


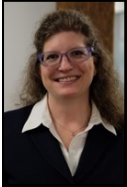




2016 CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

| | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| | <p>Immigration – The majority of Asian American Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) immigrate to the U.S. through family, with AAPIs sponsoring over 30% of all family-based visas each year. However, AAPIs are more likely than other groups to be delayed by visa backlog, with family often waiting 10-20 years. AAPIs also are the 2nd largest undocumented population (1.3 million), according to the Department of Homeland Security. In 2013, the Senate passed S.744, which would create a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants, help clear visa backlogs, and increase H1-B visas for skilled immigrants. S.744 would also shift immigration away from a family-based system by eliminating siblings and adult children visa categories. S.744 has not yet passed the U.S. House. Do you support immigration reform as proposed in S.744, and what if any, changes would you make? (Yes/No) Please explain.</p> | <p>Deferred Action – Asian Americans make up 10 percent of all undocumented immigrants in the United States. It is estimated that 168,670 undocumented AAPIs are potentially eligible for the Deferred Action Childhood Arrivals (DACA) relief and 462,376 undocumented AAPIs are potentially eligible for the Deferred Actions for Parental Accountability (DAPA). However, currently President Obama’s executive order on November 20, 2014 is being reviewed by the U.S. Supreme Court due to challenges by several states. Do you support comprehensive immigration reform that will grant lawful status to individuals eligible for DACA and DAPA? (Yes/No) Please explain.</p> | <p>Voting Rights – In 2013, the Supreme Court ruled that Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act (VRA) of 1964 needs to be rewritten. Section 5 created federal protections for voters in geographic areas with histories of racial discrimination. For example, in 2011 the Texas legislature attempted to redraw the district of Hubert Vo, Texas’s first Vietnamese-American state representative, into the same district as another legislator. A federal court used Section 5 to stop the redrawing after local AAPIs objected to the plan. In order for Section 5 protections to exist again, Congress must rewrite Section 5 of the VRA. Do you support restoring Section 5 of the VRA? (Yes/No) Please explain.</p> |
| <p>Bullwinkel (D)</p>  | <p>I would support a bill in the house that streamlines the visa process and eliminates obstacles for law-abiding immigrants. If we continue to have policies that promote backlogs and make it harder to come to this country legally, we are advocating for more people to break the law. Fixing our immigration system would also bring millions out of the shadows and into an economy where the improved tax base could help support funding for education, healthcare and infrastructure.</p> | <p>I will be a strong advocate to protect and implement the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and Deferred Action for Parents of Americans (DAPA) programs to keep AAPI families together.</p> | <p>I support Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act. Discrimination will not be tolerated in any aspect of our society and we need to implement policies that will protect those vulnerable to racism.</p> |
| <p>Krishnamorthi (D)</p>  | <p>Yes, I would support a House version of S. 744 as a starting point for comprehensive immigration reform, as long as it addresses concerns about the lack of avenues for family unification.</p> | <p>Yes, I support comprehensive immigration reform to that will turn President Obama’s 2014 executive order into law.</p> | <p>The fact of the matter is that we do not live in a post-racial society. Section five is an important tool for minority communities to protect their legislative representation through the judiciary against powerful legislators who may put the interests of themselves and their supporters before those of underrepresented minorities.</p> |
| <p>Noland (D)</p>  | <p>I believe very strongly that the United States needs to pass a comprehensive immigration policy to address the backlog of visas and provide a pathway to citizenship. Congress needs to protect the rights of immigrants. I will fight against any attempt to use the federal government as a tool for scapegoating minorities. Instead, I’ll support comprehensive immigration reform that will open our borders to the next first-generation Americans.</p> | <p>I proudly support DACA & DAPA. In the Illinois Senate I supported the IL DREAM Act which allows undocumented students, to participate in the State Treasurer’s College Savings Pool and the Illinois Prepaid Tuition Plan. It requires the IL Student Assistance Commission to establish an Illinois DREAM Fund Commission administered by volunteers of the State appointed by Governor Quinn. The IL DREAM Fund Commission will establish scholarships for qualified undocumented students.</p> | <p>Yes, I support restoring section 5 of the Voting Rights Act. I also support initiatives that allow for greater participation in the electoral process. For example, I oppose voter identification laws, and in the Senate I supported legislation that allows for same day voter registration and online voter registration.</p> |
| <p>DiCianni (R)</p> | <p>FAILED TO RESPOND</p> | <p>FAILED TO RESPOND</p> | <p>FAILED TO RESPOND</p> |

2016 CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| | <p>National Security – In 1941, President Roosevelt responded to Japan’s attack on Pearl Harbor by issuing Executive Order 9066, leading to forced removal and internment of 120,000 Japanese Americans. In 1988, President Reagan authorized a payment of \$20,000 to each camp survivor; and stated, “Here we admit a wrong; here we reaffirm our commitment to equal justice under the law.” In response to terrorist attacks, some presidential candidates propose banning immigration from Muslim countries, with one candidate calling for a federal registry of all Muslim Americans, similar to the National Security Entry-Exit Registration System (NSEERS), which targeted noncitizens from countries such as Iran, Pakistan, and Indonesia. Do you support national security proposals that focus on specific religious or racial groups, such as today’s Muslims and Muslim Americans? (Yes/No) Please explain.</p> | <p>Education – Lost in the “model minority” myth is the fact that many AAPIs continue to struggle academically. Nationally, 29% of Vietnamese Americans, 33% of Laotian-Americans, and 37% Cambodian-Americans do not graduate high school. In Illinois, the percentage of Chinese-Americans with a high school degree falls below the state average. In fact, the number of AAPI English language learner (ELL) students enrolled in Illinois public schools increased 21% from 2000-2010. Do you support increasing federal funding for ELL programs in public schools? (Yes/No) Please explain.</p> | <p>Healthcare – The 2008-2010 American Community Survey (ACS) reports AAPIs are more likely than white Americans to be without health insurance, with one in 4 Pakistani Americans and one in 5 Korean Americans in Illinois being uninsured. The Center for Disease Control reports about 13% of AAPIs could not see a doctor in 2010 because of cost. Congress passed the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in 2010, which expanded Medicaid coverage to low-income individuals by standardizing eligibility levels. Currently, the ACA doesn’t require states to extend health coverage to undocumented adults. House Speaker Paul Ryan and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell both propose a full repeal of the ACA. Do you support the ACA, and what if any, changes would you make? (Yes/No) Please explain.</p> |
| <p>Bullwinkel (D)</p>  | <p>I do not support any bans on Muslim admissions to the United States. Not only is it unconstitutional, but also it goes against the fabric of our nation. Our country prides itself as a beacon of religious freedom to the world, and a ban on Muslim admissions goes against our deep-rooted values.</p> | <p>The language barrier is one of the largest obstacles facing AAPI students. When state and local governments cannot provide the sufficient resources for our students, the Federal government needs to step in to give these students the help to integrate into society and do well academically.</p> | <p>I oppose repealing the ACA, but I am dedicated to finding meaningful reforms that will continue to improve the value and quality of care for Americans. After speaking with business owners and families across the district, I recognize that the cost of health insurance is increasing for them. I will do what I can to implement sensible reforms to help reduce the financial burden that is impacting business owners and working families.</p> |
| <p>Krishnamorthi (D)</p>  | <p>No one should be denied entrance to the United States because of their religion. This would violate the founding principles of this nation and send a deeply alienating message to billions of Muslims who bear our country no ill-will.</p> | <p>Yes, I support increased federal funding to ELL programs to ensure equal opportunities for new immigrants.</p> | <p>The Affordable Care Act has extended health insurance coverage to millions of previously uninsured people. Measures such as the Medicaid expansion and subsidies will, in the long term, help to strengthen and broaden the middle class. However, insurance premiums are still too high for too many people, many patients cannot afford the medicines they need, and health care providers are being squeezed. New measures against price-gouging by pharmaceutical companies are needed – especially for generic and ‘orphan’ drugs. Furthermore, the government should be allowed to negotiate drug prices under Medicare Part D in order to make those medicines more affordable, and reduce the overall cost of healthcare. Finally, we need continued and vigorous oversight of insurance companies to ensure that affordable and comprehensive insurance plans are available to individuals and small businesses.</p> |
| <p>Noland (D)</p>  | <p>No, I do not support any policy that singles out any ethnic or religious group for extra scrutiny or discrimination in the name of national security.</p> | <p>Yes, I do support the federal government increasing the funding to ELL programs in public schools.</p> | <p>I believe that it is the responsibility of government to assure access to quality and affordable health care for every citizen. Affordable and effective healthcare can be a reality in the United States, but we’re not quite there. Obamacare is a great first step, but it can be improved. I support a single payer system that provides access to a full range of preventative, acute and long term health care services, including mental health treatment.</p> |
| <p>DiCianni (R)</p> | <p>FAILED TO RESPOND</p> | <p>FAILED TO RESPOND</p> | <p>FAILED TO RESPOND</p> |