

**EMPIRE STATE  PRIDE AGENDA**

**2008 State Legislative Candidate Questionnaire  
Background Information**

Name of Candidate \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Campaign Committee \_\_\_\_\_

Campaign Headquarters' Address \_\_\_\_\_

Headquarters' Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Campaign Manager's Name \_\_\_\_\_

What party lines are you seeking or running on?

- |                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Democrat     | <input type="checkbox"/> Liberal          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservative | <input type="checkbox"/> Republican       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Green        | <input type="checkbox"/> Working Families |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Independence |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |   |

What office are you seeking and for which district? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you an incumbent \_\_\_\_\_ or a challenger \_\_\_\_\_? Or are you seeking an open seat \_\_\_\_\_?

Is this for a Primary and General election \_\_\_\_\_? Or General election only \_\_\_\_\_?

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Professional Affiliations \_\_\_\_\_

Community Service History \_\_\_\_\_

Endorsements to Date \_\_\_\_\_

Previous offices held (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

Involvement with the LGBT community: \_\_\_\_\_

How much money is necessary to run a successful campaign for your office? \_\_\_\_\_

How much money has your campaign raised to date? \_\_\_\_\_

How much money does your campaign have on hand? \_\_\_\_\_

## Questions on Positions

1. Do you think same-sex couples should be allowed to legally marry?

Yes                       No                       I am or would become a sponsor of such legislation

What other legal mechanisms (civil union, domestic partnership, etc.) would you support to strengthen LGBT families?

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2. Do you support a state constitutional amendment or law, such as a so-called "Defense of Marriage Act," that specifically bars same-sex couples from having equal access to marriage?

Support                       Oppose

3. Do you support New York State's longstanding legal precedent requiring the state to recognize legal marriages from other jurisdictions and the appellate level court decision saying that this also applies to the legal marriages of same-sex couples from other jurisdictions like Canada and California?

Support                       Oppose

4. Do you support state human rights legislation to prohibit discrimination based on gender identity and expression in the areas of housing, public accommodations, credit, education and employment?

Support                       Oppose                       I am or would become a sponsor of such legislation

5. Do you support legislation to ensure that students are protected from discrimination and bias harassment based on sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression in school, including teacher training on how to handle bias-based harassment and student curriculum on respect for diversity?

Support                       Oppose                       I am or would become a sponsor of such legislation

6. Do you support passage of Paid Family Leave legislation? Such leave can be used for the birth or adoption of a child; care of an immediate family member with a serious health condition; or to take medical leave for a serious health condition?

Support                       Oppose                       I am or would become a sponsor of such legislation

7. Do you support specific state funding for community-based programming related to LGBT health and human service programs outside of HIV?

Support                       Oppose

8. Do you believe that state relief programs such as workers compensation and accidental death benefits for police and firefighters should be fully inclusive of same-sex partners/spouses?

Support                       Oppose                       I am or would become a sponsor of such legislation

9. Do you support legislation to allow domestic partners to make medical decisions for partners who are unable to do so for themselves?

Support                       Oppose                       I am or would become a sponsor of such legislation

10. Do you support legislation that requires insurance companies to sell domestic partner insurance policies on the same basis as spousal insurance coverage?

Support                       Oppose                       I am or would become a sponsor of such legislation

11. Do you support legislation to compensate employees in state service equally for work of comparable value by eliminating inequality in job titles which have been segregated by sex, race or national origin?

Support                       Oppose                       I am or would become a sponsor of such legislation

12. Do you support legislation to exempt domestic partner health benefits from being subject to state taxation just as spousal health benefits are?

Support                       Oppose                       I am or would become a sponsor of such legislation

13. Do you support legislation to allow unmarried couples, including same-sex domestic partners, to have access to NY Family Court for things like orders of protection?

Support                       Oppose                       I am or would become a sponsor of such legislation

14. Do you support legislation that prohibits employers who provide funeral leave to employees from denying leave on the same basis to same-sex committed partners?

Support                       Oppose                       I am or would become a sponsor of such legislation

15. Do you support legislation that would allow employees to use sick time to care for a sick family member, including domestic partners?

Support                       Oppose                       I am or would become a sponsor of such legislation

16. Do you support legislation that requires companies doing business with the State of New York to extend to domestic partners of their employees the same benefits that are extended to spouses, such as health insurance and bereavement leave?

Support                       Oppose                       I am or would become a sponsor of such legislation

17. Do you support same-sex couples having the ability to jointly adopt children?

Support                       Oppose                       I am or would become a sponsor of such legislation

18. Do you support measures to ensure that youth in juvenile justice and other facilities operated by the Office of Children and Family Services are protected from discrimination and bias harassment based on sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression?

Support                       Oppose                       I am or would become a sponsor of such legislation

19. Do you support measures to ensure that aging LGBT New Yorkers in nursing homes and other assisted living facilities have programs that are responsive to their particular needs, and are protected from discrimination and bias harassment based on sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression?

Support                       Oppose

20. Do you support initiatives to strengthen the enforcement of human rights laws, such as ensuring sufficient funding for the State Division of Human Rights to fulfill its duty to investigate complaints in a fair and timely manner?

Support                       Oppose

21. Do you support the allocation of public resources to organizations that discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation, such as the Boy Scouts of America, Inc.?

Support                       Oppose

22. Do you think health insurance and public health support programs like Medicaid should cover transgender healthcare for things like hormone replacement therapy?

Support  Oppose

23. Do you support procedures to allow government-issued identification such as driver's licenses and birth certificates to be changed with certification of a doctor to match a person's gender identity?

Support  Oppose

24. Do you support the implementation of comprehensive, age-appropriate, medically accurate HIV/AIDS and sex education curricula in schools?

Support  Oppose  I am or would become a sponsor of such legislation

25. Do you support an increase in funding for the treatment and prevention of HIV and AIDS?

Support  Oppose

26. Do you oppose attempts to stigmatize or criminalize people living with HIV/AIDS, such as laws creating specific penalties for transmission on HIV?

Support  Oppose

27. Do you support increased state funding for prevention and treatment programs for those within the LGBT community that abuse "party drugs" like crystal methamphetamine?

Support  Oppose

28. Do you support a woman's unrestricted right to reproductive freedom, including abortion?

Support  Oppose  Support w/ restrictions

If you wish, please take the opportunity to elaborate on your answer to the preceding question in the space provided below:

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29. Would you push for the appointment of commissioners, Regents, advisory board members, etc. who reflect the diversity of New York State, including the LGBT community?

Yes  No

30. Currently, there are no openly LGBT judges on New York's Appellate Court or Court of Appeals. Would you push for the appointment of qualified LGBT judges to New York's courts?

Yes  No

31. What actions will you take to help achieve adoption of measures to benefit New York's LGBT community, including items described in questions 1 through 27 above? (E.g., secure co-sponsors for legislation, attend or organize rallies, forums or press conferences, initiate budgetary request letters, etc.)

32. What methods will you use to stay apprised of the concerns of the LGBT community (e.g., hold an annual town meeting with the LGBT community, create an LGBT advisory committee, appoint an LGBT liaison, etc.)?

33. Why are you seeking the endorsement of the Empire State Pride Agenda?

34. Why should members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community support your candidacy?

Signature of Candidate or Designee: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name (if other than candidate): \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to: [bcoffin@prideagenda.org](mailto:bcoffin@prideagenda.org) or  
Attn: Brian Coffin, Empire State Pride Agenda  
1 Commerce Plaza, 99 Washington Avenue, Suite 805  
Albany, NY 12260  
FAX: (518) 472-3334 - Phone: (518) 472-3330, ext. 304