



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 <u>amerkwae@aclu-wi.org</u> or by mail to 207 E. Buffalo St., Suite 325, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202 by Tuesday, August 6, 2024.

Name Ben DeSmidt	
Email bendesmidt@gmail.com	Website benforwisconsin.com
Office Sought: Assembly Senate	District Number 65
Party Affiliation(s) Democratic	
Question 1: If elected, would you vote again	nst an abortion ban?
Please write any comments you might have	in the box provided below.
Reproductive rights are human rights. Without be free.	full control over ones body, one cannot

Question 2: If elected, would you vote against restrictions on contraception and in vitro fertilization (IVF)?
✓ Yes
Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.
It's difficult for me to understand how this is a political issue. IVF has been used for close to 50 years as accepted medical practice. Just as with all other reproductive procedures, this should be open and accessible to all.
Question 3: Do you pledge to accept the results of the election, no matter who
wins?
✓ Yes
Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.
Our voting system is secure and unblemished by all provable standards, as it always has been. Challenges to the validity of elections are designed to undermine credibility in the system and, ultimately, decrease voter access and turnout of the most vulnerable and underserved among us.
Question 4: Do you support the legalization, regulation, and taxation of marijuana for recreational use by adults 21 and over in Wisconsin?
✓ Yes
Please write any comments you might have in the box provided below.
Yes. There is no basis for the criminalization of marijuana, certainly when compared with legal and more dangerous recreational substances, and also considering its medicinal purposes.

	Yes	No
Please write	any comments	s you might have in the box provided below.
access and op	portunity to gain	s me more frustrated than the desire of some people to limit knowledge. Libraries should free and open resources of all ht. It is un-American and un-Democratic to limit such access.
•	Would you vot led at the feder Yes	te to protect same-sex marriage in Wisconsin, no matteral level?
Please write	any comments	s you might have in the box provided below.