

QUESTIONNAIRE: U.S. REPRESENTATIVE, CD10

1) Please describe the qualifications, including education, and life experiences that make you the best candidate for the office of U.S. Representative for CD10.

Unlike most of Congress, I am high school educated.

I grew up poor in the Midwest and my college plans fell apart due to a car accident. After trying my hand at several low-wage, unstable jobs, I started team-driving with my wife. As a truck driver, I've gotten to visit all 48 contiguous states; I've met regular working people from every corner of America, and our struggles are pretty much the same. I know the needs of working-class Americans because I am one—and I think it is about time we got some representation in the House.

2. Please describe what you believe are the most significant issues in this race and why.

The most significant issue in every race right now is climate change. The Green New Deal is my number one priority because all of my other issues are contingent on averting climate catastrophe. While doing that, the Green New Deal will also provide thousands of good paying jobs and revitalize our infrastructure, helping other issues like poverty.

After that, I believe the issues of health care and housing are the most important. It is unbelievable that in the richest country in the history of the world there are still people living without shelter and dying from lack of insulin. We must do everything we can to eliminate homelessness and provide universal health care.

3. Do you plan to accept corporate PAC money for this campaign? Who is your single largest campaign donor?

I will never accept corporate PAC money, all of my contributions are from individual donors. In the interest of their privacy, I will not be naming individual donors.

4. Do you support reversing the results of the Citizens United decision?

Yes. Corporations are not people and our democracy must not be bought.

5. Would you support the creation of a small-donor public financing program for Congressional elections?

Yes.

6. What is your first priority for CD10 in the next session of congress?

Ending the development of new energy infrastructure that is harmful to our planet. NO LNG.

7. Would you vote for the Voting Rights Advancement Act, which would restore key portions of the Voting Rights Act and give the federal government tools to fight back against oppressive laws that target communities of color?

Yes. I would also pursue other related measures. Please consult the “Revitalizing Democracy” section and the “Ending Political Disenfranchisement” subsection of “Black Lives Matter” on my platform. (joshua2020.com/platform-full)

8. What is your position regarding the importance of reducing carbon dioxide emissions to combat climate change?

Like I said while answering question 2, averting a climate catastrophe is the most important issue we are facing today. This of course includes reducing carbon emissions from transportation, other infrastructure, and agriculture.

9. Do you support the *Green New Deal*?

See the answer to question 2. (In short, this is my number one priority)

10. Do you favor having the United States participate in the Paris Accord of 2015?

Yes. We should rejoin the Paris Accord and press for further international cooperation.

11. Do you believe that laws are needed to address gun violence?

Yes. I have an 11-point platform to radically change the way we address firearms in this country.

12. What is your position on managing documented immigration, undocumented immigration, and “Dreamers”?

We should grant amnesty to all undocumented people in America and provide a reasonable path to citizenship. To expedite the elimination of immigrant exploitation, we should also offer whistleblower visas to undocumented workers who report labor violations.

13. Should the United States rejoin the Iran Nuclear Deal? Why?

Absolutely. This deal prevented Iran from getting a nuclear weapon for a decade and

guaranteed no-warning, unlimited access inspections by international observers. All we had to do was give Iran *their own money back*, it was the best deal we could have asked for.

President Trump only ripped up the deal because it had President Obama's name on it and in doing so weakened international security. That cannot stand.

14. What is your position on international trade agreements?

They should be refocused from "free trade" to fair trade. All agreements should focus on protecting the environment and uplifting workers.

15. What is your position on regulating financial institutions to protect consumers?

Strongly in favor.

16. Should the VA health system be privatized?

Absolutely not. It is our responsibility to take care of our veterans and no corporation should be able to take and funds meant to go to their care as profit. The way to fix the VA is to undo Republican sabotage by providing additional funding.

17. What is your current position on health care for all?

I support a universal single-payer system under Medicare for All. Upon assuming office I will immediately cosponsor Rep. Jayapal's HR 1384, while working with her to further expand benefits.

18. Please fill in the blank: _____ lives matter. Why did you choose that word?

Black.

Because society does not treat black lives as if they do matter. There will be no progress in America until it does.

19. Do you believe women have a right to control their personal healthcare needs including contraception and abortion?

Yes. Contraception AND abortion should be provided without question *for free* under Medicare for All.

20. Do you support collective bargaining on behalf of all workers?

Yes. This is included on my platform as part of my proposed RUN Act (Revitalize Unions Now Act) this proposed act also includes subsidizing union dues, extending unemployment benefits to striking workers, and extending the right to strike to all public employees.

21. What legislation would you promote to create small businesses in order to create new jobs?

Rather than focusing on the creation of traditional small businesses, I want to provide incentives for the creation of worker cooperatives to increase the share of power for the working-class in the economy.

22. What is your position on the presence or absence of religion in government?

The separation of church and state must stand.

23. What is your position on the role of government in supporting public education?

Absolutely imperative. We must move away from funding public schools with local property taxes and move toward a system that promotes educational equality instead of depriving some children because they were born into the wrong ZIP code.

24. What caucuses do you plan to join if elected?

I will join the Progressive Caucus but recognize that it is not quite the same as when Bernie Sanders founded it. Even AOC has said that “they just let anyone in” (paraphrasing). I will also look to create a Rose Caucus for socialist representatives.

The candidate assumes full responsibility for all answers to this questionnaire. Your responses to this questionnaire should be considered public knowledge as we cannot assure confidentiality when making the questionnaire available to our membership.