

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.

Age: 31

We thank you very much for your response.

Biographical Information

Candidate Name: Zellnor Myrie

Party Affiliation(s): Democratic

Education: B.A. and M.A., Fordham University; J.D., Cornell Law School

Office Sought/District: New York State Senate, District 20

Occupation/Employer: Attorney at Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP

Previous Offices, Campaigns and Community/Civic Involvement:

Member of my Neighborhood Advisory Board, member of the Legal Aid Society junior board,

president of my building's tenants' association

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

| Campaign Contact Information | |
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| Campaign Manager Name: Sam Molik | Additional Staff Contact: André Richardson |
| Address: 140 Empire Boulevard, Brooklyn, NY 11225 | |
| Telephone: (347) 326-1113 | Fax: N/A |
| Website: zellnorforstatesenate.com | Email: info@zellnorforstatesenate.com |
| Twitter: @Zellnor4NY | Facebook: @ZellnorMyrie |
| If elected, which legislative conference will you join Democrat | |

(e.g., Republican, Democrat, other)?

I. AFFIRMATIONS

| Have you completed required campaign finance filings? | <u>YES</u> / NO |
|---|-----------------|
| Are you willing to be interviewed by CU's Local Candidates Committee? | <u>YES</u> / NO |
| (Please note: interviews are prerequisites for Citizens Union endorsements.) Signature of Candidate: | Date: 7/1/18 |
| 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. | <u>Support</u> / 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. | <u>Support</u> / 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 | a. <u>Support/</u> Oppose |
| | b. No-excuse absentee voting | b. <u>Support/</u> Oppose |
| | c. Election Day voter registration | c. <u>Support/</u> Oppose |
| | d. Re-enfranchisement of people on parole automatically through legislation, without | d. <u>Support/</u> Oppose |
| | requiring a Certificate of Good Conduct or Relief | |
| | e. Automatic voter registration, unless the potential voter opts out | e. <u>Support/</u> Oppose |
| | f. Consolidated state and federal primaries | f. <u>Support/</u> Oppose |
| | g. Electronic poll books | g. <u>Support/</u> Oppose |
| 4. | Reform the special election process, utilizing a nonpartisan special election for state | |
| | legislative seats and eliminate delays in filling vacancies. | <u>Support</u> / 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. | <u>Support</u> / 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. | Support / Oppose |

| 7. | Drastically reduce campaign contribution limits and reduce them even further from | |
|----|---|-------------------------|
| | registered lobbyists and those who do business with the state. | <u>Support</u> / 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. | <u>Support</u> / 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 | |
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| police officers, correction officers, and firefighters. | <u>Support</u> / 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 | Support / Oppose |
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| 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.

Please see attached

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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. | Please see attached |
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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.

Please see attached

