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Candidate Questionnaire
Local Candidates Committee
2016
Special Election AD 65

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 April 8th**. Responses to these questions will be one of several factors Citizens Union uses to evaluate candidates running for Assembly in the special election in District 65, and to issue our endorsement. 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: Alice Cancel	
Party Affiliation(s): Democrat	Age:
Education: High School	
Occupation/Employer: N/A	
Previous Offices, Campaigns and Community/Civic Involvement:	
<i>(Please feel free to affix any additional information such as a résumé, campaign brochure, or issue statements.)</i>	
Campaign Contact Information	
Campaign Manager Name: Monica Guardiola	Additional Staff Contact: John Quinn
Address: 44 Monroe Street NY, NY 10002	
Telephone: 917.806.6935	Fax:
Website: Wwww.alicecancel,nyc	Email: mguardiola57@yahoo.com om
Twitter:	Facebook:

Affirmations	
Have you completed required campaign finance filings?	YES / NO
Are you willing to be interviewed by CU's Local Candidates Committee?	YES / NO
<i>(Please note: interviews are prerequisites for Citizens Union endorsements.)</i>	
Signature of Candidate: Alice Cancel	Date: 4/6/16

I. 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.

ETHICS

1. Limit outside income earned by state legislators up to 25 percent, while enacting a salary increase and eliminating stipends.	Support / Oppose
1. Reform the Joint Commission on Public Ethics, giving it greater jurisdiction over investigations and hearings, reforming its voting procedures, and increasing disclosure of its decision-making.	Support / Oppose
1. Empower the attorney general to investigate and prosecute cases involving public corruption, including serious election law malfeasance.	Support / Oppose
1. Amend the state constitution to extend pension forfeiture, subject to due process safeguards, to public officers and elected officials who have been convicted of felonies.	Support / Oppose

ELECTIONS AND VOTING

1. Amend the constitution to allow for ("same day") voter registration on Election Day.	Support / Oppose
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<p>1. Institute automatic, electronic voter registration, in which individuals' voter information is provided electronically to the Board of Elections unless they opt out, and address information is updated automatically.</p>	<p>Support / Oppose</p>
<p>1. Remove barriers to voter participation by allowing for no-excuse absentee voting and for voters to cast their votes at more convenient times over a period of several days, otherwise known as early voting</p>	<p>Support / Oppose</p>
<p>1. Grant New Yorkers on parole the ability to vote automatically, without the need to obtain a Certificate of Good Conduct or Relief.</p>	<p>Support / Oppose</p>
<p>1. Consolidate the state and federal primary to the third week in June, while ensuring that the legislative session ends at least two weeks prior.</p>	<p>Support / Oppose</p>
<p>1. Institute Instant Runoff Voting (IRV) for primary elections in citywide election in New York City, effectively eliminating the need for a separate runoff election.</p>	<p>Support / Oppose</p>
<p>1. Reform the special election process, utilizing a nonpartisan special election for state legislative seats, eliminating delays for filling vacancies, and increasing voter choice.</p>	<p>Support ? / Oppose</p>
<p>1. Allow primary winners to decline party nominations, ending use of judicial appointments to lure candidates off the ballot.</p>	<p>Support / Oppose</p>
<p>1. Restructure the state Board of Elections and change election administration by amending the constitution to abolish the strict two-party division of governance and operation and putting in place professional, nonpartisan administration.</p>	<p>Support / Oppose</p>

CAMPAIGN FINANCE

1. Establish matching public financing system for state legislative and statewide races similar to the New York City model, and lower campaign contribution limits for legislative and statewide candidates for public office.	Support / Oppose
1. Close the LLC loophole to ensure that limited liability corporations have the same contribution limits as other corporations, rather than the higher limit for individuals.	Support / Oppose
1. Close “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
1. Restrict campaign contributions from registered lobbyists, placement agents, and those who do business with the state.	Support / Oppose
1. Improve disclosure of independent expenditures such as requiring disclosure of electioneering activities.	Support / Oppose
1. Require candidates to include the full name, home address, and employer/ business name for each contribution and bundler.	Support / Oppose
1. Require that two periodic campaign finance reports be filed during the legislative session to reflect contributions given during the session.	Support / Oppose

LEGISLATIVE RULES AND PROCEDURES

<p>1. Reorganize the committee system to encourage greater and use conference committees, particularly during the budget process, and improve public disclosure of committee proceedings via webcasting all legislative proceedings for both houses of the legislature, including committee meetings, hearings and session proceedings.</p>	<p>Support / Oppose</p>
<p>1. Enact legislative rules reform to strengthen rank-and-file members' roles in the legislative process, create more equity between members, and establish equitable distribution of funds to legislators for staffing and resources regardless of party affiliation, and increase Increase opportunities for public testimony at legislative committee proceedings.</p>	<p>Support / Oppose</p>

BUDGET PROCESS

<p>1. Require state use of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles rather than cash accounting.</p>	<p>Support / Oppose</p>
<p>1. Provide for adequate disclosure and itemization of elected officials' lump sum appropriations and member items to eliminate vague placeholders in budget legislation, report on their usage, address conflicts of interest, and report all spending online.</p>	<p>Support / Oppose</p>
<p>1. Establish 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.</p>	<p>Support / Oppose</p>
<p>1. 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.</p>	<p>Support / Oppose</p>

BUDGET PROCESS (CONTINUED)	
1. Limit governor’s ability to change policy via appropriation bills, by requiring that such bills be consistent with existing law or proposed changes in separate legislation.	Support / Oppose
1. Establish a later start date for the fiscal year. There should be Budget Reform!	Support / Oppose
1. Incorporate performance budgeting with outcome measurement, to promote the more rational appropriation of state funds	Support / Oppose

JUDICIARY

1. Ensure that proposals to increase the retirement age of judges include all of the state’s trial court judges.	Support / Oppose
1. Simplify the state’s court system by consolidating the nine trial courts into a two-tiered system.	Support / Oppose
1. Create a merit appointment system for all state judges.	Support / Oppose

MUNICIPAL HOME RULE

1. Make mayoral control of city schools permanent, with a governance system that provides for accountability, transparency, parent engagement, and democratic participation.	Support / Oppose ?
1. Amend 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

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

<p>1. Eliminate “double dipping” by requiring state legislators to vacate their seats if elected as delegates and limit accruing of pensions for all government officials.</p>	<p>Support / Oppose</p>
<p>1. Simplify voting for delegates by allowing voters to cast one vote for district delegates and eliminating slate voting for at-large delegates.</p>	<p>Support / Oppose</p>
<p>1. Reduce barriers for delegate candidates by lowering petition signature requirements and provide public financing.</p>	<p>Support / Oppose</p>

ADDITIONAL STATE GOVERNMENT ISSUES

<p>1. Reform the governance structure of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to have the Executive Director appointed directly by the Board of Commissioners, rotate the position of Chair of the Board between representatives of NY and NJ, place tighter rules on the Board, and extend the open meetings law to the Port Authority.</p>	<p>Support / Oppose</p>
<p>1. Ensure continued posting of data on NYS open data portal, and improve transparency of lobbying, campaign finance, and budget.</p>	<p>Support / Oppose</p>
<p>1. Expand the Governor’s Executive Order on faster appeals for Freedom of Information Law requests for all government bodies.</p>	<p>Support / Oppose</p>

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.

Elections and Voting

11) The NY Democratic County Committee bylaws were modified to exempt candidates from an expensive primary process. It is basically a caucus where unlike other Boroughs proxies are not allowed. County committee members represent the democratic voters in their election district. The waited vote is based upon the number on votes on the democratic line for Governor, normally a high turn out election. A large majority of voters in our district have strong democratic leanings. A primary usually makes voters aware of who is the democratic candidate. In order to expedite and save money in a special election a caucus system is used. The two major parties as we know have great policy differences, I believe voters are entitled to know the difference. I was selected by the 186 elected members of the 65 AD county committee I don't believe that non partisan elections allow the voters to decide who would best represent our district. The council election in the Bronx was dictated by party bosses and Albany power brokers. The out come was predetermined. Manhattan is the home of the Reform and Independent Democratic organizations and is Boss free. Maybe all party affiliations and support should be eliminated from all elections with publicly financed election taking big money out of the process.

33) Permanent Mayoral control of our schools has a number of problems. It is dependent on who is the Mayor and weakens parent and community influence in there children s education. School districts outside NYC elect school board members. Their focus is education and not running a city. Greater community involvement is the answer to improving the education system. Rudy Giuliani bullied chancellors and forced through his own policies. In my community when a 10 year old child had his nose broken by a teacher at PS126 nothing was done. I helped focus our community outrage to bring this out of control school to task. By supporting community activist for the school board we turned a failing school into a great success in one year. Good educators know how to make a successful school. IT TAKES MONEY and devoted teachers. No mayor could know our schools like our community does. Temporary control until we find a better way.

the space provided is not sufficient, and to affix additional information such as a résumé, campaign brochure, or issue statements.

TOP FIVE 2014 CAMPAIGN PROMISES OR GOALS

1) I am absolutely committed to State reform. An open and transparent Constitutional Convention is necessary to achieve this goal. Albany power brokers will not give up their influence with out a fight. I hope to take a public stand on this issue.

2) Strengthen housing laws, repeal Urstadt law. Return home rule.

3) Guarantee State commitment to fund its share of Public Housing.

4) Increase funding to education. Our community is facing a crisis of middle schools.

5) MTA funding possibly through congestion pricing. The devil is in the details.

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Please return to: Citizens Union, Local Candidates Committee, 299 Broadway, Suite 700
New York, NY 10007

Via email to candidates@citizensunion.org or fax to 212.227.0345 • Call us at
212-227-0342 with questions