



**2012 QUESTIONNAIRE FOR  
CANDIDATES FOR NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE**

Citizens Union would appreciate your response to the following questionnaire related to policy issues facing New York State and our interest in reforming state government. Responses to these questions will be one of several factors Citizens Union will use to evaluate candidates who are running for office in order to determine our "Preferred Candidates" for the September 13<sup>th</sup> Primary Election, and our "Endorsed Candidates" for the November 6<sup>th</sup> General Election.

If you seek our support, we would also need to schedule an interview with you as part of the evaluation process. We will not automatically schedule an interview with you if you return this questionnaire, as we prioritize competitive races and resources constrain us from evaluating all races. Please contact us if you wish to be interviewed.

We plan to make responses to this questionnaire public on our website, Voters Directory and other appropriate venues. We thank you very much for your response.

Candidate Name: John Mancuso Age: 31

Campaign Address: 53 Foch Avenue, SI NY 10305

Campaign Telephone Number: (646) 573-9418 Fax: ( )

Party Affiliation(s): D/WFP Campaign Manager Name: John Wahlmuer

Website & Email: www.mancusoforassembly.com / MANCUSOFORassembly@snw.com

Education: Degree in Restaurant Management & Culinary Arts

Occupation/Employer (or years in currently held elected office): Community Education Centers

Previous Offices, Campaigns and Community/Civic Involvement: Auxiliary Police Community Officer 122 pct and Hwy Patrol. FRM. Chief of Staff for Senator / CM Vincent Gentile.

Are you willing to be interviewed by CU's Local Candidates Committee? YES  NO   
(Please note: Citizens Union can grant its "Endorsed Candidate" rating only to candidates we have interviewed.)

Have you completed requisite campaign finance filings? YES  NO

Signature of Candidate: [Handwritten Signature] Date: 7/16/12

## I. CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

Please state your position on the following reform measures. Specify whether you support or oppose each. You may elaborate in the space provided at the end or on additional paper.

### ELECTION REFORM

1. What is your position on second passage of the constitutional amendment (S.6698/A.9526 of 2012) creating an independent redistricting commission with appointees split evenly between the majority and minority parties?	Support/Oppose
2. What is your position on restructuring the state Board of Elections and changing the administration of elections by amending the constitution to abolish the two-party system of governance and operation?	Support/Oppose
3. What is your position on making it easier for candidates to appear on the ballot by, for example, lowering signature requirements and utilizing less burdensome witness signature requirements?	Support/Oppose
4. What is your position on amending the Municipal Home Rule law to limit the ability of a mayor-appointed charter revision commission to "bump" other local charter amendments from appearing on the ballot?	Support/Oppose
5. What is your position on automatically granting New Yorkers on parole the ability to vote?	Support/Oppose
6. What is your position on amending the constitution to allow for Election Day Registration?	Support/Oppose
7. What is your position on amending the constitution to allow for no-excuse absentee voting?	Support/Oppose
8. What is your position on instituting early voting in New York State to allow voters to cast their votes at more convenient times?	Support/Oppose
9. What is your position on redesigning the ballot to ensure that voters are able to clearly read candidates' names, titles of offices, designations and ballot questions; that instructions are clear and accurate; that bilingual ballots are required; and that the ballot is able to split races between multiple pages?	Support/Oppose
10. What is your position on reforming the special election process, creating a nonpartisan special election for state legislative vacancies, as proposed by A.1369/S.26?	Support/Oppose
11. What is your position regarding automatic voter registration in which voter registration information of individuals who consent to be registered is provided electronically to the Board of Elections, and address information is automatically updated?	Support/Oppose

### CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

12. What is your position on establishing a matching public financing system for state legislative and statewide races similar to the New York City model?	Support/Oppose
13. What is your position on lowering campaign contribution limits for legislative and statewide candidates for public office?	Support/Oppose
14. What is your position on restricting campaign contributions from registered lobbyists, placement agents and those who do business with the state?	Support/Oppose
15. What is your position on limiting or banning campaign contributions from corporations, LLCs, and LLPs? (Note: such entities would be able to form separate political action committees due to constitutional issues regarding freedom of speech.)	Support/Oppose
16. What is your position on closing "soft money" loopholes such as limiting transfers from party committees to candidates or other committees to twice the limit set on individual contributors and limiting contributions to party committees, including housekeeping accounts, to the same ceiling placed on candidates?	Support/Oppose
17. What is your position on requiring candidates to include full name, home address, and employer/business name for each contribution and bundler?	Support/Oppose

**CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM (CONTINUED)**

18. What is your position on requiring that two periodic campaign finance reports be filed during the legislative session to reflect contributions given during the session?	Support/Oppose
19. What is your position on stricter requirements on the use of campaign contributions for non-campaign related activity, such as personal use?	Support/Oppose
20. What is your position on improving disclosure of independent expenditures such as requiring disclosure of electioneering activities and linking expenditures to candidates targeted?	Support/Oppose
21. What is your position on limiting the ability of candidates to accumulate "war chests" and then transferring funds raised in one race to another?	Support/Oppose
22. What is your position on creating an enforcement entity independent of the State Board of Elections to oversee campaign finance laws?	Support/Oppose

**JUDICIAL REFORM**

23. What is your position on a merit-based appointment system through creation of a commission for the selection of judges in all of New York's trial courts?	Support/Oppose
24. What is your position simplifying and modernizing the state's court system by consolidating the nine trial courts into a two-tiered system?	Support/Oppose

**ETHICS REFORM**

25. What is your position on empowering the Attorney General to investigate and prosecute cases involving public corruption, including serious election law malfeasance?	Support/Oppose
26. What is your position on amending the State Constitution to extend pension forfeiture, subject to due process safeguards, to all public officers and legislators who have been convicted of felonies, building on the 2011 ethics reforms which only apply to future state employees?	Support/Oppose

**BUDGET REFORM**

27. What is your position on requiring the governor's budget submission to present the full scope of the state's financial obligations, including its public authorities?	Support/Oppose
28. What is your position on establishing an independent, nonpartisan budget office to provide revenue projections, display economic and policy analysis and require that the state engage in long term, multi-year budget planning?	Support/Oppose
29. What is your position on the use of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) rather than cash accounting for the state budget?	Support/Oppose
30. What is your position on distributing member item allocations equally among all legislators and requiring for greater accountability as expressed in S. 7007/A10116?	Support/Oppose
31. What is your position on incorporating the use of performance budgeting and outcome measurement to promote the more rational appropriation of state funds?	Support/Oppose
32. What is your position on instituting a later start date for the state fiscal year?	Support/Oppose
33. What is your position on limiting the ability of the governor to enact policy changes governing the use of resources in appropriation bills by requiring that such bills be consistent with existing law or proposed changes in separate legislation?	Support/Oppose

**ADDITIONAL REFORM**

34. What is your position on increasing public access to information by reforming the Freedom of Information and Open Meetings Laws to enhance transparency, as well as the creation of tools such as open data portals to ease public access to information?	Support/Oppose
35. What is your position on enactment of legislative rules reform to strengthen rank-and-file members' roles in the legislative process and create more equity between members?	Support/Oppose

## II. CAMPAIGN PROMISES MADE TO VOTERS

As a candidate who presently does not hold elected office, CU is interested in knowing your top five campaign promises or goals you are making to the voters during this campaign for this position.

If elected, Citizens Union will use these promises or goals to evaluate your performance while in office, as well as to evaluate your candidacy in the future.

We thank you very much for your response. Please feel free to use additional paper if the space provided is not sufficient.

### TOP FIVE 2012 CAMPAIGN PROMISES OR GOALS

1. Job Creation - trying to bring back industry.
2. Improve Transportation and Encourage Green Travel
3. Devise ways to lower tolls for NYC residents
4. Allocate funds for NYC Public Schools
5. Help small business owners keep their business.

Please return to: Citizens Union, Local Candidates Committee  
299 Broadway, Suite 700 New York, NY 10007  
via fax to 212.227.0345 or via email to [policy@citizensunion.org](mailto:policy@citizensunion.org)  
Call us at 212-227-0342 with any questions.



**alphatrad** NORTH AMERICA  
OPTILINGUA GROUP

1325 Sixth Avenue  
9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10019

Citizens Union of NY  
299 Broadway Ste 700  
New York NY 10007

Dear Sarah Stuart,

Every day, your company may face one of the following needs:

- To translate technical, legal or commercial documents, operator's manuals, Employees handbooks
- To get an urgent translation
- To get a certified, notarized or sworn translation
- To adapt a website in another language (regardless of the format: php, xml or html)
- To translate marketing documents, labels, brochures...
- To have an interpreter to assist you with your negotiations

With over 35 years' experience, more than 3,500 professional certified native translators and interpreters who work in the country where the language is spoken in over 100 languages, and over 75 sales offices worldwide including USA, France, UK, Ireland, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Spain and Portugal, we can answer to all your translation and interpretation needs.

Our prices are very competitive because we use translators in the country where the language is spoken at local prices and apply the rates of these countries in the various markets where we operate.

We are proud to say that more than 35,000 worldwide customers use Alphatrad.

Quality Assurance: DIN EN 15038: We have an established quality system in order to ensure a high quality service, which will meet your deadlines and our services to your own specific requirements.

Which service is right for you? Call us: 1-877-900-5652 or E-mail us: [USA@alphatrad.com](mailto:USA@alphatrad.com)

*\*Give one of our 7 new North America offices a call to find out just how different we are. Mention this letter and get 30% off your first order. We look forward to working with you.*

Sincerely yours,

Vanina Joulin-Batejat,  
Director

To opt out from future faxes go to [www.removeyourfaxnumber.com](http://www.removeyourfaxnumber.com) enter PIN# 16432, or call 877-284-7885. The recipient may make a request to the sender not to send any future faxes and that failure to comply with the request within 30 days is unlawful.

TRANSLATION ▪ D.T.P. ▪ TRANSCRIPTION ▪ DUBBING

Serving all of North America  
From these convenient locations:

GEORGIA      FLORIDA  
NEW JERSEY    NEW YORK  
NORTH CAROLINA    QUEBEC



1-877-900-5652  
1-704-919-5157

[USA@alphatrad.com](mailto:USA@alphatrad.com)

[www.alphatrad.com](http://www.alphatrad.com)

US Corporate headquarters  
OPTILINGUA US Inc.  
201 Government Ave., SW  
Suite 103  
Hickory, NC 28602

Europe  
FRANCE  
GERMANY  
AUSTRIA  
SPAIN  
UNITED KINGDOM  
IRELAND  
LUXEMBOURG  
PORTUGAL  
SWITZERLAND

DIN EN