

# Candidate Questionnaire Local Candidates Committee NYS Legislative Elections 2018

Citizens Union appreciates your response to the following questionnaire related to policy issues facing New York State, and our interest in reforming state government. Please return the questionnaire to us as soon as possible, and no later than July 1st. Responses to these questions will be one of several factors Citizens Union uses to evaluate candidates running for the New York State Legislature, and to issue our preference for the Primary and endorsement for the General Election. Please feel free to affix any additional information such as a résumé, campaign brochure, or issue statements.

If you seek our support, we will also need to schedule an interview with you as part of the evaluation process. **Please** contact us if you wish to be interviewed.

We plan to make responses to this questionnaire public on our website, printed voters directory, and other appropriate venues.

We thank you very much for your response.

Candidate Name:	Glenn A. Yost	
Party Affiliation(s):	Republican	Age: 54
Education: Bache	elor of Science in Criminal Jus	stice from St. John's University. Graduate of New York Law School
Office Sought/District:	Member of the New	y York State Assembly 62 District
Occupation/Employer:	The Yost Law Firm	
Previous Offices, Camp	paigns and Community/Civic	Involvement: 1998 Republican / Conservative Candidate for New York State
Assembly 60th Distric	t, Member of the Richmond	County Bar Association, Member of the Trial Lawyers Association, Member
Congress of Italian Ame	rican Organization, Parishio	ner – Our Lady Star of the Sea

(Please feel free to affix any additional information such as a résumé, campaign brochure, or issue statements.)

#### **Campaign Contact Information**

Campaign Manager Name: Leticia Remauro	Additional Staff Contact: Lily Zafaranloo718612-0687		
Address: 236 Richmond Valley Road, - Rear SI NY 10309			
Telephone: Office (347) 354-1180 Cell (718) 354-6032	Fax: n/a		
Website: YostforAssembly.com	Email: Info@YostforAssembly.com		
Twitter: @Yost4Assembly	Facebook: @Yost4Assembly		
If elected, which legislative conference will you join Republican (e.g., Republican, Democrat, other)?			

# I. AFFIRMATIONS

Have you completed required campaign finance filings?	YES
Are you willing to be interviewed b/CU's Local Candidates Committee?	YES
(Please note: interviews are prerepuisites for Citizens Union endorsements.)	
Signature of Candidate:	Date: 8/13/18

# II. CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

Please state whether you support or oppose the following reform measures, and feel free to may elaborate in the space provided at the end or on additional paper.

# **2018 PRIORITY ISSUES:**

#### **ETHICS**

1. Limit outside compensation earned by state legislators and statewide officials to 25% of their salaries, while enacting a salary increase and eliminating stipends.	Oppose
2. Reform the Joint Commission on Public Ethics to eliminate the ability of one party to veto an investigation and to increase disclosure of its decision-making.	Support

## **ELECTIONS AND VOTING**

S. Do		
	ting system?  Early voting	a Support
a.	,	a. Support
b.	No-excuse absentee voting	b. Support
c.	Election Day voter registration	c. Support
d.	Re-enfranchisement of people on parole automatically through legislation, without requiring a Certificate of Good Conduct or Relief	d. Oppose
e.	Automatic voter registration, unless the potential voter opts out	e. Support
f.	Consolidated state and federal primaries	f. Support
g.	Electronic poll books	g. Support
. Refo	orm the special election process, utilizing a nonpartisan special election for state	
leg	gislative seats and eliminate delays in filling vacancies.	Support

# **CAMPAIGN FINANCE**

<ol> <li>Establish public financing of campaigns for state legislative and statewide offices using a method similar to New York City's Campaign Finance Law.</li> </ol>	Support
6. Close the LLC loophole to ensure that limited liability companies have the same contribution limits as corporations, rather than the higher limit for individuals.	Support

7. Drastically reduce campaign contribution limits and reduce them even further from registered lobbyists and those who do business with the state.	Oppose
BUDGET PROCESS	
8. Require full disclosure of grants and contracts issued by the state, including the budget lines from which the spending is made and reporting on the results of each grant or contract over a certain amount.	Support
9. Provide for adequate online disclosure and itemization of spending from elected officials' lump sum appropriations, including reporting on potential conflicts of interest and how the funds are spent.	Support
POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY	
10. Repeal Civil Rights Law, Sec. 50-a, which shields from public view the disciplinary records of police officers, correction officers, and firefighters.	Oppose
ELECTION ADMINISTRATION	
11. Restructure the state Board of Elections to abolish the strict two-party division of governance and operation and putting in place professional, nonpartisan administration. Restructure the state Board of Elections to abolish the strict two-party division of governance and operation and putting in place professional, nonpartisan administration.	Support
12. Empower the attorney general to investigate and prosecute election law malfeasance and cases of public corruption.	Support
HOME RULE	
13. Make mayoral control of city schools permanent, with a governance system that provides for accountability, transparency, parent engagement, and democratic participation.	Oppose
Please use the space provided or a separate sheet of paper to elaborate on your positions on the isprevious pages. You may also provide additional information on any actions that you have taken or advance your positions on these issues.	


#### III. CAMPAIGN PROMISES MADE TO VOTERS

In addition to evaluating stances on the issues above, Citizens Union also considers the campaign goals articulated to voters.

What are the top five promises you are making to the voters during this campaign?

Please feel free to use additional paper if the space provided is not sufficient, and to affix additional information such as a résumé, campaign brochure, or issue statements. We thank you very much for your response.

#### **TOP FIVE 2018 CAMPAIGN PROMISES OR GOALS**

- 1. Drug Addiction Drug addiction has become an overwhelming issue for the people of Staten Island. Having served deep undercover for the NYPD, I was involved in well over 500 buy and bust operations. I know firsthand what drugs do to a community and I will use my experiences to help end the epidemic with common sense solutions such as allowing Medicaid to pay for 60 day stay at sober living residence after detox and including drug awareness programs in our schools.
- 2. Transportation and Roads Because Staten Island is underserved by public transportation, traffic is a high priority. In the Assembly I will fight to: allow right on red lights at most intersections in Staten Island; identify funding to install smart light technology at busy intersection; identify state funds to widen Arthur Kill Road to reduce traffic along that busy corridor; fight to open roads through Fresh Kills; include trucks and vehicles registered to Staten Island businesses in the toll resident discount program.
- 3. Property Tax I support Senator Lanza's bill to remove the 9/11 emergency property tax levy provided to New York City for recovery after the attack and would author a companion bill in the Assembly. I would also fight to amend the Real Property Tax Law Section 1805 to include the sale of property as trigger to reset the tax cap.
- 4. Education and School Safety I would fight to include more funds in the budget for early education for special needs children; require that an on duty police officer be stationed at every school; provide mandatory crisis training for school safety officers.
- 5. Seniors and Veterans As the south shore population ages it is imperative that we identify funds to provide wellness services and senior and veteran residences so that retirees/veterans are not forced to leave Staten Island in order to make ends meet;

## IV. ETHICAL REPRESENTATION OF CONSTITUENTS

Citizens Union believes that all New Yorkers deserve to be represented by officials who work for the public interest and honor the public trust. With the corruption conviction of recent legislative leaders, we seek to endorse a candidate who will demonstrate that she/he will honor the full commitment of the oath of office, and always represent the public interest above all else.

Please tell us how you have and would continue to conduct the political affairs of this office in an upright manner, and maintain the public trust.

As a member of the Assembly it will be my duty to represent the needs of my constituents in Albany. As an insurgent candidate for the nomination of my party, I have demonstrated that I am an independent thinker and will not be beholden to party bosses in pursuit of doing what is right for my community. As a member of the minority party in the State Assembly it will be my focus to ensure that my district needs are heard and met. I will accomplish that goal through the introduction of common sense bills and by speaking out against injustice.

Being raised by my mother and grandmother, I learned at an early age that my honor was more important than wealth. I worked

hard to achieve my goals and was proud to enter the NYPD at age 20 where I served my community as an undercover narcotic
officer, then a youth officer and finally working my way up to Assistant to the Chief. I retired with 20 years of service as a high
decorated, Detective First Grade – one of the youngest in the history of the NYPD to achieve that rank. I went on to become a
Professor at St. John's University than a teacher at St. Joseph by the Sea. I am currently a practicing attorney specializing in
Family Law. The one constant that ensured my success throughout the years is the foundation provided to me by my mother
and grandmother – to live honorably; to serve my community and to be good to my word no matter the circumstance. I am
saddened by the culture of corruption that has permeated Albany. I promise to be a servant for the people and to stand up for
their rights even when it means that I must stand against my leadership.

Please return to: Citizens Union, Local Candidates Committee, 299 Broadway, Suite 700 New York, NY 10007 Via email to <a href="mailto:candidates@citizensunion.org">candidates@citizensunion.org</a> or fax to 212.227.0345 • Call us at 212-227-0342 with questions