



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.

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**Biographical Information**

Candidate Name: Adam Baumel

Party Affiliation(s): Democrat Age: 30

Education: BA in Political Science from John Jay College

Office Sought/District: New York State Assembly District 64

Occupation/Employer: For hire vehicle driver, self employed

Previous Offices, Campaigns and Community/Civic Involvement: N/A, Field Direct, Stacey Pheffer Amato Assembly campaign, Legislative Intern, Michael Benedetto, and member of the local American Legion Post #157 and transportation rights advocate.  
*(Please feel free to affix any additional information such as a résumé, campaign brochure, or issue statements.)*

**Campaign Contact Information**

Campaign Manager Name: Self Additional Staff Contact: N/A

Address: 7215 5th Ave. Apt 3F Brooklyn, NY 11209

Telephone: 718-971-9920 Fax:

Website: Baumelfor64.com Email: baumelfor64@gmail.com

Twitter: @Baumelfor64 Facebook: @Baumelfor64

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: 7/1/2018

## 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.	Support / <input checked="" 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
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**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
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**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
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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.

1. I oppose this, because I am in favor of limiting this to 15%.

2. I do not condone indecent behavior, regardless of party.

3. I support all these issues and highlight the majority of them as high priorities in my campaign.

4. I support this measure primarily as a means of increasing efficiency.

5. I support this measure as it would give candidates a better opportunity to run on their message instead of constantly asking for campaign dollars.

6. I support this because the LLC loophole is just one more means of incentivizing corruption in our government.

7. I support this measure as it would decrease the conflict of interest that currently exists from these types of contributions.

8. This change would increase transparency so it easy for me to support it.

9. This would make it far easier to track the money involved in political campaigns so I would highly support it.

10. I am a strong supporter of the brave men and women in uniform, however their past transgressions should not be treated differently than the rest of society.

11. I do not support this measure, however I do support making judgeship candidacies into nonpartisan elections.

12. I support this measure as it would mark a drastic step in favor of weeding out the corruption in Albany and further increasing public confidence.

13. I support this measure as I believe the mayor's office is more than capable in running in the city's schools effectively and efficiently.

### 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. My first and highest priority promise I am making to voters is to work aggressively to reform both elections and the general protocol of the state government in a way that both keeps voters informed and makes government work more seamlessly all together.

2. I promise to hold two townhalls every year in office.

3. Another important goal is passing the New York Health Act ensuring that healthcare is treated as a right, not a privilege for all New Yorkers.

4. I promise to work tirelessly on getting money and the corrupting influence it carries out of politics.

5. I promise to treat all constituents with the dignity and respect they deserve, regardless of political ideology and party. When elected to public office you swear an oath to serve all constituents, not just the ones who voted for you. I hold this to be of the utmost importance.

#### 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.

~~It is an absolute shame for the state of New York that our residents have repeatedly had to deal with elected officials failing to do their job and being forcefully removed from office. I intend to operate my office with the values of maximum transparency and accountability. Anyone who has met me or knew me before deciding to run would say that I am too honest for my own good. All joking aside this is the kind personality our legislators should be proud to act with. This is even more the case with the increasing use of social media. With this benefit I intend to keep constituents in the loop regarding my daily activities and legislative intentions while in office. Our constituents deserve nothing less.~~

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