



Candidate Questionnaire for Endorsement Request

Our Revolution seeks to empower the next generation of progressive leaders by inspiring and recruiting progressive candidates to run for offices across the entire spectrum of government. From school boards to congressional seats, a new generation of political leaders, dedicated to transform America into a more economically, socially, racially, and environmentally will become involved.

Our Revolution will provide candidates inspired by the “political revolution,” with the unparalleled digital tools, organizing knowledge and grassroots support, which was successfully utilized throughout Senator Sanders’ campaign.

Please fill out the following questionnaire.

Contact information:

1. Candidate’s Full Name: Jeremy Mele
2. Candidate suggested by (if applicable): Local Berniecrats Maine
3. State: Maine
4. Office sought/District: House of Representatives District 19
5. Campaign contact: Jeremy Mele
Phone: 207-619-0304
Email: Jmelessu@gmail.com
Website:
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Jeremy4>
Twitter:

Race Information:

6. Type of election: General
7. Date of Primary: 6/12/18 Date of election: 11/06/2018

About the candidate:

8. Political Party Affiliation (Check 1):
 - Democratic Party
 - Independent/Unaffiliated
 - Green Party
 - Working Families Party
 - Libertarian Party
 - Republican Party
 - Other
9. Does the candidate currently hold or has he/she ever held elected office?
Yes No
If yes, please indicate position:

About the Campaign's Platform

Please give brief explanations

Please indicate the candidate's position on the the following issue statements and further explain in the space provided.

Income and Wealth Inequality

10. Today, we live in the richest country in the history of the world, but that reality means little because much of that wealth is controlled by a tiny handful of individuals. To address that, the wealthy and large corporations must pay their fair share in taxes.
- a. Agree
- b. Disagree
- Candidate's position on this issue: The wealthy and large corporations pay less than living wages to the vast swath of their workers. It's more than fair that they pay more in taxes to fund policies that support the working class
11. Huge financial institutions must be broken up so they are no longer too big to fail.
- a. Agree
- b. Disagree
- Candidate's position on this issue: If a financial institution is "too big to fail" then it is too big to exist; it holds too much power over the economy, and tax payers shouldn't be expected to bail them out.
12. No one who works 40-hours a week should live in poverty. The minimum wage needs to be a livable wage of \$15 an hour.
- a. Agree
- b. Disagree
- Candidate's position on this issue: No one should live in poverty, period. A living wage should cover basic necessities with some funds left over to save. In some areas, \$15/hr will do that, so it is there that \$15/hr should be standard
13. It is critically important to create jobs for disadvantaged young Americans by investing in a youth jobs programs.
- a. Agree
- b. Disagree
- Candidate's position on this issue: College, technical schools, and jobs training programs ought to all be invested in so that youth can explore academic, technical, and professional opportunities to find a passion
14. Social Security must be expanded so that every American can retire with dignity.
- a. Agree
- b. Disagree
- Candidate's position on this issue: We were not meant to simply work and die. Every American deserves the opportunity to retire with dignity, and Social Security ought to be expanded to ensure that.

Trade

15. The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) is a massive trade deal that would affect 792 million people and 40 percent of the world economy. The TPP must be stopped and policies like NAFTA, CAFTA, and PNTR with China that have driven down wages and caused the loss of millions of jobs need to be reversed.
- a. Agree
- b. Disagree
- Candidate's position on this issue: Any deal that hurts the working class is a bad one. Deals that the US enters should secure the safety and wellbeing of workers, not the already wealthy.

Campaign Finance Reform

16. Citizens United, a 5-4 Supreme Court decision, resulted in enabling the wealthiest people and largest corporations in this country to contribute unlimited amounts of money to campaigns. This decision must be overturned and corruption in politics must end. This means fighting to pass a constitutional amendment making it clear that Congress and the states have the power to regulate money in elections. We must also eliminate super PACs and other outside spending abuses and work to aggressively enforce campaign finance rules.

- a. Agree
- b. Disagree

The only voice that should be heard in politics is the voice of the people. We cannot allow money to overturn Candidate's position on this issue: our democracy, leaving it in the hands of the wealthy few.

17. In order to protect our democracy, we must fight for a publicly financed, transparent system of campaign financing that amplifies small donations. We must also ensure that all Americans are guaranteed an effective right to vote.

- a. Agree
- b. Disagree

As a clean elections candidate, I wholeheartedly support the sentiment. I also believe that election day voter registration and anti-gerrymandering legislation need to be passed

Education

18. Every American who studies hard in school should be able to go to college regardless of how much money their parents make and without going deeply into debt. For that, we need to work towards making tuition free at public colleges and universities throughout America, stopping the federal government from making a profit on student loans.

- a. Agree
- b. Disagree

Candidate's position on this issue: I agree; a college education ought to be open to ANYONE who wishes to seek it. I'm weary of using grades as a metric for who should/shouldn't be allowed in: in practice it can be discriminatory

Healthcare

19. Healthcare is a human right. Our healthcare system needs to work for all of us. We must guarantee healthcare as a right of citizenship by enacting a Medicare for all single-payer healthcare system, as well as lowering the price for prescription drugs.

- a. Agree
- b. Disagree

Candidate's position on this issue: If elected, I will support single payer legislation on the state level and work to make medical necessities, such as prescription drugs, affordable.

Infrastructure

20. The U.S.'s infrastructure, from our roads and bridges, to our dams, waterways and electrical grid, have not been properly invested in nor used the advances in technology for maintenance or improvements. America is long overdue to rebuild our crumbling roads, bridges, railways, airports, public transit systems, ports, dams, wastewater plants, and other infrastructure needs.

- a. Agree
- b. Disagree

Candidate's position on this issue: I support the improvement and upkeep of our infrastructure and believe such improvements ought to be handled by non-profit state organizations that pay living wages

Foreign Policy

21. The U.S. must move away from a policy of unilateral military action, and toward a policy of emphasizing diplomacy, and ensuring the decision to go to war is a last resort.
- a. Agree The human toll of war is monstrous, and the cost of war has devoured billions of dollars in funds that could have gone to social safety policies. Diplomacy should always be emphasized
- b. Disagree
- Candidate's position on this issue:
22. The U.S. defense spending is larger than that of the next seven largest defense budgets. We must firmly reject any increase to defense spending at the cost of cuts to domestic social spending.
- a. Agree I agree; social safety policies, such as Medicare for All and tuition free public universities need to be our priority, not more war.
- b. Disagree
- Candidate's position on this issue:

Environment

23. The United States must lead the world in tackling climate change, if we are to make certain that this planet is habitable for our children and grandchildren. We must transform our energy system away from polluting fossil fuels, and towards energy efficiency and sustainability.
- a. Agree Global Climate Change is an existential threat, and we need to switch over to green energy sources--such as wind and solar--in order to mitigate the damage that has already been done
- b. Disagree
- Candidate's position on this issue:

Racial Justice

24. African-Americans and Latinos are twice as likely to be arrested and almost four times as likely to experience the use of force during encounters with the police. They also comprise well over half of all prisoners, even though African-Americans and Latinos make up approximately one quarter of the total US population. We must change this by demilitarizing our police forces, ban for-profit prisons, turn back from the War on Drugs, eliminate mandatory minimums, and increase investment in programs that help individuals recover from substance abuse and mental health problems.
- a. Agree The United States has the largest prison population in the world. We need nonviolent solutions to crime and an end to for-profit prisons.
- b. Disagree
- Candidate's position on this issue:

Immigration

25. Despite the central role immigrants play in our economy and in our daily lives, undocumented workers are reviled by some for political gain and shunted into the shadows. It is time for this disgraceful situation to end. We must pave the way for a swift legislative path to citizenship for 11 million undocumented immigrants and protect programs like DACA and DAPA.
- a. Agree Those undocumented immigrants, especially those who came here as small children, must be given a path to citizenship. I support DACA and DAPA.
- b. Disagree
- Candidate's position on this issue:
26. The inhumane deportation machine must be dismantled by ending deportation programs, closing down private detention centers, offering humane treatment and asylum to victims of violence and minors fleeing from dangerous circumstances.
- a. Agree I agree; we have a moral duty to help those fleeing from violence, and cruel deportation practices must come to an end.
- b. Disagree
- Candidate's position on this issue:

Women's Rights

27. Despite major advances in civil and political rights, our country still has a long way to go in addressing the issue of gender inequality. In order to address this, we must fight for pay equity for women, expand and protect the reproductive rights of women and provide paid family and medical leave.

- a. Agree
- b. Disagree

Candidate's position on this issue:

I believe in equal rights for women and non-binary person

LGBT Rights

28. The United States has made remarkable progress on gay rights in a relatively short amount of time. But there is still much work to be done. In many states, it is still legal to fire someone for being gay. It is legal to deny someone housing for being transgender. That is unacceptable and must change. We must end discrimination in all forms.

- a. Agree
- b. Disagree

Candidate's position on this issue:

Discrimination against the LGBT+ community must end.

Native American

29. The United States must not just honor Native American treaty rights and tribal sovereignty, it must also move away from a relationship of paternalism and control, and toward one of deference and support. That means supporting tribal sovereignty and tribal jurisdiction, honoring the treaties and federal statutes, improving housing and education, as well as by protecting sacred places and Native American cultures.

- a. Agree
- b. Disagree

Candidate's position on this issue:

Native American sovereignty must be respected and prot

Veterans

30. As a nation, we have a moral obligation to provide the best quality care to those who have put their lives on the line to defend us. Taking care of our veterans is a cost of war. The Department of Veterans Affairs must be fully funding and expanded so that every veteran gets the care that they have earned and deserve. Additionally, claim processing, mental health and dental services, and access to the VA must be improved.

- a. Agree
- b. Disagree

Candidate's position on this issue:

Veterans deserve our support after all they have given.

By typing my name below, I hereby certify that the above statements are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that a false statement may disqualify this application from consideration.

Name: Jeremy Mele

Date: 2/5/2018

Email completed form to political@ourrevolution.com.