

# **CANDIDATES QUESTIONNAIRE**

Name: Julia Pulver

Candidate for: Michigan House of Representatives, District 39

Occupation/Current Position: Clinical Leader, Caravan Health

Education: Bachelor of Science from Western Michigan University, 2005

Qualifications/Experience: I have been a leader in the field of healthcare, patient advocacy, and public health for over a decade and am uniquely suited to represent my district during this public health crisis.

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**QUESTIONS** 

### **ECONOMIC ISSUES**

1. A package of bills (HB 328-339 and SB 4629-4640) concerning pay equity was introduced in the Michigan House and Senate committees in April, 2019. The bills address transparency regarding pay, asking job applicants about past compensation, and informing employees about equal pay laws. Do you support or oppose bringing these bills to the legislature for a vote? Please explain.

I support making compensation transparent for workers. Asking about past compensation puts the applicant at a disadvantage and actually increases pay inequities. Equal pay is a priority and I would support measures to address this issue.

2. Do you support or oppose a minimum wage of \$15 an hour? Please explain.

I support a minimum wage of \$15 an hour. This pandemic has highlighted the low wages of so many of the people we deem "essential workers" who we are relying on to get us through this crisis.

3. Do you support or oppose earned paid sick leave for all workers? Please explain.

I support earned paid sick leave for all workers. When workers are forced to come to work when they are sick it threatens public health. The COVID-19 pandemic has made this abundantly clear.

Workers need to be able to take time off to take care of themselves or a loved one who is ill without fearing that they will lose their job as a result.

## **EDUCATION**

- 1. What is your position on funding K-12 private or parochial/religious schools with public monies? I oppose using public funding for private or parochial K-12 schools.
- 2. What is your position on providing additional funding for equitable public education to ensure that all students have access to remote learning by qualified teachers when necessary because of COVID-19 or a similar situation?

Educating our children cannot be done on the cheap. It couldn't be done before the pandemic, and it certainly cannot be done now. We must not only fully fund public education, but also provide additional funding where needed to ensure that all of Michigan's children have access to quality education right now and in the future.

#### **GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION**

- 1. Current Michigan law allows for open carry guns in Michigan schools. What is your position on legislation that would eliminate guns in schools with the exception of law enforcement officers?
  I support eliminating all guns in schools. Armed officers should only be present when needed during an emergency situation. Children and teens do not need to be kept in line under threat of firearms.
- 2. Extreme Risk Protection Order legislation has been proposed that would allow a judge to temporarily remove a person's firearm if presented with clear evidence from family or law enforcement that there is serious risk to the individual or others. Do you support or oppose this legislation? Please explain. I support this legislation. Red flag laws save lives and are especially crucial in situations involving domestic violence.

### **HEALTHCARE/REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS**

- 1. Should decisions regarding women's healthcare, including reproductive rights, be legislated by the state? Yes or no? Please explain your position.
  - Absolutely not. A woman's healthcare decisions should be between the woman and her doctor. Legislators have no business interfering.
- 2. What is your position on health care providers, hospital systems, insurance companies, and employers refusing care or coverage based on their religious or moral beliefs?

The focus of healthcare providers should be first and foremost on the needs of their patients. Insurance companies and employers have no business making healthcare decisions for their customers and employees. The idea that some aspects of healthcare are "immoral" and that whether or not healthcare is accessible changes depending on a person's employer or insurance company exacerbates the problems in what is already an inequitable healthcare system. The

burden of these inequities fall largely on poor women. *That* is immoral. Healthcare should be based on people, not profit.

### **EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT**

The Equal Rights Amendment has been approved by more than the 38 states needed to put it into the Constitution. Would you vote to remove the time limit on the Equal Rights Amendment to allow this to happen? Why or why not?

The fact that the ERA has never been adopted is a stain on this nation and illustrates how steeped we are in sexism and misogyny. I support the ERA and would support measures that would allow it to be ratified.

#### **ENVIRONMENT**

# 1. What are your top environmental priorities?

- Investing in clean energy -- Michigan can lead the way in this sector and create good union jobs in the process.
- Protecting our lakes and water supply -- Polluters must be held accountable and regulations must be strong enough to prevent pollution from happening in the first place.
- Climate change -- Global warming is real and is being felt more and more around the world with extreme weather, floods, hurricanes, etc. Here in Michigan, we're seeing record high lake levels. It's leading to property damage, beach erosion, and it's making boating dangerous. We must address these issues now. This cannot wait.

# 2. What is your plan for protecting the Great Lakes and Michigan's drinking water?

First and foremost, we need to have stronger regulations that keep pollutants out of Michigan's lakes and drinking water to begin with. Secondly, polluters must pay to clean up the messes they make. Companies that abuse the public trust and poison our residents and harm our environment must be held accountable.

By submitting this form as a candidate for state office, I certify that the answers given to this survey are either completed or reviewed by me before submission.

(Name and contact information for campaign staff person completing this form if not the candidate.)

Julia Pulver Date: 8-24-20