

**PROGRESSIVE MASSACHUSETTS**

**2018 CONGRESSIONAL  
ENDORSEMENT QUESTIONNAIRE**

**Date:** July 15, 2018

**Candidate:** Lori Trahan

**Office Sought:** Representative for Massachusetts' Third Congressional District

**Party:** Democrat

**Website:** loritrahan.com

**Twitter:** [@LoriUSCongress](https://twitter.com/LoriUSCongress)

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/loriforuscongress/>

Email questions to [elections@progressivemass.com](mailto:elections@progressivemass.com).

*Questionnaire Responses (excepting sections labeled CONFIDENTIAL) will be published on our website.*





## I. About You

1. Why are you running for office? And what will your top 3 priorities be if elected?

**Because our economy isn't working for everyone.** Despite record highs in the stock market, it's getting harder for working people to make ends meet, get an education and own a home. As the daughter of a Union Ironworker, I was raised in the working class section of Lowell and am a lifelong resident in the Third District. In my family, everyone helped out. For me, that meant serving breakfast at a local diner on the weekends while juggling honors classes and varsity sports in order to earn a college scholarship. In Congress I'll fight to ensure every family gets a fair shot at realizing their dreams.

**Because special interests are corrupting our government and destroying our democracy.** I will fight to end the stranglehold that corporate special interests have on government, and ensure ordinary people have a strong voice in Washington. I will continue the fight I began as a staff member on Capitol Hill to eliminate the corruptive influence of money in politics and end Citizens United.

**Because we need leaders who can help our people and businesses compete in the 21st century global economy.** Having started a business-consulting firm with two other women, I've worked with companies of all sizes, from small family-run businesses, to manufacturing and biotech, to some of the largest and most successful Fortune 500 companies in the world. I understand how to grow a business in the Massachusetts innovation economy and will work tirelessly to help more people in our community be a part of it.

**Because we need more women in leadership. Period.** As the mother of daughters and the founder of a women-owned business, I'm committed to making sure we don't lose traction on our hard fought rights. Whether it's access to birth control, reproductive rights, equal pay for equal work and paid leave, women wake up feeling personally assaulted by this administration. Like Congresswoman Niki Tsongas, I will pound on the table on behalf of the women of my community and our state.

**Because in 2018, voters will have an opportunity to vote for the right kind of change.** The 2016 election delivered the biggest disruption to politics in modern memory. Having worked in business for the past 12 years, I know that when disruption hits, change inevitably follows. My top priorities will be to fight for the change that will create good paying jobs, improve public schools and make health care affordable, accessible and universal, once and for all.

2. What prepares you to serve in this capacity?

I've been a resident of our district for my entire life. While others are moving here because they see a political opportunity, I'm running because I felt a calling to help the people I grew up with and the people who my children are growing up with. Knowing this district and the communities within it is a fundamental part of representing it well.

I worked a decade in Washington and here in Massachusetts for Marty Meehan, rising to become his chief of staff, so I know how to forge the unlikely partnerships required to work with state and local government, spur economic development, and deliver results for this district. During my tenure working as a staffer in Marty Meehan's office, we passed the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act, also known as Shays-Meehan in the House and McCain-Feingold in the Senate. It took us years of hard work to get the bipartisan support we needed to pass this landmark campaign finance reform bill, but we knew that this was a battle worth fighting and we never gave up. This valuable

experience working across the aisle means I will be ready to hit the ground running to write and pass legislation.

Six years ago, I started a business consulting firm with two other women to focus on helping companies foster the next generation of leaders, make their workforce more diverse, and be more connected to the needs of their customers. I have spent my time in the private sector working to bring more women to leadership roles, and this is a model I intend to continue in Congress.

## **II. The Issues**

*Our questionnaire is based on our [Progressive Platform](#): Shared Prosperity, All Means All/Racial and Social Justice, Good Government and Strong Democracy, and Sustainable Infrastructure and Environmental Protection.*

*Each section begins with an open-ended question about a plank in our platform. The subsequent questions will be mostly yes/no questions. In such cases, your response should begin with YES or NO. You are welcome to expand beyond just YES/NO to further elaborate on your position, but please keep answers < 150 words.*

### **A. An Equitable Tax System**

1. What does tax justice mean to you? What would a fair tax system look like? Tax justice means that all Americans pay their fair share, with the wealthiest individuals and corporations contributing the most. Only the top 1% are seeing wage growth right now, and we need tax reform that stimulates long overdue wage growth to keep up with the cost of living. Waiting for the trickle down effect simply does not work and we need to reevaluate. Our tax policy should never be used as a tool for the rich to get richer at the expense of everyone else.

1. **Financial Transaction Tax.** Would you support legislation that imposes a tax of a fraction of a percent on transactions done by Wall Street firms and stock traders?  
Yes

1. **Capital Gains Tax.** Would you support taxing capital gains and dividends at ordinary income rates for households with income over \$250,000?

1. **Corporate Tax Avoidance.** Would you support legislation to tax corporations on all of their profits, ending the current practice that allows US corporations to avoid paying taxes on overseas profits?  
Yes

### **B. Jobs That Pay a Living Wage**

1. What is the role of Congress in creating good-paying jobs? In which sectors do you see the most potential?

Congress has a responsibility to address the economic anxiety that plays out in the homes of working families each day. One of the sectors I see the most opportunity for

growth in is clean energy. If we incentivize companies to invest in clean energy, not only can we put more Americans in good paying jobs, but we can also develop the technology we need to speed up the transition to more sustainable and environmentally friendly energy production.

I also see opportunity for growth in infrastructure. The president has failed to deliver on his promise to invest in infrastructure and create hard hat jobs that would directly impact working class families. Unlocking public funding to invest in smart infrastructure improvements will create good paying jobs while simultaneously revitalizing our cities and towns, and strengthening our regional economy.

1. **Minimum Wage.** The gap between productivity and wages has grown dramatically since 1973. Moreover, the federal minimum wage remains stuck at \$7.25—what it was in 2009. Would you support legislation to raise the federal minimum wage to \$15 per hour?

Yes

1. And eliminate the sub-minimum wage for tipped workers?

Yes

2. And index the minimum wage to inflation?

I believe that we need to have a mechanism in place to ensure that wages rise as the cost of living increases. When the minimum wage remains stagnant as inflation rises, working class families suffer the most.

1. **Job Guarantee.** Would you support legislation to create a federal job guarantee? If so, what would it look like?

1. **Retirement Security.** With the decline of pensions and other defined-benefit retirement plans in the workplace, retirement is becoming more insecure, and seniors are having to work longer just to stay afloat. Would you support legislation to....

1. Increase the benefits provided by Social Security?

Yes

2. Raising the cap on earnings that are taxed for Social Security? Currently, only earnings up to \$118,500 are subject to the payroll tax.

Yes

1. **Paid Leave.** The US is the only industrial nation without paid family leave. Would you support federal legislation ensuring that workers can take up to 12 weeks of paid leave for a pregnancy, the birth or adoption of a child, to recover from a serious illness, or to care for a seriously ill family member?

Yes. Research shows that comprehensive family leave is good for families, good for business, and good for the economy. It boosts maternal and child health outcomes, reduces employee turnover and increases women's participation in the workforce.

1. **Paid Vacation.** The US is the only industrial nation that does not require employers to provide any paid vacation time. Would you support legislation requiring employers to provide employees at least two weeks of paid vacation time?

1. **Union Rights.** Unions play a key role in building a strong middle-class; however, unions have been under attack in recent years. Would you support legislation like the Workplace Democracy Act that prohibits “right-to-work” laws and requires employers to recognize a union when a majority of workers in a bargaining unit sign valid authorization cards?

Yes. As the daughter of a union ironworker, I know just how important union organizing is for advocating for fair compensation and benefits and maintaining a safe work environment. In light of the recent Janus v. AFSCME Supreme Court decision, it is especially vital to pass legislation to protect the right of workers to organize.

### **C. Quality, Affordable Health Care**

1. What do you see as the role of the federal government in health care? What are the most important next steps to build upon the 2010 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act?

The federal government has a responsibility to make basic health care universally affordable and accessible. The battle to pass the Affordable Care Act was hard-fought. I’m committed to improving and strengthening the ACA first and foremost, and to stopping Republicans in Washington from dismantling it. People should not have to choose between healthcare and feeding their kids, or between healthcare and losing their homes. We need to hold drug companies accountable for the skyrocketing costs of prescription drugs, and take steps to increase transparency and efficiency in healthcare so costs will fall.

1. **Medicare for All.** Would you support the creation of a single payer/“Medicare for All” health insurance system in the country that would guarantee health care as a right?  
Yes

1. **Medicaid.** Would you oppose any effort to add a work requirement to Medicaid?  
Yes

1. **Medicare.** Would you oppose any effort to increase the means-testing of Medicare?  
Yes

1. **Drug Price Negotiation.** Would you support legislation requiring the federal government to negotiate the price of Medicare prescription drugs with pharmaceutical companies?  
Yes

1. **Access to Prescription Drugs.** Would you support legislation to reduce monopolies for brand-name drugs and help generic competitors come to market more easily?  
Yes

1. **Reproductive Rights -- Part I.** Would you oppose any legislation that seeks to roll back a woman's fundamental right to choose an abortion as set out in *Roe vs. Wade*?  
Yes

1. **Reproductive Rights -- Part II.** Would you supporting legislation to repeal the Hyde Amendment, which bars the use of federal funds to pay for abortion except to save the life of the woman, or if the pregnancy arises from incest or rape?  
Yes

#### **D. Quality, Free Publicly Funded Education**

1. What role should the federal government play in guaranteeing high-quality K-12 education for all students? In guaranteeing access to affordable higher education?

High quality public education is the key to unlocking our nation's true economic potential, creating new opportunities, and ensuring the American Dream is still attainable for all. Congress needs to make education a priority, from cradle to career.

It is Congress' role to protect public schools, increase teacher pay and collective bargaining rights and help our most vulnerable schools and students.

It is also Congress' role to invest in more pathways to a quality education, since a four-year college education isn't for everyone. In order to ensure that college is more affordable, I will work to hold private universities accountable for student loan debt, preserve and expand Pell Grants and increase the amount provided under the American Opportunity Tax Credit.

For a detailed look at my education policy priorities please visit:  
<https://loritrahan.com/education/>

1. **Race to the Top.** The Race to the Top program, created in 2010, was a competitive grant program for school districts that incentivized public school districts to adopt performance-based evaluations for teachers and to increase the number of charter schools. How would you evaluate the success of the program?  
As a product of the Lowell Public Schools system and strong believer in public schools I don't believe that programs like Race to the Top can ever be good for the American education system. We cannot afford to siphon a single dollar in grant money away from our public schools. We should be focused on building up the schools that are struggling, not tearing them down further by pulling away more students and resources.

1. **Achievement Gap.** Since 2005 alone (13 years of K-12 education), Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), which provides funding to states and districts to improve education for disadvantaged students, has been underfunded by \$347 billion. Would you support legislation to fully fund Title I?  
**Yes**

1. **Special Education.** When Congress first passed the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the federal government promised to pay 40 percent of the cost of

educating students with disabilities. That promise has not been kept, with federal funding standing at just 15.7 percent. Would you support legislation to fully fund IDEA?

**Yes**

1. **Student Loan Debt.** Student loan debt is holding back the economy, as graduates are unable to make important long-term investments in their future. Senator Elizabeth Warren has filed legislation to allow those with outstanding student loan debt to refinance at current, lower interest rates. Would you support such legislation?

**Yes**

1. **Tuition-Free Higher Education.** More and more jobs are requiring a college degree, but the cost of higher education has been growing faster than wages, contributing to a ballooning student debt burden. Would you support legislation to guarantee free tuition at public colleges and universities? If so, how should such a program operate?

College should never be out of reach for anyone who wants to go. We need to expand targeted aid and grants like our Pell Grant system for students who can't afford the price of college. We also need to do more about the spiraling costs of a college education. As a mom who has been through the admissions process now three times, I see an arms race underway, where colleges are competing against each other on amenities – world class gyms, 5-star dining halls, and dormitories that rival fancy hotels. These costs are being passed on to our children and it is time to hold colleges accountable for the tuitions they are charging.

#### **E. Affordable, Decent Housing**

1. What role do you believe the federal government should play in guaranteeing affordable, decent housing for all?

There is a shortage of affordable housing for working class families and seniors. It is the federal government's responsibility to invest in affordable housing. I think the federal government must collaborate with state and local governments to ensure there are affordable housing options.

**National Housing Trust Fund.** The National Housing Trust Fund was created in 2008 as part of the Housing and Economic Recovery Act to complement existing federal funding sources for affordable housing. Would you support legislation to increase funding for the National Housing Trust Fund?

**Yes**

1. **Tenant Rights.** Prior to the passage of the Protecting Tenants at Foreclosure Act (PTFA) in 2009, tenants were often required to move with as little as a few days-notice. However, the PTFA expired in 2014. Would you support legislation to reauthorize such tenant protections? **Yes**

1. **Foreclosure Prevention.** Would you support legislation to strengthen requirements for and increase oversight of Federal Housing Administration mortgage servicers so that every homebuyer with an FHA mortgage is given a fair chance at avoiding foreclosure? **Yes**

## F. A Fair and Efficient Criminal Justice System

1. What role can Congress help deliver on the promise of “liberty and justice for all”?

Congress can create a culture of equality and empathy by aligning less with special interests and corporations and more with those who are most vulnerable and disadvantaged. This would manifest in criminal justice reform, immigration reform, job creation and income security.

1. **Marijuana Legalization.** Do you support removing marijuana from the list of controlled substances, making it legal at the federal level?

1. **Mandatory Minimums.** Do you support the repeal of mandatory minimums for non-violent drug offenses?

Yes

1. **Bail Reform.** Do you support the elimination of cash bail, so that no one is held in jail solely for an inability to pay?

Yes

1. **Private Prisons.** Would you support legislation to bar the federal government and state and local jurisdictions from contracting with private corporations to run prisons and detention facilities?

Yes

1. **Federal Parole System.** The abolition of the federal parole system in 1984 has played a large role in the rise of mass incarceration since the 1980s, as prisoners are now required to serve at least 85 percent of their sentence. Would you support legislation to reinstate the federal parole system?

Yes

1. **Price Gouging.** Would you support legislation to prevent companies from engaging in unfair practices and charging prisoners unreasonable fees for banking and telecommunications services?

Yes

1. **Solitary Confinement.** Do you support limiting the use of solitary confinement to no more than 15 consecutive days, and eliminating the use of solitary confinement for at-risk populations, including pregnant women, LGBTQ people, those with mental illness, and those under age 21 or over age 65?

Yes

1. **Police-Community Relations.** Recently, the US House of Representatives passed a bill to create a *federal* penalty of up to 10 years for assaulting a police officer. Such laws already exist on the books in states, and there is no lack of prosecution (some might even argue that such charges are used as a cudgel against protesters). The ACLU, NAACP, Southern Poverty Law Center, and other civil rights groups criticized this bill for pushing a statistically unproven “war on cops” narrative and threatening to do further damage to police-community relations. Would you oppose such legislation?

Yes. I've seen firsthand in my community of Lowell the positive outcome of community policing. When police officers are in the communities engaging with citizens and providing access to services they have a deeper understanding of the root causes of crime and how to prevent it. We need to continue investing in programs like these rather than a punitive system penalties.

1. **Militarization of Police.** Would you support legislation to prohibit the transfer of some of the military weapons from the federal government to state and local law enforcement? Yes

1. **Data Collection.** Would you support legislation to require police departments and states to collect data on all police shootings and deaths that take place while in police custody and make that data public?  
Yes

1. **Racial Profiling.** Would you support legislation to ban racial profiling by law enforcement?  
Yes

### **G. A Humane Immigration System**

1. What does "comprehensive immigration reform" mean to you?  
Our current immigration laws were written in the 1950s and reflect a much different and much less connected world. We are still a nation of immigrants and a beacon of hope for refugees. However, in 2018, many immigrants are also bringing innovation, advanced degrees along with the desire to live the American dream.

- Border security needs to be improved for the safety of Americans with respect to smuggling, terrorism, foreign interference, illegal immigration and threats to our public health.
- Immigration quotas and acceptance criteria should be modernized because qualified workers are needed to meet the demand in industries like agriculture, manufacturing, healthcare, technology, and more.
- America should do its share to provide refuge to foreigners in crisis including: promoting peace and democracy beyond our borders, supporting international relief efforts, and accepting refugees and asylum seekers.

For a detailed description of my immigration policy priorities please see:  
[loritahan.com/immigration-policy/](http://loritahan.com/immigration-policy/)

1. **Border Militarization.** A border wall, as proposed by Trump, would be an economic, environmental, and humanitarian disaster. Would you categorically oppose any legislation that includes funding for such a border wall?  
Secure borders on the southern and northern edges of the country are necessary to ensure our safety from drug and human trafficking, violence, and terrorism. I am committed to doing all that is necessary to keep us safe, but I oppose President Trump's plans for a border wall because it would be, ineffective, overpriced and divert resources from programs that actually make us safer. There are smarter, more efficient ways to

secure our southern border that take advantage of the natural landscape and don't do harm to the environment.

1. **DREAM Act.** Would you support the DREAM Act, which would allow certain US-raised immigrant youth to earn lawful permanent residence and American citizenship?  
Yes

1. **Path to Citizenship.** Would you support legislation that creates a path for undocumented immigrants to gain US citizenship?  
Yes

1. **Keeping Families Together.** Would you support legislation to repeal the three-year, ten-year, and permanent bars of reentry for undocumented immigrants?

1. **Protecting Immigrant Families.** Over the past few years, ICE has adopted policies that are particularly harmful to children: the practice of detaining women and children when they cross the border despite legal obligations to place families with children in the least restrictive setting possible (family detention), and the practice of separating parents and children (family separation). Would you support legislation to end both of these practices?  
Yes

1. **ICE Bed Quota.** Would you support legislation to end ICE's daily bed quota, which requires the detainment of 34,000 immigrants?

1. **ICE Detention Centers.** The Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Office of the Inspector General (OIG) have consistently found that ICE detention facilities undermine the rights of the individuals being held, as sexual abuse, medical negligence, and insufficient access to counsel remain rampant. (A) Would you support legislation to impose a moratorium on the construction of new ones? (B) Would you support a review of private detention centers and the termination of contracts with repeat human rights violation offenders?  
A) Yes  
B) Yes

1. **ICE.** ICE (U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement), is a fairly new federal agency, birthed in the post 9/11/2001 restructuring of the Department of Homeland Security. Since its start, ICE has operated under a harmful and erroneous paradigm: that undocumented immigrants *ipso facto* pose a fundamental security threat. Over time, ICE has operated in an increasingly unconstitutional matter, embracing practices that, according to judges, "shock the conscience" and have received condemnation from the United Nations. Would you support the elimination of the current agency in favor of a more humane alternative?

Yes. As a mother, I'm horrified that our government has been cruelly separating parents from their children. We need to place the blame where it belongs — which is not on the government employees, but on President Trump and his right-wing team in the White House who have been calling the shots. They have broken ICE and warped the mission so that it is no longer about protecting us. As a result, ICE is no

longer able to function effectively as constituted and requires a radical transformation so it returns to doing what it was supposed to do.

## **H. A Diverse and Welcoming Society**

1. What do you believe are the most important factors in building an inclusive community, and what role can Congress play in advancing them?  
In the last 10 years especially, I believe we have begun to see a destabilizing shift in the way traditional power structures are viewed in this country. Congress needs to be a part of this effort to shift the imbalances in our culture around sex, race, gender equality. Just this year alone with so many women speaking out about sexual harassment in the workplace, we have obligation to pass legislation addressing this. The US was founded as a place that was a refuge for immigrants who were not accepted where they came from. This was a strength that we need to continue to build on each and every day, make sure that people of every race, gender, sexual orientation and religion have a place here. Congress needs to do everything in its power to ensure all citizens are treated fairly and equally, and have access to affordable healthcare, economic opportunity, education, and fair treatment by law enforcement.

1. **LGBTQ Rights.** Over the past several years, we have seen numerous states try to deny trans individuals the right to exist in public spaces as well as conservative lawsuits seeking to legalize discrimination against LGBTQ individuals. Would you support legislation to add sexual orientation and gender identity to the Civil Rights Act of 1964?

Yes

1. **Sexual Harassment.** Would you support legislation to end the use of forced arbitration clauses in sexual harassment cases?

Yes

1. **Indigenous Rights.** Would you support legislation to ensure that tribal cultures and sacred places are federally protected?

Yes

1. **Gun Safety.** A welcoming society is one in which people feel safe. Would you support the reinstatement of the federal assault weapons ban?

Yes

## **I. Good Government and Strong Democracy**

1. What does democracy mean to you?

Democracy means freedom of choice—in the voting booth, in healthcare, in the ways we educate our children. It means independent, co-equal branches of government that work towards a common goal of civil rights applied to all citizens, regardless of race, sex, religion, or orientation. It means fair and open elections free from foreign interference, which accurately reflect the will of the people. It means a Congress that embodies the

demographic makeup of our country, where women and people of color can point to their representatives as just that—representative. To achieve these goals, we need to start with elections free from corporate PAC money and lobbyist influence to ensure that candidates with true grassroots organization stand a fair chance of enacting policies that move us forward, that strive towards greater equality and higher quality of life for everyone, including the most vulnerable populations among us.

1. **Diversity in Leadership.** How can the Democratic Party better work to improve a pipeline of young and diverse candidates for elected office and party leadership? As a woman who founded a business that focuses on bringing more women into leadership positions, I am excited to bring this model to Congress. As someone who has never run for office before, I am intimately aware of all of the obstacles that prevent good people from running. I am committed to getting more women, young people, and minorities to Congress so we can once again call it the People's house. The goal should be to engineer a system where it's not about how much money you raise but how qualified you are.

1. **Ethics.** What do you see as the role of Congress vis-a-vis the Trump presidency with regard to ethics enforcement? This Congress has abandoned its oversight responsibilities. Each authorizing committee should be conducting regular hearings into conduct and policy activity at each agency as Congress has historically done. I look forward to joining a new breed of leadership down in Washington that is focused on holding this Administration accountable.

1. **Voting Access.** Would you support legislation to...

1. Require states to provide same day registration?

Yes

2. Require states to offer automatic voter registration through the Registry of Motor Vehicles and other agencies as appropriate?

Yes

3. Make Election Day a federal holiday?

Yes

4. Prohibit states from adopting discriminatory laws that require select photo identification in order to vote?

Yes

1. **Voting Rights Act.** Would you support restoring the "pre-clearance" formula under the Voting Rights Act, which extended protections to minority voters in states and counties with histories of discrimination, as well as further expanding the law?

Yes

1. **Prisoner's Rights.** Would you support legislation to prohibit states from taking away the franchise from anyone because of a criminal offense?

Yes

1. **Citizens United.** Would you support a constitutional amendment to overturn the Citizens United decision and allow limits on corporate political spending?

Yes. The way the system is set up now, the entities, corporations and people with the most money are getting the loudest voice in politics. That's wrong. It's important to me

that regular people, and not just special interests, have their voices heard. That's why I strongly support passing a constitutional amendment to reduce the influence of money in politics by ending Citizens United. We should require super PACs to disclose who is bankrolling them, and put Congress back in the hands of ordinary Americans – not bought and paid for by wealthy donors. As someone who worked on the team that wrote and passed the landmark Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act in 2002, I have been fighting this fight for many years and will continue to work towards a more just system.

## **J. Sustainable Infrastructure & Environmental Protection**

1. The current administration in Washington has overturned, or is seeking to overturn, a number of Obama-era environmental regulations, setting the US up for years of just playing catch up. What are your top priorities on environmental protection? How can the US avoid falling even further behind?

We must get back onto the Paris Climate Accord. We need to bring back President Obama's Clean Power Plan that would reduce pollutants 25% by 2030. I am in support of tax credits and other incentives that make it affordable for large and small businesses to adopt clean, renewable energy sources. We have over 100,000 clean energy jobs in Massachusetts, if we turn our back on renewables, we turn our backs on hardworking families. I will never let that happen.

The real key to solving climate change is passing campaign finance reform. Much like the NRA, big oil has a stranglehold on Republican legislators across the country. By taking away their influence, we can finally allow science and common sense to return to our politics, and act with urgency on climate change.

1. **100% Clean Energy.** Would you support legislation to put the US on a pathway to replacing fossil fuels with 100 percent clean energy generation and use by 2035, with support for transitioning workers?

1. **Carbon Pricing.** Would you support putting a price on carbon emissions and investing the revenue in clean energy and green infrastructure? If so, how should such a pricing scheme operate?

1. **Keep It in the Ground -- Part I.** Would you support legislation to prohibit new leases for coal, oil, and gas on all federal lands and waters?

1. **Keep it in the Ground -- Part II.** Would you oppose any legislation that authorizes, or expedites the permitting or approval of, new fossil fuel pipelines?

1. **Clean Water.** Would you support legislation to require natural gas drillers to disclose the chemicals that go into the ground during the hydraulic fracturing ("fracking") process and to close the so-called "Halliburton loophole," which prevents the EPA from conducting rigorous oversight?

Yes

1. **Environmental Justice.** Would you support legislation to codify environmental justice into law; require federal agencies to address environmental justice through

agency actions and permitting decisions; and strengthen legal protections against environmental injustice for communities of color, low-income communities, and indigenous communities?

Yes

1. **Fuel Efficiency.** Would you support legislation to increase fuel economy standards to 65 miles per gallon by 2025?

First and foremost want to I want to preserve and protect the Obama era fuel economy standards. His standard of 55 miles per gallon by 2025 would have made the United States among the best in the world for fuel efficiency and President Trump's rollback of those standards will hurt us all in the long run. At a minimum, we should be sticking to the commitment of 55 miles per gallon by 2025.

1. **Public Transportation.** Would you support greater investment in public transportation?

Yes

1. **Science and Policy.** Would you oppose any effort to restrict the ability of federal policymakers from incorporating peer-reviewed science in the decision-making process around new environmental regulations?

Yes

#### **K. US in the World.**

1. **Foreign Policy.** What are the principles and priorities you would bring to discussions of US foreign policy?

I believe that the foundation of all foreign policy decisions should be based on strong relations with our allies. While it is important for the United States to be able to defend itself and its allies if it were necessary, diplomacy should always be our primary tool. As a nation, our primary goal should be restoring our leadership in the world as it pertains to the environment, peace and human rights.

1. **Trade.** Will you oppose any trade deal that allows corporations to sue governments in private tribunals, that fails to include binding requirements to implement both the Paris climate agreement and adopt living wages, or that otherwise fails to support a clean environment, healthy communities, and good union jobs?