



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.

Biographical Information

Candidate Name: Yuh-Line Niou

Party Affiliation(s): Democrat Age: 34

Education: Masters from Baruch College, Bachelor's from Evergreen State College

Office Sought/District: 65th Assembly District

Occupation/Employer: I am currently an Assemblymember in Assembly District 65.

Previous Offices, Campaigns and Community/Civic Involvement: Before being elected to the Assembly, I served as the Chief of Staff to Assemblyman Ron Kim.

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

Campaign Contact Information

Campaign Manager Name: N/A Additional Staff Contact: Laurence Hong

Address: 64 Palmetto St, Apt 2L, Brooklyn, NY 11221

Telephone: 862-812-4931 Fax: N/A

Website: NiouforNewYork.com Email: YLForNY@gmail.com

Twitter: @YuhLine Facebook: Yuh-Line Niou

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="checkbox"/> YES / <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Are you willing to be interviewed by CU's Local Candidates Committee?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES / <input type="checkbox"/> NO
<i>(Please note: interviews are prerequisites for Citizens Union endorsements.)</i>	
Signature of Candidate: 	Date: 7/2/18

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.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support / <input type="checkbox"/> 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="checkbox"/> Support / <input type="checkbox"/> 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. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support / <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose
b. No-excuse absentee voting	b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support / <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose
c. Election Day voter registration	c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support / <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose
d. Re-enfranchisement of people on parole automatically <u>through legislation</u> , without requiring a Certificate of Good Conduct or Relief	d. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support / <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose
e. Automatic voter registration, unless the potential voter opts out	e. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support / <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose
f. Consolidated state and federal primaries	f. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support / <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose
g. Electronic poll books	g. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support / <input type="checkbox"/> 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="checkbox"/> Support / <input type="checkbox"/> 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="checkbox"/> Support / <input type="checkbox"/> 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="checkbox"/> Support / <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose

7. Drastically reduce campaign contribution limits and reduce them even further from registered lobbyists and those who do business with the state.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support / <input type="checkbox"/> 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.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support / <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose
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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.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support / <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose
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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.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support / <input type="checkbox"/> 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.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support / <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose
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12. Empower the attorney general to investigate and prosecute election law malfeasance and cases of public corruption.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support / <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose
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HOME RULE

13. Make mayoral control of city schools permanent, with a governance system that provides for accountability, transparency, parent engagement, and democratic participation.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support / <input type="checkbox"/> 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.

At a time when public disenchantment with electoral politics is so wide-spread, we need to work now more than ever to re-engage citizens in the democratic process. I will work to combat low voter turnout through supporting changes to the state's current registration and voting system such as early voting, no-excuse absentee voting and Election Day and automatic voter registration. These changes can effectively and rapidly impact our state by increasing voter turnout

in dramatic ways.

Allowing citizens to have a greater voice also contributes to fighting corruption within politics, as does empowering the attorney general to investigate and prosecute election law malfeasance and cases of public corruption. The people of my district know firsthand the impact of corruption, and I am a staunch advocate for decreasing the influence of money and special interests within politics.

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. Across the state, and especially in New York City, our schools and students are getting shortchanged. We need to fully fund our schools to alleviate overcrowding, invest in technology and teacher training, and lower the ratio of teachers to students. We owe more to our students than what we've given them, and I'm committed to continuing to fight to give every student the education they deserve.

2. We have a housing crisis in New York City. From the lack of affordable housing to the scandals coming out of NYCHA every day, we have to fight to guarantee safe, affordable housing for every New Yorker.

3. I'm committed to fighting for equal access to financial services for everyone. Additionally, we need to guarantee that vulnerable communities, communities of color, and working-class New Yorkers are protected from predatory financial products.

4. Economic inequality plagues New York, and I'll fight to protect the shrinking middle-class by supporting my brothers and sisters in labor, especially in light of the Janus decision. Unions are critical to protecting workers, and I'm committed to protecting the right of every worker to organize and collectively bargain.

5. The 65th Assembly District knows what corruption does to a community, and we need to clean up Albany and protect taxpayers. I'll continue to lead the fight for comprehensive and strong campaign finance reform. We need to take the money out of politics and put people first.

