

2024 State Assembly and Senate Candidate Questionnaire

The ACLU of Wisconsin respectfully requests responses to the questions below regarding your positions on civil rights and liberties issues impacting Wisconsinites.

The questions and answers, if received in time, will be published on the ACLU of Wisconsin website and potentially used in other formats. If you do not respond, the publication will state "Refused to Respond."

Please send responses in this fillable PDF via email to Amanda Merkwae at amerkwae@aclu-wi.org or by mail to 207 E. Buffalo St., Suite 325, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202 by **Tuesday, August 6, 2024.**

Name

Email Website

Office Sought: Assembly Senate District Number

Party Affiliation(s)

Question 1: If elected, would you vote against an abortion ban?

Yes No

Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.

Yes, I firmly believe in an individual's right to bodily autonomy, and would vote against an abortion ban. I support comprehensive reproductive healthcare, including access to safe and legal abortion, and I stand with individuals' rights to make private medical decisions without government interference.

Question 2: If elected, would you vote against restrictions on contraception and in vitro fertilization (IVF)?

Yes No

Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.

Yes, I would vote against restrictions on contraception and in vitro fertilization (IVF). These healthcare options are essential for individuals to make informed choices about their reproductive health. Contraception allows people to plan their pregnancies and engage in safe, thought-out sexual activities. IVF provides critical support for individuals and couples facing infertility, helping them achieve their dreams of building a family. Restrictions on these services undermine personal autonomy and access to necessary healthcare. By opposing such restrictions, I aim to protect individuals' rights to make informed decisions about their reproductive health and to ensure equitable access to these vital medical services.

Question 3: Do you pledge to accept the results of the election, no matter who wins?

Yes No

Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.

Yes, I pledge to accept the results of the election, no matter who wins. I believe that a strong democracy is the foundation of a functional, trustworthy government that serves to improve the lives of the people within its jurisdiction. In order to have a strong democracy, one must accept the results of an election and guarantee a peaceful transition of power. We should also encourage our constituents to vote and make their voices heard, and work to protect them from any attacks on their right to vote.

Question 4: Do you support the legalization, regulation, and taxation of marijuana for recreational use by adults 21 and over in Wisconsin?

Yes No

Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.

Yes, I support the legalization, regulation, and taxation of marijuana for recreational use by adults 21 and over in Wisconsin. Legalization can serve public safety, as regulation ensures that marijuana is produced and sold under strict standards, reducing the risks associated with unregulated markets. It may also have economic benefits, as taxation can generate significant revenue for the state, which can be invested in public services. Legalization is also a positive step within criminal justice reform, as it can help address the racial disparities and over-policing associated with marijuana offenses, and avoid excessive incarceration for nonviolent offenses. Overall, I believe that a regulated and taxed marijuana market will benefit Wisconsin's economy, public safety, and social justice, and allow adults to exercise their personal freedom.

Question 5: Do you oppose government entities banning books from local libraries and schools due to content, ideas, or viewpoints expressed in the books?

Yes No

Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.

Yes, I oppose government entities banning books from local libraries and schools based on content, ideas, or viewpoints expressed in those books. Freedom of expression and access to diverse perspectives are fundamental to a healthy education. Instead of banning books, we should further fund our libraries and schools so that faculty and students have access to the necessary context or lessons needed to benefit from the reading of a wide variety of books. Everyone deserves the right to gather information and resources that contribute to their personal and intellectual growth.

Question 6: Would you vote to protect same-sex marriage in Wisconsin, no matter what is decided at the federal level?

Yes No

Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.

Yes, I would vote to protect same-sex marriage in Wisconsin, regardless of federal decisions. Marriage equality is a fundamental civil right, and it's essential to uphold and protect this right at the state level to ensure that all individuals have equal access to the personal, legal and social benefits of marriage. By securing these protections at the state level, we can safeguard against any potential setbacks and reaffirm our commitment to equality and justice for all.