

Wednesday, March 16, 2022

Candidate Questionnaire - 2022 Primary

Dear Alex Bores,

Congratulations on your decision to run for a seat on the New York Legislature! Citizens Union appreciates your commitment to serve the public.

In the following pages, you will find questions regarding your positions on various reform issues and your plans for office.

Responses to these questions will be one of several factors Citizens Union uses to evaluate candidates running for office, and to issue our preference for the June primary. Read more about the method, principles, and criteria of the candidate evaluation process [here](#).

**

If you wish to be considered, please submit the questionnaire by March 16.

If you seek our support, we will need to schedule an interview with you as part of the evaluation process. Given time constraints and the limited capacity of a member-based organization, we may not be able to evaluate all contests or candidates in this election cycle.

**

If you cannot complete the questionnaire in one sitting, you can click Save at the bottom of every page.

Once you submit the questionnaire, you will receive a confirmation email with your responses. Citizens Union will not be able to see your answers unless you submit the form. We plan to make responses to this questionnaire public on our website, printed voters directory, and other appropriate venues (your contact information will not be published).

For any questions, please email candidates@citizensunion.org

We thank you very much for your response.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Name

[Alex Bores](#)

Office Sought (New York State)

[Assembly](#)

District Number

[73](#)

In which primary

[Democratic](#)

What party line/s are you running under?

[Democrat](#)

If elected, which legislative conference will you join (e.g., Democrat, Republican, other)?

[Democrat](#)

Age

[31](#)

Education

[Master's in Computer Science](#)

Previous Offices, Campaigns and Community/Civic Involvement

[Democratic District Leader. First time candidate.](#)

Website alexbores.nyc

Twitter [@AlexBores](https://twitter.com/AlexBores)

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/AlexBoresforAss>

[embly/](#)

AFFIRMATIONS

Have you completed the required campaign finance filings?

Yes

Are you willing to be interviewed by Citizens Union's Local Candidates Committee?

Yes

(Please note: interviews are prerequisites for Citizens Union preferences and endorsements)

Signature

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alex", is written in a cursive style.

ETHICS

Do you support replacing Joint Commission on Public Ethics with an effective and independent enforcement body, whose members are not appointed directly by elected officials?

Yes

Do you support the new independent ethics oversight agency to also replace the Legislative Ethics Commission (LEC)?

Yes

Do you support allowing the new ethics body to investigate misconduct more effectively by simplifying its voting rules, giving it the authority to subpoena testimony and documents, empowering it to suspend or terminate public officials (not elected officials), and increasing its transparency?

Yes

Do you support significantly limiting outside compensation earned by state legislators and eliminate stipends, while increasing their pay?

Yes

Do you hold financial interest or serve as an officer on an entity that receives funding from the state? If you do, how will you manage this conflict of interest?

I do not hold a financial interest in any such entity.

If needed, you may elaborate below on your positions on the previous questions. You may also provide additional information on any actions that you have taken or plan to take to advance your positions on these issues.

I do not hold a financial interest in any such entity.

ELECTIONS AND VOTING

Election Administration

How would you use your power as a legislator to improve election administration in New York? Feel free to add any policy proposals you support in regards to reforming the BOE.

The BOE desperately needs to be professionalized. The current structure emphasizes patronage and ensures gridlock. I would remove the control of political parties, standardize election administration, and commit to the actions discussed in the following questions.

Do you support removing the constitutional requirement in election administration that empowers the two major political parties to nominate and effectively control election boards?

Yes

Do you support reducing the party-based hiring in boards of elections to the minimum currently required by the constitution?

Yes

Do you support implementing an open, competitive, merit-based hiring process for all election administration staff and certain functions at polls?

Yes

If needed, you may elaborate below on your positions on the previous questions.

Voting Rights

Do you support re-passing the constitutional amendment to enact same-day voter registration, and putting it on the ballot in 2024?

Yes

Do you support re-passing the constitutional amendment to enact no-excuse absentee voting, and putting it on the ballot in 2024?

Yes

If needed, you may elaborate below on your positions on the previous questions. You may also provide additional information on any actions that you have taken or plan to take to advance your positions on these issues.

Open and Competitive Elections

Do you support easing access to the ballot for parties and independent candidates, by returning to the pre-2020 voting and signature thresholds? That includes reducing the voting threshold to become a registered party back to 50,000 votes in a gubernatorial election, and the petition requirement for independent candidates back to 15,000 signatures.

Yes

Do you support reforming the process of filling vacancies in the state legislature by implementing nonpartisan special elections or holding a primary election at least thirty days in advance of the special election?

Yes

Who do you think should draw new district maps every decade in New York? (e.g., the current Independent Redistricting Commission, the Legislature/LATFOR, a new body)

I believe an Independent Redistricting Commission should draw maps. That could be the existing commission with changes or a brand new one. The body could use Michigan's redistricting commission as a model - exclude all current politicians, choose from volunteers at random, and ensure that the final maps have votes from Democrats, Republicans, and Independents.

If needed, you may elaborate below on your positions on the previous questions. You may also provide additional information on any actions that you have taken or plan to take to advance your positions on these issues.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE

Do you support further reducing campaign contribution limits?

Yes

Do you support setting even lower contribution limits for registered lobbyists and those who do business with the state?

Yes

Starting from the next election cycle, New York will have a public campaign finance program, offering matching funds on small donations for candidates who opt in. If you decide to run again in the next election, do you intend to participate in the program?

Yes

Do you support moving the campaign finance matching program to be administered by an independent, nonpartisan body outside of the State Board of Election?

Yes

If needed, you may elaborate below on your positions on the previous questions. You may also provide additional information on any actions that you have taken or plan to take to advance your positions on these issues.

COURT REFORM

Do you support simplifying and consolidating New York State's court system - which includes 11 trial courts - by passing the Chief Judge's proposed constitutional amendment to modernize the courts?

Yes

If needed, you may elaborate below on your positions on the previous questions. You may also provide additional information on any actions that you have taken or plan to take to advance your positions on these issues.

GOALS, PLANS, AND REPRESENTATION

What are the top three campaign promises or goals, and what action will you take to achieve them if elected? Feel free to reference an answer above rather than restate it.

First: I will work to pass legislation expanding the NYC provision requiring all new buildings use electric power to the entire state, pass the Fossil Fuel Subsidy Elimination Act and invest in the New York Power Authority to increase the renewable energy percentage from 70 percent to 100 percent.

Second: I will work to legalize and fund safety upgrades for ADUs, invest in Transit Oriented Development, increase the HONDA budget, and fight for good cause eviction.

Third: As the only member of the Democratic majority with a degree in Computer Science, I will take a lead in regulating tech and using it effectively in state government.

If elected, what is the first piece of legislation you would want to introduce? If you are an incumbent, what is the first piece of legislation you would want to pass?

There are many existing pieces of legislation I support, but the first new one I would introduce would be one instructing the state government to build a one-stop-shop for all benefits provided by the state, making it easy for New Yorkers to get the aid they need.

In providing constituent service, what are the major needs of your district's constituents and how will you meet them?

The 73rd is a relatively affluent, highly educated & older district. While it has some of the same concerns as every other district, there is a focus on services for the elderly, on housing assistance, and on quality-of-life issues.

As a former Constituent Services representative in a Council office, I know the importance of providing accessible and reliable service.

I will build a list of resources so we can quickly answer constituents' questions, follow-up directly with government agencies where needed, and ensure my constituents' questions don't stay as one-offs but become inspiration for bills that can solve issues at a societal level.

What experience have you had, if any, with good government and reform issues? (e.g. voting and elections, campaign finance, ethics, government transparency)

and oversight, police accountability). If you've worked to advance these goals, we'd love to hear about it.

I raised money for and produced a (very amateur) video for Mayday.us, the Super PAC designed to end all Super PACs: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r3Uiss5h-zU> I also started a nonprofit to keep elections secure by providing cybersecurity training and services to campaigns (<https://foresightpartners.us>)

How long have you lived in the district in which you are running?

I'm born-and-raised (and lifelong) east sider

Have you lived in the district before this year's redistricting?

I'm born-and-raised (and lifelong) east sider

For incumbents: If your district has changed significantly following this year's redistricting, how do you intend to run your office to serve the needs of the new constituents you now represent?

N/A

PATH TO VICTORY

What is your win number (the number of votes needed to win this race), and what is your plan to achieve that number?

The win number is 6,983. (38% of projected turnout, with turnout projected as 39% of active registered Democrats).

In the mayoral race, more mainstream candidates captured 78% of the first place votes. If we get just half of that vote share, we'll reach our win number. Additionally, Kathryn Garcia dominated this district, receiving 42% of the votes (based on the new lines). Our message of competent governance resonates with Garcia voters.

This is the district that is 6th highest in post-graduate education in the state. My educational background (Master's in Computer Science - would be the only member of the Democratic majority with a degree in computer science) plays well in this district.

Lastly, as a born-and-raised east sider, I have a built in base of building captains and other volunteers that were former classmates, parents of former classmates, or other friends.

What are your current fundraising numbers, if different than the last campaign finance filing?

The off-cycle report filed as of 3/3 has detailed numbers. The \$83,657.06 we raised for the primary was the highest of any candidate filing in this race so far (the only other candidate with a filing had raised ~\$81,000 for the primary). We have grown our momentum since then.

How many individual donors do you have?

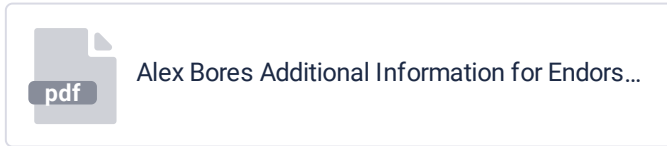
215

Please indicate any endorsements that your campaign has received, if applicable (you can also share a link to a list of endorsements)

NABET-CWA Local 16 (the only union endorsement in the race)
314 Action (National PAC)
Upper East Side Progressives

ADDITIONAL INFO

Please feel free to attach any additional information such as resume, campaign brochures, or issues statements.



What else would you like us to know about yourself?

Please review your answers by clicking PREVIEW ANSWERS below. You can submit the questionnaire at the bottom of the preview page by clicking SUBMIT. Once you click SUBMIT, you will receive a confirmation email with a PDF file containing your responses. *If you don't see the email, please check your spam box.*

If you have any further questions, you may contact us at candidates@citizensunion.org

Responses to the questionnaire will be one of several factors Citizens Union uses to evaluate candidates running for the New York State Legislature, and to issue our preference for the Primary and endorsement for the General Election.

If you seek our support, we will also need to schedule an interview with you as part of the evaluation process. Please contact us if you wish to be interviewed.

We plan to make responses to this questionnaire public on our website, printed voters directory, and other appropriate venues.