

NYSRSAS

Focus Group Meeting on the Mid-Term Elections

July 12, 2018

Present: Ed Bellomo, Gene Goldwasser, Corine Lipset-Huberman, Marty Mandelker, Stu Mortman, Ned Price, John Wallace

Coverage:

Congressional District

Members

1	Gene, Pat, Vince
2	Ed, Corine
3	John, Stu
4	Ned, Marty

New York State Executive Officers

Governor, Comptroller, Attorney General Corine, Ned, John

Recommendations for Endorsements to be made at the September 12, 2018 Executive Board Meeting

Research to include: examination of voting records, profile (what they state they accomplished), where they stand on the issues we feel are important to our members, any other relevant information uncovered by the members involved.

Issues and Concerns

What is your position on Medicare? Do you support it in its present form? If not, what would you change – increase benefits, increase premiums or co-pays, replace it with a voucher system?

What is your position and do you support allowing Medicare to negotiate prescription drug prices?

Do you support social Security in its present form? If not, what would you change? Would you support privatization? Raising the age at which people would be eligible for benefits? To what age? Increasing benefits? How would you propose paying for it?

Do you support increasing the cap on Social Security withholding tax as a means of insuring the solvency and continued viability of the system?

What is your position on the following issues related to gun control: Do you support raising the age of gun purchases to 21 or older? Do you support establishing stringent universal background checks for all gun sales? Do you support prohibiting people on Federal Watch Lists from being able to purchase guns? Do you support limiting magazine capacity? Do you support arming and training teachers and administrators in the carrying and handling of guns on school grounds? Do you support the universal

carry law which would allow individuals with carry permits in other states to bring their handguns with them to New York?

What is your position regarding providing vouchers for attendance at private and/or parochial schools?

What is your position on federal funding for public and charter schools?

What is your position on DACA?

What do you propose to do to bridge the gap between strong opposing views and factions in Congress to unify the country?

New York State Questions

For the Governor: What is your position on reforming the voting system? Are you in favor or opposed to: voting by mail, early voting, open primaries, same day registration?

What is your position on the expansion of charter schools, equalization of funding between school districts, reforming the funding of schools, in general, and linking student performance to teacher evaluation?

What is your position on Health Insurance for All? Do you support A4738?

What is your position on public funding for elections; on ethics reform?

For the Attorney General: What is your position on continuing the lawsuits against the federal government started by your predecessors?

For the Comptroller: What strategy would you use to guide investments in New York State public employee pension systems?