Candidate Questionnaire

Attending a town hall? Public debate? Meet and greet? Ask these important questions before you cast a ballot!

**CRIMINAL LEGAL SYSTEM**

- What is your definition of public safety?
- Do you support ending wealth-based detention — ensuring that people aren’t sitting in jail before trial simply because they cannot afford their cash bail? Why/Why not?
- Ohio prisons are at 130% capacity. Local jails are overflowing. What are your ideas to reduce the number of Ohioans behind bars?
- How will you address racial, socioeconomic, gender, and/or regional disparities in the criminal legal system?
- Do you support ending the death penalty? Why/Why not?
- Do you support clemency for everyone currently on death row? Why/Why not?
- What are your thoughts on legalizing and regulating the use of marijuana?
- Do you support reducing the presence of police officers in public schools? Why/Why not?
- How will you address biased policing and excessive use of force by the police?
- Do you believe that youth, those under 18 at the time of the offense, should ever be incarcerated? What alternatives do you support to reduce the amount of youth in Ohio’s juvenile detention centers and prisons?

**PERSONAL AUTONOMY AND DIGNITY**

- Would you support a statewide law to protect LGBTQ Ohioans from discrimination in housing, employment and public accommodations? Why or why not?
- Access to safe and legal abortion is heavily restricted in Ohio. What would you do to reverse this trend?
- Anti-trans youth legislation related to healthcare and school sports has been introduced in our general assembly. How will you protect LGBTQ kids from abuse and discrimination?
- What do you think about Ohio taxpayer dollars funding so-called “crisis pregnancy centers?”

**POLITICAL PARTICIPATION AND VOTING RIGHTS**

- What should be done to ensure that Ohio’s elections are free, fair, and secure?
- Do you support Election Day voter registration so your constituents could register and vote on the same day? Why/Why not?
- What policies will you advocate for to ensure it is not harder for historically marginalized communities to register to vote and/or cast a ballot?
- Do you oppose partisan gerrymandering? What will you do to advocate for fair districts?

The ACLU is a nonpartisan organization that does not endorse or oppose any candidate for office. We are engaging in this work to promote voter education and participation because there is so much at stake for civil liberties and the rights of all communities in Ohio.