

2020 Windham State Rep Questions

Please answer all questions below. If more space is needed for any question, please write your answers on the back, or attach additional sheets of paper.

QUESTIONS	McMahon	Soti	Lynn	Griffin	St. Laurent	Roman	Singureanu	Azibert
Introduction								
1. Why do you want to be elected as a state representative?	To continue to serve the Citizens of Windham and the State of New Hampshire to the best of my ability as I have done these past 18 years, as your Representative.	Having studied philosophy, I have come to heed the words of Plato, which I like to paraphrase as "if you don't do politics, politics will do you in." Over the last century or so, many millions of people have been done in by the ideas of another philosopher, Karl Marx, including my parents and grandparents. My parents came to the US to escape these insane socialist ideas which solve none of society's problems but in fact create more. Now we have these totalitarian ideas spreading here; the insanity has to be confronted and stopped.	I believe that, after spending nearly 27 years as a judge in New Hampshire, I have more to contribute. I have always been interested in politics, and now that I am no longer prohibited from being involved (as I was when I was a judge), I decided to run. I do not have any one particular issue that I desire to champion as a state rep; rather, my fundamental overall goal is to preserve the "New Hampshire Advantage." That is, I want to insure that New Hampshire remains a state where government is small and close to the people, taxes are low, and individual freedom and responsibility are preserved.	I want to continue to serve Windham as I have for 12 terms	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
2. What do you hope to accomplish on behalf of Windham if you're elected to office? Specifically, what are your ideas regarding bills that you will file?	To ensure responsible Government while maintaining the desirable quality of life we enjoy in New Hampshire.	While talking to voters, I've been asked about the kind of legislation I would be promoting. What comes to mind first and foremost is the lack of financial literacy throughout the country. In a free-market country, you would think it should be self-evident that it is required to be taught in schools. Instead, we're getting leftist inspired grievance/victimology studies courses that generate hate and envy. It is this essentially false narrative that generates resentment, destroys motivation, and is overall demoralizing. This in a nation that has created more prosperity, lifted more people out of poverty than any other. If you want to lift people out of poverty you have to teach financial literacy.	I would like to file legislation requiring all state colleges, as well as those private colleges that receive state funding, to adopt the University of Chicago principles for preserving freedom of expression among faculty and staff of such institutions. These principles are generally designed to prevent such institutions from penalizing faculty or students who advocate views (generally conservative views) that are not in keeping with the liberal mainstream orthodoxy that pervades such institutions. I also would file legislation that prohibits that state and any of its municipalities from refusing to cooperate with ICE or other federal agencies in the enforcement of federal immigration laws.	I want to continue to protect my seniors, so they can continue to afford to live here in Windham	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
Taxes								
3. Will you take the CNHT Taxpayer's Pledge, and pledge to vote against any new tax or increase to existing taxes and fees of any kind?	I will consider Bills and their merits in making informed decisions as is my record.	Yes, Signed	Yes	I don't like people being taxed out of their homes	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
Energy								
4. Do you believe the government should subsidize renewable energy? If so, explain?	No	No, I don't think the government should be involved and subsidizing renewable energy or any energy for that matter. I think the free market should handle it. I think people should be able to invest directly in these companies i.e. stocks, and be able to reap the rewards. If the government subsidizes these companies you are essentially paying for the product twice, first through your taxes and then to the company.	No	No	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
Healthcare								
5. Would you support a State law that mandates taking a vaccine for Covid-19?	No	No. Everyone is different. Everyone should assess the risks for themselves.	Although I am generally opposed to mandatory vaccine requirements, I cannot give a definitive answer to this question without having additional information. For example, I would need to know what the risks of the vaccine are and how effective the vaccine is in preventing a person from getting Covid-19. Also of critical importance would be knowing whether the vaccine's primary purpose is to protect the recipient from getting Covid, or to protect others from catching Covid from the recipient. If the main goal of the vaccine is to protect yourself, then I would tend to say that a person should have the right to choose to forego such protection. But if the vaccine were to be used to really effectively in preventing a person from spreading Covid to others, that makes a stronger case for requiring the person to get the vaccine.	No	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
6. Would you support a State law that mandates wearing a mask?	No	No. Everyone should assess their own risk factors, especially given some of the absurd, irrational and unscientific mandates being pushed by so many localities. Masked mandates are becoming a community placebo.	Again, although I generally do not favor mandates, I think that in some circumstances a mask mandate could be justified. I would want to know specifically how effective masks are in preventing a person from spreading Covid to others, and any risks that wearing a mask poses. For example, from what I know now, it seems unreasonable to require people to wear masks outside of close quarters indoors where social distancing is possible. On the other hand, I have no problem with requiring airline passengers who are in close quarters to wear masks.	No	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
7. In 2018, HB 628 was a Bill to create a state program to provide family and medical leave insurance, but only required this for private sector employees – even though this type of insurance is already publicly available in the state. The original Bill proposed to create a state program that would be funded by payroll deductions - effectively the first direct tax on income in NH. If this or a similar bill is introduced again next year will you support it?	No	No. It's a tax, and the worst kind, promising you more than they can deliver.	No	No	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
#7 Ref. Link: Family and Medical Leave Bill Text http://gencourt.state.nh.us/bill_status/billText.aspx?sy=2018&id=37&txtFormat=html								
8. Governor Sununu said "Safety trumps everything". RSA 4:45 granted the Governor "additional emergency powers" and unilateral authority to indefinitely suspend the New Hampshire Constitution. The governor has declared a state of emergency and unilaterally implemented Executive Orders. If elected, would you be in favor of changing the law to ensure the governor can not make these decisions unilaterally – and require the involvement of our legislature?	No	Yes. The governor's emergency power has to have checks built-in.	First, I think that Governor Sununu has done an excellent job in managing the pandemic. And I also believe that, because of the need for quick action, a governor should have the ability to act unilaterally in an emergency situation. However, I would be supportive of legislation placing a time limit, say 30 or 60 days, upon the governor's ability to act unilaterally, and that would require legislative involvement after that time limit has expire	No	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
Abortion / Fetal Rights								
These are going to be somewhat difficult questions because most people have strong personal opinions on this subject. But if are running for office, I believe your positions are important to understand.								
9. Regarding abortions... do you support an unborn child's Right to Life, or a woman's right to have an abortion?	Yes	I am personally pro-life. This issue has to be taken out of the court system and democratically hashed out by congress--it is not "above their pay grade." As it is a cultural issue, appropriate compromises will be made, but the extreme position of the left must be reined in.	I believe that the Supreme Court's decision in Roe v. Wade was wrongly decided and that there is no constitutional right to have an abortion. That said, however, if Roe v. Wade was overruled (which it should be) and the issue were left up to the laws of each state, I would not be in favor of a law that generally prohibits abortion. It seems to me to be inconsistent with conservative principles, and unduly intrusive, for the state to say to a woman who is pregnant, but does not want to have the child, that she must do so. Rather, I believe that that choice should be left up to the woman.	Yes	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
10. Do you believe there should be any exceptions regarding the abortion of an unborn child? If so, which ones?	In specific cases to be determined by law.	I am personally pro-life. This issue has to be taken out of the court system and democratically hashed out by congress--it is not "above their pay grade." As it is a cultural issue, appropriate compromises will be made, but the extreme position of the left must be reined in.	I believe that it is entirely proper for the state to impose reasonable limits on a woman's decision to have an abortion. Probably the most important limitation relates to timing. Thus, I have no problem whatsoever with laws prohibiting late term or so called "partial birth" abortions. I also strongly support parental notification before a minor child is permitted to have an abortion, although I do not believe parents should have the right to force a child to have the baby if the child wants an abortion (in this situation, the courts may need to make the final decision).	No	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
11. Do you support taxpayer funding for Planned Parenthood?	Yes	No	No	No	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
12. Do you support taxpayer funding for abortions?	No	No	No	No	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
13. SB 741-FN, is the Born Alive Infant Protection Act that was not passed this year. It would have required any health care provider present at the time an infant is born alive during an abortion to take "all medically appropriate and reasonable actions to preserve the life and health of the infant." Would you support this bill if re-introduced?	Yes	Yes	I cannot answer this question intelligently without having more information about the likely condition and prognosis of a child that was attempted to be aborted but who somehow managed to survive. I also would want to know how frequently this actually happens and whether it is a real, or merely a theoretical, problem.	Yes	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
#13 Ref. Link – Born Alive Protection Act Bill Text http://gencourt.state.nh.us/bill_status/billText.aspx?id=1954								
14. Would you support a ban on partial-birth abortion? To put this question into context, please read this definition. Warning, the definition is graphic – but accurately describes the procedure.	Need more research on this point	Yes	Yes	Yes	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
#14 Ref Link – Partial-Birth Abortion Definition https://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/abortion/partial-birth-abortion								
Illegal Immigrants								
15. Do you support the federal government's building of a border wall to protect against people bypassing customs when illegally entering our country?	Yes	Yes. "A nation that cannot control its borders is not a nation" -Ronald Reagan	Yes	Yes	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
16. Should taxpayers bear the burden of giving any government benefits to Illegal Immigrants? If so, which benefits?	Policies addressing the return of illegal immigrants to their home countries needs further attention.	No	No	No	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
17. Would you support a law that would prevent NH towns and cities to declare themselves to be sanctuary cities/towns – and therefore prevent local law enforcement from working with federal authorities?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
#17 Ref. Link Sanctuary Cities Ban Bill Text http://gencourt.state.nh.us/bill_status/billText.aspx?sy=2016&id=202&txtFormat=html								
18th Amendment								
18. It is becoming more and more difficult for people to communicate and freely share ideas – due to policies of social media companies. Do you agree that Twitter, Facebook and other social media tech companies should be allowed to arbitrarily ban and/or limit the sharing of any information? If so, why?	NO in principal but issue needs vetting to determine appropriate remedy	No. The government created the internet; these internet companies are platforms not publishers and should not be inhibiting the free exchange of information and ideas.	No	No	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
2nd Amendment								
19. Would you support any legislation that would make purchasing, possessing, or using firearms more restrictive? If so, please elaborate.	I support the 2nd Amendment, should further rules be proposed however, I support committee review to ensure full due process for all including the Public in considering Bills.	No	No	NH is pretty good.	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
20. Should local towns or cities in New Hampshire be permitted to set their own rules for where law-abiding citizens may legally carry a firearm?	I suggest Towns work in collaboration with the State to ensure equal application	No. Towns and cities passing their own arbitrary gun rules makes for an ungovernable mess.	No	No	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
Election Laws								
21. NH is the only state in the nation that allows non-residents to vote in its elections. Do you believe NH Election Laws related to voting are too restrictive, too permissive, or appropriate as they currently are? (If the answer is not "appropriate", please explain what would you change)	Appropriate	Too permissive. Out of state college students should not be voting here and would only allow same day registration with proof of address.	I believe that only persons who actually live in New Hampshire should be able to vote here. That means, for example, that if an out of state college student wants to declare New Hampshire as his domicile, he must do all the other things that any other domiciliary must do, including registering his car here if he has one, obtaining a NH drivers' license if he drives in the state, paying NH taxes, etc.	Only NH residents should vote in NH	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
22. Do you support mail in voting? If so, do you have concerns about the possibility of voter fraud?	No	No. It's going to be a mess.	I have no problem with absentee ballots, but I do not support election officials unilaterally mailing out ballots to persons who have not requested them.	No	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
23. Do you believe the Electoral College should be replaced with a popular vote for president? Please explain.	No	No. The electoral college protects small states like NH from what in effect would be tyranny of the masses. You have to win the states, and not just go after the high population ones.	No. The Electoral College is a critical part of our federal republican form of government. It insures that, to be elected President, a candidate must secure widespread support from geographically diverse areas of the country.	No	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
Social Issues								
24. Do you support the BLM organization?	No	No. The organization is run by Marxists.	No	No	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
25. Are you aware that two of the three founders of BLM are self-avowed Marxists?	Yes, as per News Reports	Yes	Yes	Yes	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
Ref Link: BLM Founders Article https://nypost.com/2020/06/25/blm-co-founder-describes-herself-as-trained-marxist/								
26. Do you believe that America is a systemically racist country? If so, provide examples.	No	No. Why would people from all over the world come here to succeed if we were systemically racist? What we are is systemically demoralized by leftist propaganda.	No	No	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
27. Do you support defunding the police?	No	No	No	No	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
28. Do you support the defacing and/or the destruction of historical public statues?	No	No	No	No	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
29. Do you support what the media has described as "mostly peaceful protests" across the country?	No	No	I have no problem with truly peaceful protests, but it is obvious that what has been going on around the country are not simply peaceful protests; they are riots.	No	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
30. Do you support the occupation by the protestors in Seattle, e.g. CHAZ/CHOP (the Capital Hill Autonomous Zone that was subsequently renamed to the Capital Hill Organized Protest) and in other cities in America?	No	No	No	No	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
31. What would you do in the event a CHAZ/CHOP style occupation was established in NH, similar to what happened in Seattle and elsewhere?	Support Actions to ensure Public Safety	Break it up	Use all necessary force, including the National Guard if necessary, to end the occupation.	Support Actions to ensure Public Safety	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
32. Do you support Socialism and/or Marxism? If so, explain.	No	No!	No	No	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request
33. Do you support government reparations for African Americans and/or Native Americans? Please explain.	No	No. How much do you want to give Oprah or Michael Jordan?	No	No	Refused To Answer	Refused To Answer	Ignored Request	Ignored Request