. Box 274 Tarentum, PA 15084

Education: B.A., History, Columbia University; J.D., Indiana Univ. School of Law (Bloomington)

Qualifications: Attorney in private practice, public defender, prosecutor, district justice. Elected to represent the 33rd District and currently serving fifth term as Democratic Minority Leader of the **House of Representatives.** **campaign website:** <http://frankdermody.com>

Facebook: <http://RepFrankDermody>

Twitter: <http://@RepFrankDermody>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: I support changing state laws to make it easier for all citizens to vote. This includes same-day voter registration, having more days to submit your mail-in or absentee ballot, encouraging counties to set up central sites for early voting before election day, and allowing workers to take unpaid time off if necessary for them to cast a vote on election day. The state government also needs to provide sufficient resources and lead time to county boards of elections to properly implement mandated changes in voting systems.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: I am prime sponsor of a comprehensive bill to limit the impact that special interests with deep pockets can have on elections. It would limit how much any person or political committee can donate to a candidate in an election, and strengthen requirements for reporting such contributions. Too many bills are passed with little or no public notice. I support using our House committees to air issues in advance at hearings with more public input.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: Districts should reflect and respect communities of interest as well as municipal borders. A constitutional amendment is required to change how state legislative districts are drawn and there's insufficient time to complete the process before 2021. Moving to an independent commission to draw Congressional districts only requires changing state law, without amending the constitution, and I support this change as it applies to Congressional districts.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: Many protections that exist in the law are poorly understood and poorly enforced due to insufficient resources in state agencies. I will continue fighting to



FRANK DERMODY

secure more funding for this important work in each year's state budget. That includes workplace protections, public accommodations, housing opportunity, educational equity and, most broadly, protection from all forms of discrimination and prejudice against people with disabilities.

REPUBLICAN PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

CARRIE DELROSSO (REP)

Biographical Info:

County: Allegheny

Mailing Address: 662 7Th Street Pittsburgh, PA 15139

Education: University of Pittsburgh

Qualifications: Elected Official Oakmont Council Small business owner Mother of 3 **campaign website:** <http://carrieforpa.com>

Facebook: <http://@carrieforpa>

Twitter: <http://@carrieforpa>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: The best way to vote is in person. I would support better access to the polls and communication on voting.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: Continued education on the legislative process to the voters as well as transparency.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: Yes. I am running for a seat that has been held for 30 years by an incumbent who essentially drew the lines.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: I think PA has done a good job following ADA in terms of accessibility (both our infrastructure and our population is aged). I would continue to support accessibility for projects that way the generations to come can have accessibility.



CARRIE DELROSSO

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 34

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

SUMMER LEE (DEM)

Biographical Info:

County: Allegheny

Mailing Address: 2233 Woodstock Ave Pittsburgh, PA 15218

Education: Woodland Hills High School Pennsylvania State University Howard University School of Law

Qualifications: Summer L. Lee is a lawyer, a community organizer, and the Democratic representative for the 34th district of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives.

campaign website: <http://www.summerforpa.com/>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/SummerForPA/>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/SummerForPA>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: While I think the updated election codes are a step in the right direction, we should be working to automatically provide access to voter registration at DMV and other local state agencies, at high schools for graduating seniors, as well as same-day registration on election day. Eventually I'd like to see us reach a standard of automatic, universal registration for eligible adults in the Commonwealth. During the unprecedented and ongoing crisis we are currently facing with COVID-19, it has become especially important to automatically provide mail-in ballots for residents, and I am proud of this county's efforts to ensure Allegheny voters all receive such a ballot. I hope to see this effort replicated through the Commonwealth.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: Improved standards for reporting on executive programs by departments, agencies, and commissions coupled with changes to the rules of procedure that would increase legislator's access to relevant information and streamline the legislative duties of each legislator can greatly increase the efficacy of the legislature. I also believe an extension in legislative terms from two to four years would allow legislators more time to actually legislate rather than to exist in a constant state of campaigning

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: I do, with the understanding that such a commission and a general push towards fair districts would allow an even playing field and remove one layer of partisan electioneering from the efforts of our state government - allowing us more freedom to actually govern.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with dis-



SUMMER LEE

abilities across the Commonwealth?

A: I support automatic mail in ballots and guaranteed accessibility standards for voting equipment statewide so that those with disabilities may have free and fair access to our democratic process, and I support a range of housing, educational, and transportation reforms and services to allow those living with disabilities through the Commonwealth access to the resources that should be the right of every resident.

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 35

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

Austin Davis (DEM)

Questions: No Response

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 36

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

JESSICA BENHAM (DEM)

Biographical Info:

County: Allegheny

Mailing Address: PO# 42398 Pittsburgh, PA 15203

Education: MA, Healthcare Ethics BA, Political Science BA, Communication

Qualifications: A union organizer and community leader, Jessica Benham has been an advocate for people and neighborhoods across our district. She has fought for and won fair treatment for people with disabilities at the Pittsburgh Center for Autistic Advocacy.

campaign website: <http://www.benhamforpa.com>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/BenhamforPA/>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/jessicalbenham>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: A whole slate of voting reforms was recently passed in Pennsylvania, which significantly expands access to the ballot. In general, I am in favor of all reforms that will increase the electorate. I'm particularly excited to fight for election day voter registration, automatic voter registration, and more opportunities for early voting.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: One reason why partisan gridlock exists is because of the role of money in politics. Elected officials become beholden to lobbyists or corporate PACS instead of working for their constituents. I support limits on gifts to elected officials and stricter reporting guidelines. I also support limits on contributions to the campaigns



JESSICA BENHAM

of PA state candidates and limits on independent expenditure campaigns as well. Partisan gerrymandering also contributes to partisan gridlock in Harrisburg, as more polarized districts make it so that elected officials are answerable only to members of their own party. Expanding the electorate is also a solution to partisan gridlock because it holds elected officials accountable to more of the people they represent

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: I do. Partisan gerrymandering denies voters fair representation and increases gridlock in Harrisburg. Currently, legislators can manipulate the boundaries of districts in order to keep themselves in office, resulting in Pennsylvania being the most gerrymandered state in the country. An independent citizens commission increases the transparency, fairness, and accountability of the process.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: As a person with a disability myself, I know well the many barriers to accessibility that exist in Pennsylvania. I support increased state funding for: accessible early childhood programs, special ed, school therapists & counselors, Medicaid waivers, living wages for service providers, paid family & sick leave, employment programs for students w/ disabilities, Office of Voc Rehab, incentives for businesses to hire PWDs, diversion & community-based treatment to decrease incarceration of PWDs, among other programs. Pennsylvanians w/ disabilities have the same desires and rights as those without disabilities, and I will do everything in my power to ensure that the rights of people like me are upheld.

REPUBLICAN PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

AJ DOYLE (REP)

Questions: No Response

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 38

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

NICK PISCIOTTANO (DEM)

Biographical Info:

County: Allegheny

Mailing Address: PO Box 338 West Mifflin, PA 15122

Education: West Mifflin Area School District B.A. in Accounting, Washington & Jefferson College B.A. in History, Washington & Jefferson College M.A. in Government Analytics, Johns Hopkins University

Qualifications: Certified Public Accountant Certified Information Systems Auditor

campaign website: <http://www.nickforpa.com>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/nickforpa>

Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/nickforpa>

Questions:



NICK PISCIOTTANO

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: Act 77 was historic legislation that brought Pennsylvania election law out of the Dark Ages and provided funding to help counties implement more accessible and secure ways of voting. The current COVID-19 crisis delayed our Primary Election and the reform allowing no excuse vote by mail-in ballot turned out to be extremely timely given the current restrictions on public interaction. While Act 77 was a big step in the right direction, I believe that there are more reforms needed to extend the vote to all Pennsylvanians. I am supportive of election law reforms that help our citizens register, make it easier to vote by mail, adopt curbside voting for disabled persons, and provide funding to protect the integrity of our elections.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: There are a number of parliamentary rules that could be changed to ensure more effective communication between caucuses, the branches of government, and representatives to create a more stable and reliable legislative schedule. Politically, there are barriers to entry that protect incumbents to the point that some are no longer representative of their constituents. By enacting reforms that create a more stable body (i.e. longer, staggered terms), while increasing political accountability (i.e. campaign contribution limits, electoral cycle contribution maximums, etc.), we can carve out space for representatives who are more willing to compromise and more accountable to voters that would result in a more functional legislative process.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: If the commission is truly independent as the League has proposed, I support the constitutional amendment, however, any attempt by the General Assembly to influence the selection of commission members would undermine the entire process. While political gerrymanders are not new to our nation, the sophistication of new technology and the ubiquity of big data makes it easy to pinpoint voters to their very homes and draw district lines that include an incumbent's supporters. When politicians can choose their voters, they become less moderate and willing to compromise - forgoing an essential requirement of effective governance. Any legislation aimed at reducing the effects of partisan gerrymandering has my support as long as its independent.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: Ensuring that the spirit of the law codified in the Americans with Disabilities Act continues is a job that is never complete and an effort that requires continuous progress to ensure that the most vulnerable among us are not left behind. The rights of individuals with disabilities need to be protected, their access to policy makers is extremely important, and their voice needs to be heard in Harrisburg and throughout the Commonwealth. As

a state legislator, I will ensure that individuals with disabilities have a seat at the table to provide their perspective on all legislation and have the opportunity to advocate for their need

REPUBLICAN PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

LINDA BOOK (REP)

Biographical Info:

County: Allegheny

Mailing Address: 4728 Brownsville Road Pittsburgh, PA 15236

Education: United States Army - Communications Specialist Training/Europe; Point Park College - Journalism/Communications; Robert Morris College - Paralegal Program; Steel City Aviation - Private Pilot License

Qualifications: Councilwoman 19 yrs Whitehall Borough; Board of Directors and Board of Trustees for PA State Association of Boroughs, 2013 to present; Board of Directors -Allegheny County Boroughs Assoc 2013 to present; Immediate Past President of Borough Councils Assoc; Submitted Infrastructure bill to Harrisburg

campaign website: <http://www.VoteLindaBook.com>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: Act 77 of 2019 ensured many changes in the way Pennsylvanians are able to vote and how our elections are conducted. The people in Pennsylvania have more voting options than ever before. While I think this is good, we have seen logistical challenges and growing pains with many county board of elections across the state. I would first suggest the legislature provide much more guidance on the process to the counties and take measures to ensure that mail-in ballots are securely received, verified and counted in a timely manner. We must take steps to make sure our voter rolls are up to date in order to ensure integrity in our elections. Voting is America's most sacred constitutional right and it can never be compromised

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: Passing of a Balanced Budget Amendment would force state legislators to work together to reach a goal and accomplish the people's business while also ensuring we are not passing our financial burdens down to future generations. An Amendment to limit the powers of the Governor during any state declared emergency. The voters of our Commonwealth elected State Senators, State Representatives and one Governor. All elected state officials must work together for the good of Pennsylvania. Checks and balances are important to democracy and one person should never be able to operate with near unlimited power.



LINDA BOOK

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: No. I believe the creation of any "independent" commission would prove to be another layer of bureaucracy that would not have a proper selection process nor would they be directly accountable to the people of Pennsylvania.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: As an elected State Representative I will represent everyone and that means working to do everything I can to work to ensure those with disabilities are able to live healthy and fulfilling lives. Speaking with my constituents in Whitehall Borough in this regard, this means that the ADA Act, like any law, needs to be continually worked upon to more effectively prohibit discrimination based on disabilities.

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 39

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

SARA-SUMMER OLIPHANT (DEM)

Biographical Info:

County: Allegheny

Mailing Address: 3572 Fal-mouth Dr South Park, PA 15129

Education: Bachelor's of Art in Mass Communications, Point Park University 2003
campaign website: <http://sara-summeroliphant.com>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/SSOforPa39>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: In addition to the measures already taken, election day should be a statewide paid holiday. In reality, this is a measure I would like to see nationwide, however as a State Representative hopeful, I realize the scope of my reach. I also believe we need to expand early voting. Early voting is a great method in reducing wait times and accommodating those who have child care, transportation or work schedule issues. Typically, these issues are more likely to impact the financially disadvantaged. Early voting needs to not just be a 9-5 option, but also available in the evenings and on weekends. Finally, as an advocate for equal accessibility, we need to ensure that polling places are able to accommodate people of every ability level.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg



SARA-SUMMER OLIPHANT

more effective?

A: The role of government is to move a state forward, and if every action is tied up in gridlock, clearly this cannot happen. However, gerrymandering in Pennsylvania has created maps that protect the interest of the legislation rather than the interest of the citizen. By redistricting in a manner that is both transparent and impartial, we can create a fair system that will reduce the unacceptable amount of gridlock that has recently been found in our state's capital.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: As stated in my previous answer, not only do I support a constitutional amendment, but I believe a nonpartisan, transparent redistricting is the only way we can ensure a fair and productive legislation for Pennsylvania. The current gerrymandering strips citizens of their voice and power in the process. To truly be a government of and for the people, we need to make it our mission to create legislative districts that guarantee that every vote has equal value.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: Equal accessibility does not mean everybody gets the same, but that everybody is equality entitled to their individual needs. I wish this was a simple advancement, however with the plethora of needs in an unlimited number of situations, this is a much larger issue than any single act. Starting in childhood, the majority of playgrounds are not wheelchair accessible. It is time to reexamine what the Americans with Disability Acts promises and how we can ensure that every American of every ability level is promised the quality of life they deserve. While this starts at the swingset, it carries over to classrooms, to the workforce, and even to their local polling place. One important step is to enforce the law already in place.

REPUBLICAN PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

MIKE PUSKARIC (REP)

Questions: No Response

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 40

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

SHARON GUIDI (DEM)

Biographical Info:

County: Washington

Mailing Address: PO Box 1161 McMurray, PA 15317

Education: Masters in Education

Qualifications: As a life long resident of the South Hills, retired educator, and devoted parent I understand the issues that concern the constituents of the 40th District. I have spent my life in service to others and want to continue serving in Harrisburg; I'm ready to listen, work, and serve the 40th



SHARON GUIDI

District.

campaign website: <http://www.sharon4pa.com>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/SharonGuidi4PAHouse40/>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/Guidi4PA40>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: I fully support accessibility for all voters to receive a mail-in ballot. Knowing that whether you are sheltering in place during an illness, a pandemic, or bad weather; or job responsibilities prevent you from reaching your polling place on time you should feel confident that your vote matters and will still be heard. Your vote is your opportunity to select the type of representation and government you want in Harrisburg and Washington DC; it is your voice and if you are not able to go the polls it is important that you are still able to vote. Voting is your civic responsibility, which protects you and your loved ones now and in the future.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: The self-interests of partisan politicians to remain in power through gerrymandered Congressional and Legislative Districts cannot be allowed to continue. Pennsylvania is one of the worst gerrymandered states in our nation and allows party leadership the ability to enforce votes along strict party-line ideology. If an elected individual votes against the party they can be punished with gerrymandered districts with the potential for more extreme voices to be elected. Gerrymandered districts exacerbate the partisan gridlock we see in Harrisburg today. When districts are drawn more fairly the opportunity for moderate voices will be heard and elected. A non-partisan, independent citizens review board should be in place after the 2020 census.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: Yes, I would support an independent commission to redraw Congressional and Legislative Districts because politicians should not continue the practice of picking their voters. Your vote is your voice and if fair districts are not achieved after the 2020 census we will have missed the opportunity for every voice to be heard until 2030. We cannot wait to fix our fractured government; it is the voter who should be selecting the politicians and not the other way around. The self-interests of partisan politicians to remain in power through gerrymandered Congressional and Legislative Districts cannot be allowed to continue. The creation of an independent citizen review board will begin the process of a fair and more representational form of government.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: While Mail-in ballots will help eliminate some barriers for voters with disabilities, making sure that all polling places are selected with Universal Design elements in place will also help to promote a welcoming place for

all voters. When voting machines and polling places are designed to increase accessibility for one voter, that design will convey the importance that all voters should have availability to the polling place. As legislators we must protect the voting rights of all Americans; everyone must be a part of the process with easy access to voting whether at home through mail-in ballots or in person at their polling place.

REPUBLICAN PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

NATALIE MIHALEK (REP)

Biographical Info:

County: Allegheny

Mailing Address: PO Box 12994 Pittsburgh, PA 15241

Education: law degree

Qualifications: Always wanting to serve, I enlisted in the US Navy straight out of high school serving our great nation and returned to my southwest PA roots. From serving the Commonwealth as a prosecutor and now representing the people of the 40th district, service has been the centerpiece of my life's work.

campaign website: <http://www.nataliemihalek.com>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/RepMihalek>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: Having voted in the affirmative for Act 77 of 2019, and then seeing its implementation this past June, we know that many steps were taken to modernize our voting system, in fact that was the most significant update to Pennsylvania's election code in over 80 years. But much remains to be done. Knowing that we would have an unprecedented election with our new voting systems, I authored House Bill 2502, an election integrity bill that required the County elections divisions from all 67 counties to furnish a report with 60 days of the election so that the General Assembly could analyze how Act 77 has impacted our voters and enact legislation accordingly. I am proud to say my bill passed both chambers and we are currently analyzing the data.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: In my experience, it has been more about the individuals elected to serve and not any particular reform or potential reform standing in the way of progress. Starting off with issues we can agree on, coming together for the benefit of the people of Pennsylvania and building from there. No two legislative districts are alike and no two legislators are alike. I believe it is necessary to work across the aisle to accomplish legislative goals. One of my top initiatives has been a partnership with a fellow colleague from across the aisle working on a victim's rights bill for the last year. The last two bills I have introduced have over 40 bipartisan co-sponsors each, and that is because my colleagues know that I put the people over party.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amend-



NATALIE MIHALEK

ment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: I believe that the people deserve a fair and transparent redistricting process. There have been several legislative proposals just in my short time in office to ensure that both happen. I would be supportive of the proposal that can increase transparency, while holding accountable the individuals who are ultimately charged with redrawing those lines because I believe that accountability would ensure fairness to all who are represented in a particular district. These initiatives after all are about making certain that everyone has a voice.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: I was honored to assist one of my colleagues this year with the annual Disability Summit by serving as a co-host and helping to raise awareness for people with disabilities. I have been a co-sponsor of legislation to both recognize and assist Pennsylvanians who have disabilities and if re-elected, I would continue to be an advocate in this regard.

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 42

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

DAN MILLER (DEM)

Biographical Info:

County: Allegheny

Mailing Address: PO Box 13421 Pittsburgh, PA 15243

Education: BA History, BS Secondary Education, JD

Qualifications: Previous Mt. Lebanon Commissioner, 14 year veteran of the Mt. Lebanon Fire Department, Finishing 4th term

campaign website: <http://VoteDanMiller.com>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/VoteDanMiller/>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/votedanmiller>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: I have a bill that would increase voting accessibility for citizens who are blind, deafblind and otherwise physically unable to manipulate our current voting devices without assistance. Currently most people with those disabilities cannot vote securely, privately and independently in Pennsylvania. This bill first requires a software program to be available to voters that would allow them to apply independently for mail-in and absentee ballots and fill them out independently as well. The bill additionally requires an accessible voting machine with software and hardware capabilities that allows everyone to vote independently, securely and privately alongside their neighbors (if they so choose) at ever voting center



DAN MILLER

in the state.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: While partisanship has been with us almost since our founding, hyper-partisanship is limiting our nations future. I think a big part of the problem is extreme gerrymandering. The more partisan our districts get the more difficult reaching a compromise seems to be. The reality is that rules of the House itself hasn't changed much in a generation- our districts have. Districts now can be drawn by a computer to divide a street and calculate wins and losses before candidates have even been announced. This process pushes both parties further apart. While it is good to offer distinct differences for people to consider in an election, it is not healthy to never compromise on any of them. I believe ending gerrymandering would help end gridlock.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: Yes I support an independent commission to redraw our legislative districts in Pennsylvania. There have been a couple different versions of ideas floated as to how best to do that, but I believe that our state would be well served by taking this process out of the direct hands of the legislators. I think a fair and independent commission would help rebuild public confidence that their government works for them and that their vote is important in elections, hopefully leading to greater turnout and participation.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: The Americans with Disabilities Act was one our nations most important civil rights bills, but its mission is not yet completed. Most pressing is the fact that in the majority of our states over 60% of people with disabilities are not engaged in the workforce. Despite the gains we have made in providing more inclusive education, we still have yet to see this make sizable differences in employment opportunities for people with disabilities. My hope is to continue to prioritize this issue, as it was the main focus of my Disabilities and Mental Health Summit this past March.

REPUBLICAN PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

KURT KORINKO (REP)

Questions: No Response

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 44

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

MICHELE KNOLL (DEM)

Biographical Info:

County: Allegheny

Mailing Address: 157 Toms Run Road Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Education: Graduated from Montour High School with Honors and National Honor Society. Graduated Cum Laude from The University of Pittsburgh with B.S. in

Elementary Education, Earned Master's of Education from The University of Pittsburgh in Early Intervention.

Qualifications: Resident of the 44th District for 37 years. Former School Board Director of Avonworth S.D. Parent of 3 daughters, all graduates of Avonworth S.D. Current elected member of Just Harvest Board. Former board member of North Boros YMCA. Volunteer in Ohio Township, Avonworth S.D., and Allegheny Ct. **campaign website:** <http://www.knoll4pa44.com>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/MicheleKnoll44/>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/micheleknoll44?lango=en>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: Mailing a Vote By Mail application to every voter would help seniors, individuals with disabilities, and people with poor access to polling places to have a voice in our elections as well as enabling voters with unusual working situations, like shift workers, workers called on to work overtime in emergencies, and occupations like long haul truckers or corporate workers that frequently travel to have ballots accessible under any circumstances. It would also be helpful to have drop off sites other than just polling places. Registering all of Pennsylvania's voters automatically removes barriers for voters. Providing the most up to date methods of voting for all voters is essential for all Pennsylvania's voters.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: Preventing gerrymandering from skewing districts therefore disenfranchising voters and causing unfair representation for hundreds of thousands of voters is a personal goal of mine. Although my opponent went to Harrisburg saying she would work across the aisle, she doesn't. Her record is clear and other representatives report she is unwilling to work with the other party. Good leadership means putting Pennsylvanian's first not political ambitions. Former lobbyists should not be allowed to run for State Representative for at least 10 years after they have worked for corporations as a lobbyist.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: Yes. This is the key piece of eliminating gerrymandering. I have met young voters on door who say they vote, going through the motions, but feel their votes do not count. Disenfranchising voters is deadly to Democracy. Gerrymander fosters being concerned about issues that have little importance but help legislators in a gerrymandered district retain their seats while serious issues like funding education, infrastructure, and our Department of Environmental Protection adequately get pushed aside. These legislators in gerrymandered districts need not address burning issues since they are assured of reelection.



MICHELE KNOLL

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: I work with young children, ages birth to three years of age, with disabilities and delays so this is an issue I work on in my job on a practical and daily basis. Many children have barriers in schools every day that they must overcome in order to learn. Adults have physical and intellectual barriers to functioning on an equal footing within their homes, community, and while accessing services. Some of these barriers are as simple as providing access to voting in the downstairs of my own polling place but many cause individuals to be unable to exercise their right as citizens to vote at all, work at chosen job, or access adequate health care. Pennsylvania has an aging population so we must enact legislation today.

REPUBLICAN PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

VALERIE GAYDOS (REP)

Biographical Info:

County: Allegheny

Mailing Address: 411 Trailside Drive Sewickley, PA 15143

Education: Quaker Valley, Sewickley Academy, Dickinson College, and real life entrepreneurship

Qualifications: Valerie Gaydos is no politician. A successful business owner, start-up investor, certified EMT and community volunteer. Experience working for US Senator Heinz taught me the value of caring for my fellow man while at the same time making sure our economy is strong to be able to do so.

campaign website: <http://votevaleriegaydos.com>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/VoteValerieGaydos/>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/valgaydos>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: As Representative, I supported the recent election reforms, including shortening the voter registration time before an election, requiring hand-marked ballots, and allowing no excuse absentee ballot voting. There are certainly other reforms that can be made to encourage voting (such as pre-registering of 17 year olds who will be 18 at time of election), and these should be considered in concert with efforts to stop and prevent voter fraud to ensure the integrity of our elections.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: "Good" government doesn't mean seamless action or no disagreement. Our founders based our system on debating ideas and approaches to issues, and when compromise can't be met ensuring that no one side can bull-

doze the other. There are reforms (i.e. limiting length of committee chairmanships, requiring more public input time to legislation) that could be enacted, but right now our goal must be working together to take the necessary steps to safely restart our economy and help PA's residents. No single politician should be able to unilaterally make decisions that affect all Pennsylvanians without transparency; we need strong oversight of the executive branch and to make fiscally responsible budget decisions that focus on our priorities.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: I support an independent redistricting commission to ensure new districts are created free of politics, are compact & contiguous, and ignore incumbency or party registration. Its why I'm introducing the Non Partisan Congressional Redistricting Act that would model PA off of Iowa's system which has a proven track record of working in Iowa. Every ten years, a temporary redistricting advisory commission gets created within the already existing non partisan Legislative Reference Bureau (LRB). By establishing this commission within LRB (the entity which drafts legislation for all members of the legislature) we can have a map that is free from partisan influence. Additionally, housing the Commission within an already existing governing body.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: The ADA provided more freedom and opportunity for disabled Americans and has continued to be improved upon over the past three decades. As a legislator, I would work with advocates for the disabled to investigate and pass possible additional improvements. In addition to helping address the unique issues individuals with disabilities face, the best thing we can do today for all Americans – disabled or not – is ensure they have access to good jobs and the ability to retain the money they earn. That is why my immediate focus in the legislature will be restarting Pennsylvania's economy and bringing strong fiscal discipline to Harrisburg to protect taxpayers.

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 45

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

ANITA ASTORINO KULIK (DEM)

Biographical Info:

County: Allegheny County

Mailing Address: 121 Lorish Rd McKees Rocks, PA 15136

Education: B.A. and J.D. from Duquesne University

Qualifications: State Representative, 45th Legislative District since 2016 Commissioner, Kennedy Township 2003--2016 Managing Partner, Kulik Law Offices Past President, Parkway West Rotary Club Former Law Clerk for PA Superior Court and Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas

campaign website: <http://www.anitaastorinokulik.com>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most im-



ANITA ASTORINO KULIK

portant rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: I was proud to vote in favor of the recent election reforms. With the modernization of our society, it is only logical that we improve voter accessibility. One further reform that I would support would be early in-person voting.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: In my time as a legislator, I have consistently worked across the aisle to help move bipartisan legislation. I continue to reach out to all my colleagues, because I believe the best ideas come from vibrant discussion, even with those who may have different views on issues. A productive reform that would help alleviate partisan gridlock would be to give equal consideration to bills from both the minority and majority sides.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: I support the formation of a commission to redraw congressional and legislative districts. I believe the commission should be comprised of independent citizens and officials from all levels of government. Any redistricting plan should be subject to public comment from across the Commonwealth, with a process in place to give genuine consideration to the public input.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: In my time as a legislator, I have supported and voted for initiatives on behalf of persons with disabilities. Whether through educational opportunities and access opportunities, I will continue to support the needs of persons with intellectual or physical challenges. Our "nation of opportunity" must provide equally for all its' citizens.

REPUBLICAN PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

DANNY DEVITO (REP)

Questions: No Response

GREEN PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

GARRET WASSERMAN (WRITE-IN) (GRN)

Biographical Info:

County: Allegheny

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 85 Coraopolis, PA 15108

Education: M.S. Applied Mathematics & M.S. Physics, University of New Orleans, 2011 & 2009 respectively

Qualifications: - Lived in district for 9 years - Green Party activist since 2016 - Scientist, not a career politician or lawyer

campaign website: <http://votegarret.org>



GARRET WASSERMAN

Facebook: <http://VoteGarret>

Twitter: <http://VoteGarret>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: Transportation is a major barrier for many voters, particularly in suburban areas without good public transit. A temporary fix would be state funding for municipalities to provide shuttle service on election day to all residents; long term, we need to expand public transit services. Let's have state funding to pay poll workers more so we can recruit more workers and have more voting locations open, so there's minimal wait time. Both poll workers and voters need the time off work to serve and vote; that time should include enough time to learn more about all the candidates on the ballot. I support making election day a statewide paid holiday. Automatic and same-day voter registration must also be implemented. Many states already do so.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: Gridlock and dysfunction come from hyper-partisanship, "top-down" control by a few top party officials, and lack of accountability for legislators. I support mending legislative rules to allow legislation to advance to a vote when it has sufficient co-sponsors and support, instead of letting party or committee leaders hold up bills indefinitely even when those bills have large legislative and popular support. Partisanship can be lessened with ranked choice voting, which research has shown tends to result in more "friendly" elections and less extreme candidates that know how to compromise. Ending gerrymandering and easing ballot access requirements allows more candidates so voters have choices to hold incumbents accountable for dysfunction.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: I support establishing an independent redistricting commission, as long as it is truly independent of the legislature and represents ALL voters (meaning registered minor party, political body, and independent voters must be represented too, not just Democrats and Republicans). I also support adopting ranked choice voting and multi-winner districts (a form of proportional representation) to fully address gerrymandering. Ranked candidates in multi-winner districts allow us to elect multiple people at once from a single, larger district, making gerrymandering for all seats all but impossible. These reforms were historically used in many US cities to end the rule of party bosses and ensure diverse community representation in government.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: One complaint I hear from neighbors is the poor condition of roads and sidewalks in our region. I support more state funding to ensure sidewalks and crosswalks that are accessible by wheelchair as well as for deaf or blind folks. In general, municipalities must be expected

to enforce the Americans with Disabilities Act. If funds are not available to do so, then I will work with municipalities to secure needed state funding, and will advocate for greater state funding to be available. A shrug and no action from municipal authorities is unacceptable.

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 46

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

BYRON TIMMINS (DEM)

Biographical Info:

County: Washington

Mailing Address: 1019 Mayfair Drive Canonsburg, PA 15317

Education: B.S. Business Economics, Miami University

Qualifications: Working father, community leader, and advocate for working families looking to bring opportunity to the 46th District

campaign website: <http://www.TimminsForStateRep.com>

Facebook: <http://Facebook.com/ByronForStateRep>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: Current policies disproportionately disenfranchise the poor, people of color, and people with disabilities. Our nations technology is unparalleled and should be employed to enhance participation in our elections. I am a proponent of automatic registration with secure online access to update voter information. We have the data and infrastructure to register any eligible citizen who has interacted with the government. These measures are simple, cost effective, and long overdue. We should also add early voting to make it easier for working Pennsylvanians to make their voices heard. We fought for democracy, not a plutocracy. We need to make voting easier, not harder.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: Elected officials are employees of the people, but this is a fact that too many of them have forgotten. When elected I will always put the interest of the people of the 46th first. I will hold in person town halls in every municipality in the district so the people can hold me accountable and I can inform them of what is going on in Harrisburg.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: I fully support the implementation of an independent redistricting commission to help guarantee the protection of fundamental constitutional rights. Representatives, and their special interest allies, have chosen their voters for far too long.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many bar-



BYRON TIMMINS

riers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: The Americans with Disabilities Act was an important piece of legislation helping to reduce barriers for people with disabilities, but more still needs to be done to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across our Commonwealth.

REPUBLICAN PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

JASON ORTITAY (REP)

Biographical Info:

County: Washington County

Mailing Address: 220 Maple Ridge Drive Canonsburg, PA 15317

Education: Robert Morris University (2004)-Sports Management Stetson University (2005) MBA

campaign website: <http://www.citizensforjason.com>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/citizensforjasonortitay>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: This session I voted for sweeping election code changes that: created a vote by mail system, allowed individuals the ability to register to vote 15 days before the election, and allowed for absentee and mail in ballots to be returned on the same day as the election. I was proud to support these initiatives to modernize our elections but we must also ensure the integrity of our elections by taking proactive measure to prevent voter fraud. I do and would support working with the county elections offices in the future to ensure they have the resources (equipment and staff) they need. I also support legislation that would prevent precinct consolidation beyond 60%, which disenfranchised voters and caused confusion in the primary.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: It takes leaders and people who are willing to work together. In my time in the legislature, I have been able to work across the aisle to get pension reform, liquor reforms, sweeping election code changes, mental health help for minors, and major school safety legislation all signed into law. Our state government is not dysfunctional. I have been able to work across the aisle to deliver results in Harrisburg and at home in the 46th District with hundreds of millions of dollars in projects to improve infrastructure, address flooding, and for economic development that has brought jobs to the 46th District.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commis-



JASON ORTITAY

sion to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: I support a fair redistricting process. I also support the Pennsylvania Redistricting Reform Commission, which was created by the Executive Order of the Governor on November 29, 2018, to serve as an advisory commission on redistricting. However, I do not support the way the Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justices circumvented the Pennsylvania Constitution and unilaterally decided to redraw the Congressional Districts right before 2018 primary election.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: Throughout my career, I have worked to help people with disabilities. I am in constant contact with local organizations like the Association for the Blind of Washington County, Blueprints, and other non-profit groups in Allegheny and Washington Counties. I also served on the board of Hearing and Deaf Services of Pittsburgh. I will continue to listen to leaders in that community and develop legislation that helps remove those barriers for people with disabilities.

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 54

REPUBLICAN PARTY CANDIDATES (VOTE FOR ONE)

BOB BROOKS (REP)

Biographical Info:

County: Westmoreland
Mailing Address: Po Box 213
Murrysville, PA 15668

Education: B.A. Math,
Franklin & Marshall College
M.B.A Corporate Finance,
Wharton Grad, University of
Pennsylvania

Qualifications: Bob served as the Chief Financial Officer of Westinghouse Air Brake Technology Company (Wabtec), and served on the Board of Directors through 2019 where he helped to significantly grow the company. He has also been involved in several successful businesses as the Director of Brooks Sports Group.

campaign website: <http://electbobb Brooks.com>

Facebook: <http://Bob Brooks for PA Rep>

Questions:

Q: Access to the ballot box is one of the most important rights for a citizen. Although Pennsylvania recently modernized its election code, there are other reforms that would further modernize Pennsylvania's elections. If elected, what reforms would you support to ensure that all citizens who want to vote are able to securely, privately, and independently cast a ballot?

A: I was a supporter of the election reforms we made this year in PA. We extended the registration period and allowed mail in ballots without requiring a reason. Voter registration when obtaining a driver's license is also extremely helpful. I am pleased that registration two weeks prior to voting is good for those who want to vote and it allows the state adequate time to ensure integrity in elections. I look

forward to this primary election as a test on the integrity of the mail-in ballots. It is important to me to maintain fair and honest elections.

Q: While there have been some positive legislative actions recently, partisan gridlock in Harrisburg has taken its toll, and many people feel that Pennsylvania's state government is dysfunctional. What types of reforms, if any, would you support to make the legislative process in Harrisburg more effective?

A: I see gridlock in Washington D.C. In Harrisburg I see discussions but not gridlock. My committees all have members from both sides of the aisle and all issues are discussed. That does not mean that everything we all desire is approved. While it can be frustrating, that is how democracy functions. My job is to convince 101 other Representatives that my ideas are good even after I have to modify them to obtain the necessary amount of votes to accomplish the goal.

Q: Do you support a state constitutional amendment to form an independent commission to redraw Congressional and legislative districts? Why or why not?

A: I have listened to several different approaches to redrawing Congressional and Legislative Districts after the completion of the census. I am in favor of creating a committee that is a proportional representation of our constituents. I plan on listening to all proposals and will consider ones that balance logic with independence and political expertise.

Q: 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, many barriers still exist for people with disabilities. What will you do as a state legislator to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth?

A: Persons with disabilities deserve inclusion wherever and whenever possible. It is our job in Harrisburg and in our districts to work to make that happen. They also deserve a choice and a voice. I support people with disabilities. In addition I am a strong supporter of Anti-bullying which can often impact those with disabilities.



League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania

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Voters Guide General Election November 3, 2020

Publication of the Voter Guide was made possible by the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania-Citizen Education Fund

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