

Westchester/Putnam Central Labor Body AFL-CIO Questionnaire for Candidates 2019

Please complete and return to:
Westchester/Putnam Central Labor Body AFL-CIO
595 West Hartsdale Ave., White Plains, NY 10607
(914) 328-7988 Fax (914) 328-7993
E-Mail: Jennifer@wpclb.org

*** You may type your answers in the fields, save and forward to jennifer@wpclb.org or you may type your answers, print the file and send a hard copy to the address above or you may print the file out, hand write and submit via fax or mail.**

The Westchester/Putnam Central Labor Body represents over 120,000 union members and working families in both Westchester and Putnam Counties and beyond. We are non-partisan and our only goal is to represent the interest of our members, their families, and the thousands of working men and women who strive for good jobs, a healthy economy and a secure future. When reviewing this questionnaire, please feel free to call on us for background on an issue that you are unfamiliar with or need clarification on. Please also attach a resume to your submission (if available.)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Candidate for _____ District# _____ Incumbent ? _____

Home Telephone # _____ Cell Phone # _____

E-mail address _____

Address of Campaign Headquarters

Campaign Manager's name _____

Campaign manager's contact number and email address _____

Party Affiliation _____ Other lines? _____

Are you in a primary? _____ If yes, which lines? _____

Who are your opponents?

Profession/Occupation

Employer

Are you a union member? _____

If so, which International? _____ Which Local? _____

Are you currently endorsed by any unions if so, which ones? _____

Please list union leaders that you have sought/will seek input from when developing legislative goals and priorities

Path to Victory –

How many volunteers do you have? _____

How many voters are in your district? _____

How many votes are needed to win your election? _____

Right to Organize- What is your position on workers' right to organize?

Do you feel that each union member should be required to pay their fair share to their union since the union represents them in bargaining and in contract enforcement?

What is your position on **collective bargaining rights** for public employees?

What is your position on **collective bargaining rights** for private sector employees?

What actions would you personally take or have you taken to support workers organizing to form a union or seeking new collective bargaining agreements?

Prevailing Wage

Do you support a prohibition on contracting for goods or services unless a bidder provides for the prevailing wage and why?

Do you believe that **farm workers** should be given the same protections under NYS labor laws as other workers (one weekly day of rest, overtime pay, protections from pesticides, sanitary toilet facilities, etc.) and why?

Immigration reform is long overdue. What would you like to see in a final law?

Do you support legislation to regulate and enforce **nurse-to-patient ratios** to maintain quality care standards?

Education: Who should be responsible to **fund** public Pre-K, K, elementary and high schools?

Do you support **tuition tax credits** for private or parochial elementary, middle and high school levels and why?

Do you know the difference between **public and private charter schools**? _____

What is your position on charter schools?

Should charter schools be subject to the same accountability and teacher certification requirements that public schools are? _____

Would **magnet schools** within a public school system be a good alternative to charter schools?

What do you think can be done to insure proper funding for our public schools and what steps can/should be taken to ensure a **quality education** for our children?

What is the fairest way to **evaluate teachers**?

What do you think the reasons are for lower test scores in some inner city schools?

Do you think that test scores are the only way to evaluate how well a student is doing in school? _____

What is the **Taylor Law**?

Do you believe the **Triborough Amendment** to the Taylor Law should be repealed and why?

Privatization: Are you for or against the privatization of public services and why?

If yes, which services?

Project Labor Agreements are comprehensive agreements between a municipality and/or developer and a jurisdictional Building Trades Council that set requirements for a building project. PLAs save money by guaranteeing no strikes or picketing, that correct wages are paid, and that unscrupulous contractors won't victimize the project. PLA projects guarantee unions will work together so the project is of higher quality, are usually finished on or before schedule, use community labor and are often below budget. Are you for or against project labor agreements and why?

Tax Breaks

Do you support tax breaks for developers, and if yes, for how long and under what conditions?

Do you support tax breaks or other benefits for **volunteer emergency services** workers and why?

Do you support the 2% (or lower) **tax cap** _____

What do you think should be done to help struggling communities, municipalities and school districts stay within the cap and still be able to provide adequate services?

Empire Zones: Currently there is a program in New York State called Empire Zones that give large tax breaks to companies that locate in areas of high poverty and unemployment. We believe that companies should no longer be able to receive tax breaks if they fail to pay a living wage or consistently violate worker safety, overtime or environmental protection laws. Do you support this?

Economic Development: Do you support, as a condition of receiving economic development assistance, requiring companies to make commitments to provide good jobs (jobs that pay a living wage, provide benefits, etc) and commitments to stay in the community for a certain period of time?

Would you support a requirement that contractors providing services offer employment to displaced workers?

Industrial Development Agencies: Industrial Development Agencies are an economic development scheme that should promote job creation and business retention in our communities. When abused, however, IDAs waste taxpayer dollars and do not provide a good return on our public investment, while placing local property taxpayers at risk for questionable business ventures. Should IDAs be more closely monitored and do you support adding “clawback” provisions when IDAs do not live up to their agreements?

Public Colleges

What is your position on full time vs. part time teaching positions in the public colleges?

Social Security

Do you favor introducing 401Ks as part of the Social Security system?

Do you think it would be better to raise the retirement eligibility age or raise the annual salary cap in order to strengthen social security?

Do you think the monthly payment for recipients of social security should be raised?

Please give your position on the following:

Paid Sick Leave

Public Vs. Private Management of Playland

Public Vs. Private Management of Westchester County Airport

Have you ever walked on a picket line in support of workers if so, with which unions?

Labor Appointments Would you appoint or have you, appointed representatives of organized labor to boards and commissions to ensure working people have a full voice in public policy decisions and will you seek the input from this Central Labor Council in making choices for members of these boards and commissions?

Please list any labor appointments you have made in the past

What are your top three legislative priorities?

1.

2.

3.

Why do you want the Westchester/Putnam Central Labor Body's endorsement?

What else would you like our members to know about you?

Signature

Date