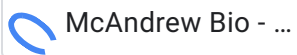


1Hood Power 2024 **General Assembly** Candidate Questionnaire

Please upload your bio and resume.

 McAndrew Bio - ...

Campaign Contact Information

Candidate Name *

Joe McAndrew

Office candidate is seeking *

State Representative

Campaign Contact Person *

Joe McAndrew

Campaign Email *

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Campaign Website

www.VoteJoeMcAndrew.com

Campaign Facebook

www.facebook.com/VoteJoeMcAndrew

Campaign Twitter

[Twitter.com/VoteJoeMcAndrew](https://twitter.com/VoteJoeMcAndrew)

Campaign Instagram

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Campaign Tik Tok

.....

Campaign Youtube

.....

Other Social Media

.....

Background Info & Questions

Please list all public service positions held over your career including unpaid public service. *

Former Democratic Leader Frank Dermody Harrisburg Office, 2020 Joe Biden Office Manager, Executive Director Allegheny County Democratic Committee, Field Staff Congressman Chris Deluzio, Former Oakmont Democratic Committee VC, Former Oakmont Chamber of Commerce VP, Former Chair Penn Hills Democratic Committee

Please describe the general background of your public service during your professional career. *

The majority of my background in Public Service has focused on getting Democrats elected to office and fending off Republican Attacks.

Please describe your accomplishments in promoting the concept of equity for all people. *

I have fought to have people's voice's heard by using their votes, engaging individuals so that they register, show up and vote for their future in election after election.

Please describe any particular qualification you possess which was developed either through your career or in your community that would enhance your ability in the office you seek. *

I listen to people, I possess empathy and understanding, working to make sure that when people speak to me, that I can find where they are coming from and begin building solutions to resolve their problems.

Please describe any particular qualification you possess which was developed either through your career or in your community that would enhance your ability to serve in government. *

A focus on my professional career has been constituent services and being a Public Servant. I work hard to serve the people who need me and get them the resources they need from the state or other entities. In my first full year, 2023, my office served 10,900 pieces of casework, compared to the average State Representative's casework of 4,500.

Please list all endorsements you have received *

Steel City Stonewall Democrats

If elected, what are your top three priorities? *

1) Transportation (including public transportation funding) 2) Housing Equity 3) Fighting Corporate Greed

Questionnaire

Please answer the questions below to the best of your ability. Please select **no opinion** if you believe your position prevents you from answering a question. Comments are provided **only IF** you would like to expand on your multiple choice answers.

1. Do you feel the government has done its job of making our region more equitable? *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

2. What is within the government's ability to make our region more equitable, and what in your view, is its role? *

We must push to increase the minimum wage through law, regulate private equity firms purchasing homes and holding landlords accountable for the conditions of their property. The state should also increase funding and find a fair funding solution for education, including increasing funding to early childhood education, such as pre-k counts and head start programing. I also support passing the crown act and other laws to prevent discrimination against how individuals look or who they love.

3. Do you believe the government has a role to play to address our region's longstanding racial, gender and sexual identity inequities? *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

4. What is that role? What specific policy decisions could help address these inequities? *

As stated previously, laws to prevent discriminations such as the Crown Act and Fairness Doctrine need to be passed. Protections against discriminations in schools should be implemented state wide. A fairly funded education system would help disparaged schools in urban communities. Property registries to hold landlords accountable for their properties regardless if they own multiple and more.

5. Should individual members of government focus on addressing the root causes of the racial and other inequities within the Pennsylvania region? *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

6. How do you feel you may do this for your district and the people you represent?

I believe State Representatives are advocates as well as public servants in our roles. When we see an issue effecting our constituents it is mine and all state reps. role to advocate for the resolution of those issues and policy that will prevent them. I will continue to listen to my constituents with an open heart and fight when they need me to fight for what they need me to fight for in our system.

7. Do you support efforts to increase the minimum wage? *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

8. Do you support efforts to legalize cannabis in PA? *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Comments

We must legalize, but also find a way to make sure the system is fair so that big corporations don't exploit the market and we find ways to give opportunity to minority cannabis entrepreneurs can success.

9. Do you support the expungement of records related to cannabis sale, possession, and or/usage? *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Comments *

I am in full support of the removal of marijuana violators convictions from individuals records.

10. Do you support the expansion of our public transit system (ex. Pittsburgh Regional Transit) into neighboring counties and the potential use of new methods of transit (Rail rapid transit, light rail expansion etc)? *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

11. Do you support a pathway for immunity for those with cannabis related conditions and an inclusion of such individuals in the emerging cannabis industry? Why? Why Not? *

Yes, I have voted for and support protections for cannabis users, especially medical cannabis users.

12. Should the Commonwealth pass new laws to protect voting rights in light of new challenges against the recently passed ACT 77? *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

13. What, if any, is the biggest threat to voting rights in Pennsylvania? *

The Republican push back on mail-in voting and implementing strict voter-id laws.

14. Do you support the creation or continuation of universal health programs, such as Medicare for All? *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

15. If you answered yes, do you believe this should be permanent or a stepping stone to single payer healthcare?

It honestly depends how it is rolled out, I believe Medicare for All should be implemented and could eventually be shifted to be a single payer system, if done in the right manner.

16. Should the government require local law enforcement agencies to ban chokeholds and no knock style raids in order to receive assistance? *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Comments

17. Do you believe the affordable, fair housing crisis includes having the government address issues with zoning, rent control, and eviction alternatives? *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

18. What do you believe the solutions to the housing and eviction crisis should be?

Banning Wall Street Private Equity firms from purchasing single family homes at mass scale and building a registry of perpetual violators of landlord ordinances would be two major steps. Preventing new property owners from raising rates of current tenants would be another addition.

Comments

19. Should pennsylvania end qualified immunity for government officials, including law enforcement agents, in civil actions alleging deprivation of rights? *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Comments

20. Should Pennsylvania pass legislation requiring the commonwealth to focus on the ability to release net-zero carbon emissions into the atmosphere by the year 2050? *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Comments

21. Do you support public investment and funding of the public schools and public community schools? *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Comments

22. Do you support investment into green energy and green energy jobs at the local level? *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Comments

23. Do you support investment into business education and sustainability into underserved and and underrepresented communities ? *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Comments

Particularly the investment in training, whether in the manufacturer, builder or digital spaces (such as coding).

24. Should the ICE detention facilities in the United States be subject to greater local oversight? *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Comments

I would be concerned with areas in the south being subject to republican politicians who would undermine protections for the people within the facilities.

25. Should the Commonwealth work within its power to ensure access to banking for locally regulated cannabis businesses? *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Comments

26. Do you believe there should be any new gun legislation to combat the health epidemic of mass shootings and gun violence? *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Comments

I voted and supported the gun package passed this year in the PA State House.

27. Do you support a path to citizenship for “dreamers”? *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Comments

28. Do you support creating incentives for green technology innovation in opposition to working to revive the coal industry? *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Do you believe in a hybrid model?

I believe we need stability in the energy market as we continue to strive for an eventual 100% renewable space. We must continue to invest in renewable energy in this space, but we cannot lose consumer confidence as we progress towards it.

29. Do you support expanding access to affordable, accessible housing for low-income people? *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

If you answered yes, through what means? If no, why not? *

We need to continue to support the development of new affordable housing. The current way I have seen most prominently is subsidizing a builder to help facility rent fixed units, I am not opposed to this, but am still learning of alternatives and am unaware if there are better ones out there, other than when the county owns the facilities, which I am not opposed to either.

30. Do you promote diversion of people with mental illness from the criminal justice system, and to increase access to community mental health services? *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Comments

31. Do you believe the Commonwealth has a role to play in reducing the maternal and infant mortality rates for the Black community in Pennsylvania? *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Comments

I signed to be a member of the PA Black Maternal Health Caucus co-chaired by Rep. Latasha Mayes, and believe we need to be addressing this issue. As a father of 3 girls, two of which spent over 8-months in the NICU, I am a strong believer in helping improve the odds of healthy pregnancies and births of Black mothers and babies in our Commonwealth.

32. According to the FBI, White Supremacy is on the offensive both in government and in our socio-political rhetoric. What can be done to protect communities of color, LGBTQ folk, Women, Immigrants and other at risk communities from this very real threat? *

I have supported increasing funding of security grants for our communities gathering spaces and places of worship. I believe we need stricter gun laws to get guns out of the hands of potential attackers of these communities and in increased education of our students on the blessing it is to have diversity in our Commonwealth and Nation.

33. How do you define community safety? How can your position work to keep the community safe? *

Community Safety is making sure that we help prevent violence in the street. But it also means we have safe spaces for our families and young people to congregate and express themselves and we have safe sidewalks to walk on and accessibility for the elderly and those with disabilities to utilize resources. It is making sure residents aren't worried about being threatened to be kicked out of their home by property managers and people aren't fired for wearing their hair naturally. Community Safety to me is making sure our community has what it needs to have protections and resources for residents to live in peace.

34. Outside of policing and prisons, what are some of the solutions to reducing the amount of violence that happens in the commonwealth?

Mental Health support is at the top of this list. In addition, I feel community groups such as CURE Violence who try to find resolutions outside of the courtroom are key. I also believe in building out community centers and youth programming to give children and young adults safe spaces to congregate and express themselves.

35. Do you support expansive ballot access to include drop boxes, ballots translated into multiple languages, and extended voting opportunities on the weekends? *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Comments

36. Do you believe the process to reinstate the right to vote for returning citizens * (those returning from government detainment) should be streamlined and automated to inform participant upon release?

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Comments

37. What can you do to improve the quality of life of the average Black 22 year old in your district?

To give them access to opportunity. We need increased public transportation to access education hubs such as Oakland or a direct bus line to the opportunities in Monroeville. Opportunity through education and job skills training. To bring good paying jobs to the area so that the only jobs available to them aren't just at the local dollar store or car wash.

38. Why should voters trust you to operate differently? How will you ensure transparency if elected?

The role as a State Representative to me is that of being a Public Servant and that entails listening, delivering and advocating. Listening to what they are saying. Delivering to the people in their time of need what the state can to help. Advocating for the people for policies that will protect and better their lives.

39. Do you believe art is a vital resource for education, tourism, violence intervention, and cultural competency ? *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Comments

40. Do you believe in funding the arts as a general practice of community investments? *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Comments

41. How do you define governmental transparency?

In a general sense I feel public transparency is opening up the books to make sure that people can see how tax payer money is spent and how government officials are voting. But in addition, I feel that transparency also needs to include laws around how officials are being influenced and lobbied. This includes better campaign finance reports, limits on contribution maximums and the end of deceitful corporate superpacs.

Comments

43. What does reproductive justice mean to you?

Protecting Women's healthcare. Yes making sure women have a right to choose, but also that women have access to contraceptives' and regular health screenings. That they have access to care to make sure their maternal morbidity is down and their bodies are safe.

44. The medical result of pregnancy decision should not result in a criminal arrest * or prosecution of the individual or their doctor.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Comments

45. Do you support reparations for the descendants of those who were enslaved or denied governmental services based upon their racial classification? *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Comments

I believe that the system was stacked against the decedents of slaves for years after slavery ended. That we must reinstate affirmative action and create additional policies to give a fair shot to those who were marginalized for generations through systematic oppressions.

46. Do you support an end to lifetime parole in Pennsylvania? *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Comments

46. Do you support a restoration of gun rights to those who have completed their ^{*} sentence of incarceration and who have not committed a violent act within a minimum 10 year time period following their release?

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Comments

47. Do you support protections from discrimination that would allow members of the LGBTQIA+ community protection from eviction, employment opportunities, and medical discrimination? *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Comments

48. Pennsylvania has one of the largest aging populations in the country. Do you believe our government can do more to improve the conditions of the facilities and the overall quality of life for our seniors ? *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Comments

49. How do you define disability justice and how have you worked in the past to uphold its principles?

Disability justice to me means finding ways to make sure those with disabilities are included in our society and given a fair shot to be apart of our communities, not shunned away. This strongly includes my support for accessible public amenities and adaptable equipment.

50. How have you worked in the past to engage youth, particularly those who have been considered at risk?

I currently serve on the Child and Youth committee in the PA House, advocating heavily for increases in funding to our childcare programs such as AIU, Pre-K Counts and Head start. I am a strong believer in early childhood education and education as a whole.

51. Artists, cultural spaces, and artist practitioners provide a vital partnership and resources to government agencies. *

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- No Opinion
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Comments

Thank You

Thank you so much for applying. We appreciate your commitment to public service and working to ensure the people of the Commonwealth are well represented.

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