



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: **Brad Hoylman**

Party Affiliation(s): **Democrat, Working Families Party** Age: **53**

Education: **JD, Harvard Law School; M.Phil., Oxford University; B.A., West Va University**

Office Sought/District: **State Senate/27th District**

Occupation/Employer:

NY State Senate

Previous Offices, Campaigns and Community/Civic Involvement:

State Senator (2012-present);

Democratic District Leader (former); Chair, Manhattan CB 2 (former)

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

Campaign Contact Information

Campaign Manager Name: **David Kruger** Additional Staff Contact:

Address: **80 8th Ave, Ste. 1800, NYC 10011**

Telephone: **646-576-1868** Fax:

Website: **bradhoylman.com** Email: **bradhoylman@gmail.com**

Twitter: **@bradhoylman** Facebook: **bradhoylman**

If elected, which legislative conference will you join (e.g., Republican, Democrat, other)? **Democrat**

I. AFFIRMATIONS

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

My positions indicated above are in general without reference to specific legislation, thus my position could change based on particulars. In addition, in Albany, sometimes bills are passed as part of larger packages of bills, such as part of the budget or as “big uglies” at the end of session, which could also mean a negative vote against a bill.

Caveats aside, I am proud to have sponsored or co-sponsored much of the legislation referenced in this questionnaire, and have had the chance to champion some of it as the Chair of the Senate Democratic Policy Group. For example, see the report of the Policy Group entitled “Why Don’t More New Yorkers Vote?” at https://www.nysenate.gov/sites/default/files/press-release/attachment/2018-05-01_voting_rights_report_final_with_cover.pdf

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

- I'm not one to make broad campaign promises, especially when I serve in the Senate minority, but here are some bills that I've been working on and I think help define me as a public official:
1. Ethics reform - Have sponsored/co-sponsored legislation to close the LLC-loophole, limit outside income, institute campaign finance reform, prevent elected officials from using campaign funds for criminal defense
 2. Housing - Sponsored/co-sponsored legislation to restore home rule to NYC on housing matters, end vacancy decontrol, reform MCIs, end preferential rent and more
 3. Environmental protection - sponsor major climate change legislation in Albany (Climate & Community Protection Act), end transport of fracking waste in NY
 4. LGBT Rights - Sponsor legislation to extend transgender rights (GENDA), end so-called gay "conversion therapy", eliminate LGBT "panic defense" to murder
 5. Gun law reform - co-sponsor creation of extreme risk protection orders, raise age of gun ownership to 21 years, end sale of bump stocks, create more rigorous system of background checks

TOP FIVE 2018 CAMPAIGN PROMISES OR GOALS

1. Government reform - pass ethics reform package (from above) & voting rights package including early voting, pre-registration and automatic voter registration. I would include as part of this criminal justice reform, including bail and speedy trial reform.

2. Pass LGBT rights package from above

3. Pass gun reform laws from above

4. Pass Child Victims Act - which would extend the statute of limitation for crimes of child sexual abuse and create a one-year period to allow adult survivors to file civil claims against their abusers and the institutions that may have harbored them

5. Pass my bill requiring presidential candidates to release their tax returns to appear on the ballot in NYS. Currently, 28 other states are considering similar legislation.

