



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 1<sup>st</sup>. 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.

**Biographical Information**

Candidate Name: Liz Krueger  
Party Affiliation(s): D, WFP Age: 60  
Education: MA Public Policy, University of Chicago - B.A. Social Policy/Human Development, Northwestern  
Office Sought/District: State Senate District 28  
Occupation/Employer: State Senator

Previous Offices, Campaigns and Community/Civic Involvement: see attached bio

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

**Campaign Contact Information**

Campaign Manager Name: Brad Usher Additional Staff Contact:  
Address:  
Telephone: 347-693-4640 Fax:  
Website: www.lizkrueger.com Email: liz@lizkrueger.com  
Twitter: @lizkrueger Facebook: /senator.liz.krueger  
If elected, which legislative conference will you join (e.g., Republican, Democrat, other)? Democrat

## I. AFFIRMATIONS

Have you completed required campaign finance filings?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES / <input type="radio"/> NO
Are you willing to be interviewed by CU's Local Candidates Committee?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES / <input type="radio"/> NO
<i>(Please note: interviews are prerequisites for Citizens Union endorsements.)</i>	
Signature of Candidate:	Date:

## 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.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support / <input type="radio"/> 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.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support / <input type="radio"/> Oppose

#### ELECTIONS AND VOTING

3. Do you support or oppose the following changes to the state's current registration and voting system?	
a. Early voting	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support / <input type="radio"/> Oppose
b. No-excuse absentee voting	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support / <input type="radio"/> Oppose
c. Election Day voter registration	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support / <input type="radio"/> Oppose
d. Re-enfranchisement of people on parole automatically <u>through legislation</u> , without requiring a Certificate of Good Conduct or Relief	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support / <input type="radio"/> Oppose
e. Automatic voter registration, unless the potential voter opts out	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support / <input type="radio"/> Oppose
f. Consolidated state and federal primaries	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support / <input type="radio"/> Oppose
g. Electronic poll books	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support / <input type="radio"/> Oppose
4. Reform the special election process, utilizing a nonpartisan special election for state legislative seats and eliminate delays in filling vacancies.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support / <input type="radio"/> Oppose

#### CAMPAIGN FINANCE

5. Establish public financing of campaigns for state legislative and statewide offices using a method similar to New York City's Campaign Finance Law.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support / <input type="radio"/> Oppose
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.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Support / <input type="radio"/> Oppose

7. Drastically reduce campaign contribution limits and reduce them even further from registered lobbyists and those who do business with the state.

Support  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  Oppose

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  Oppose

**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.

Support  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  Oppose

12. Empower the attorney general to investigate and prosecute election law malfeasance and cases of public corruption.

Support  Oppose

**HOME RULE**

13. Make mayoral control of city schools permanent, with a governance system that provides for accountability, transparency, parent engagement, and democratic participation.

Support  Oppose

Please use the space provided or a separate sheet of paper to elaborate on your positions on the issues contained in the previous pages. You may also provide additional information on any actions that you have taken or plan to take to advance your positions on these issues.

*See attached*

### III. CAMPAIGN PROMISES MADE TO VOTERS (PAST AND CURRENT)

In addition to evaluating stances on the issues above, Citizens Union also assesses incumbents on how well they kept the promises made to voters during the previous election.

As an elected official who is seeking re-election,

- what were the top five promises you made to your constituents when you ran for your current seat and what progress has been made in keeping those promises?
- 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 CAMPAIGN PROMISES FROM LAST ELECTION AND ACTION ON THEM

1. see attached  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

TOP FIVE 2018 CAMPAIGN PROMISES OR GOALS

1. *see attached*

2.

3.

4.

5.

#### 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.

*see attached*

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

## **Biography – Previous Offices, Campaigns and Community/Civic Involvement**

First elected to the New York State Senate in a Special Election in February 2002, Liz Krueger is currently the Ranking Democratic Member of Senate Finance Committee. She is also a member of five other committees: Codes, Elections, Higher Education, Housing, Construction and Community Development, Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities and Rules.

Senator Liz Krueger has dedicated her career to issues relating to poverty, and she is a nationally recognized expert on the problems of hunger and homelessness, and the lack of affordable housing, healthcare, and job training.

Senator Krueger served as Chair of the New York City Food Stamp Task Force; Co-Facilitator of the New York City Welfare Reform Network; on the board of the City-Wide Task Force on Housing Court; and as a board member of the NYC Federal Emergency Management Agency Emergency Food and Shelter Program administered by the United Way of Greater New York. Liz Krueger has been active in the development of the NYC Coalition for Real Jobs and the NYC Medicaid Managed Care Task Force. She served as Chair of the New York Human Resources Administration Income Support Advisory Council; Co-Chair of the Manhattan Borough President's Task Force on Education, Employment and Welfare; and Board Chair of the New York City Coalition Against Hunger.

For 15 years, Senator Krueger was the Associate Director of the Community Food Resource Center (CFRC) where she was responsible for directing its efforts to expand access to government programs for low-income New Yorkers. She helped monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of Federal and State programs in New York City, identifying barriers to participation, and fighting for improvements in the effectiveness of these programs.

Prior to joining CFRC, Liz Krueger was the founding Director of the New York City Food Bank, building that organization into one that now serves over 1,100 emergency food programs, senior centers, day-care centers, and other community-based programs serving an estimated 5.4 million meals each year.

A graduate of Northwestern University, with a Bachelors degree in Social Policy and Human Development, Senator Krueger also holds a Masters degree from the University of Chicago's Harris Graduate School of Public Policy. Senator Krueger lives on the East Side of Manhattan with her husband, Dr. John E. Seley, a professor of Urban Planning and Geography at The CUNY Graduate Center and Princeton's Woodrow Wilson School of Public Affairs.

### **Additional Comments on Candidate Questions**

- 1) I cosponsor S.25 (Hoylman), which would limit outside income to 15% of a legislators salary.
- 2) I am the lead sponsor of a constitutional amendment (S.8309) which would replace JCOPE with an independent enforcement agency, eliminating veto power and improving transparency among many other reforms.
- 3) I support all these reforms and cosponsor many bills related to these issues including: S.7400-a, which would establish early voting; S.840 which would allow no-excuse absentee voting; S3409 which would allow for automatic voter registration and same day registration; S3562 which would consolidate federal and state primaries; and S960 which would allow for re-enfranchisement of felons after they are released from prison, including those on parole.
- 4) I cosponsor S7026 Brooks
- 5) I cosponsor S.7593 (Stewart Cousins) which would establish a public financing system at the state level similar to the New York City Model
- 6) I cosponsor S7149 (Kavanagh) to eliminate the LLC loophole
- 7) I am the lead sponsor of legislation (S5473) that would severely limit contributions by lobbyists.

### **Top Five Campaign Promises From Last Election and Action on Them**

- 1) Fight for reform of the State budget process. I have introduced and pushed for passage of reform legislation and to publicly speak about the failure to pass meaningful budget reform.
- 2) Fight for electoral process reform – as mentioned above I cosponsor a series of bills to address this issue.
- 3) Fight for expanded access to affordable housing - worked with advocates and city officials to push a comprehensive affordable housing agenda that prioritized protecting existing housing and building new housing that is truly affordable, and does not involve unnecessary tax giveaways to developers.
- 4) Fight to protect the safety net and address economic security of low income and unemployed New Yorkers. Spoke and advocated for a budget that addresses the needs of the most vulnerable New Yorkers and that raises necessary revenue to support such programs.
- 5) Fight for environmental protection and clean energy. I have sponsored many pro-environmental bills and introduced legislation to require divestment of state pension funds from fossil fuels. Introduced legislation to address plastic bag waste by banning plastic bags and imposing a fee on paper (s.7760)



### **Top Five Campaign Promises or Goals**

- 1) Fight against federal policies that harm or threaten vulnerable populations or deny basic human rights.
- 2) Fight to Expand Access to Affordable Housing
- 3) Fight for Electoral Process reform
- 4) Fight to protect the safety net and ensure economic security of low income and unemployed New Yorkers
- 5) Fight for environmental protection and clean energy

### **Ethical Representation of Constituents**

I have always been an outspoken supporter and sponsor of ethics reform legislation, and have also used my communications with constituents to highlight ethical and corruption issues. I have always been serious about vetting donors, and do not take contributions from llcs or residential real estate interests. I consider being a Senator a full-time job. I don't see how anyone could do this job and another one, and therefore do not have outside income.