

Name Nathaniel Hezekiah

GENERAL INFORMATION

Office Sought (New York State)

District Number 32

In which primary

Age 40

Education College Degree

Current job, position, or occupation

Public Servant

Campaign Contact Information

Signature



GOALS AND PLANS

In addition to evaluating stances on the reform issues, Citizens Union considers the campaign goals articulated to voters, issues specific to the district, and the ability propose thoughtful solutions to represent constituents' interests.

What are your top three campaign promises or goals, and what actions will you take to achieve them if elected?

If elected, my top three campaign goals are:

1. Preserve and expand affordable housing: I will strengthen oversight of Mitchell-Lama developments like Rochdale Village to ensure long-term affordability and building stability, fight deed theft and foreclosures through mandated training and enforcement, and expand home repair support for seniors, including full repair or replacement options via OPWDD/OPWPD programs. Additionally, I will partner with faith-based institutions to identify and develop unused property, creating new housing opportunities for our community.

2. Invest in education from early childhood through career: I will work to expand universal 3K and Pre-K access, protect reduced class sizes, and advocate for special needs students to ensure all children receive individualized attention and support. I will also strengthen "cradle to career" pipelines, including trade and

workforce pathways, and safeguard programs like the Excelsior Scholarship to make higher education and career training accessible to all New Yorkers.

3. Strengthen public services and community safety: I will fight to maintain and improve transit infrastructure, expand accessible bus routes and safe streets, and support minority- and women-owned businesses through streamlined MWBE certification and bonding access. I will protect the social safety net by defending Medicaid, Medicare, and SNAP, improving healthcare access for seniors and special needs communities, and sustain funding for community-based organizations. To promote safer communities, I will invest in gun violence prevention programs and expand safe spaces for youth and families.

How long have you lived in the district in which you are running, and do you have any achievements or involvement in your district you are particularly proud of?

I have been with you in the community for 20+ years:

Prioritizing safe streets

Volunteering with our seniors, youth and families around food insecurity

Supporting our small businesses

Facilitating investment to MWBE's for ongoing work with JFK development

Developing thousands in scholarship materials for our youth, engaging scores of our public schools annually, and managing supportive funding for PAL and YMCA

What experience have you had, if any, with good government and reform issues? (e.g. voting and elections, campaign finance, ethics and anti-corruption, checks and balances, government transparency and oversight, police accountability). If you've worked to advance these goals, we'd love to hear about it.

I have spent 20+ years in many roles in government and community advocacy where I focused on improving transparency, accountability, and fairness in public programs. I had the honor to work with constituents on issues related to voting and elections, helped ensure funds were distributed equitably, and collaborated with local agencies to improve oversight and responsiveness in government operations. I also engaged with community stakeholders to elevate concerns about ethics, accountability, and public service delivery, ensuring that local voices were included in decision-making processes. These experiences have given me a strong understanding of good government principles and a commitment to advancing transparency, fairness, and accountability at all levels, and when in office I plan to do much more!"

ELECTIONS AND VOTING

1. Do you support opening up New York City's closed primary system, allowing over 1 million unaffiliated voters that are currently locked out of the election to participate in the primary election?

Yes

Comments (optional)

Support allowing over 1 million unaffiliated voters to participate in primaries to make elections more inclusive and representative.

2. Will you oppose any attempt to permanently remove redistricting protections from the state constitution, including existing protections of minority voting rights, population equity, ban on political gerrymandering, and consideration of communities of interest?

Yes

Comments (optional)

Yes I oppose any effort to weaken constitutional protections for fair districts, minority voting rights, population equity, and communities of interest. Opposing efforts to weaken constitutional protections for fair districts, minority voting rights, population equity, and communities of interest is crucial because these safeguards ensure that every vote counts equally and that all communities have a voice in government. They prevent the dilution of minority voting power, protect historically marginalized groups, and maintain equal representation across populations. Keeping communities of interest intact allows people with shared social, cultural, or economic concerns to have coherent representation, rather than being divided to diminish their influence.

3. Do you support reforming the process of filling vacancies in the state legislature by implementing nonpartisan special elections (like the system used in New York City) instead of giving party officials the power to decide who will run as the party nominee?

Yes

Comments (optional)

Yes an increase in fairness and voter participation is important.

4. Do you support restructuring the New York City Board of Elections to make it more professionalized and transparent, and less dependent on political parties (S699 Krueger/A1852 Rozic)?

Yes

Comments (optional)

This will help reform and protect voters' rights, promotes accountability, and ensures that elections reflect

everyone.

5. Do you oppose requiring registered voters to show ID to vote in New York State?

Yes

Comments (optional)

Yes, I oppose requiring ID to vote, as it could create unnecessary barriers to voting.

6. Do you support providing time extenders for polling place voting hours in cases where an emergency leads to voting being disrupted or shut down? (S4602A Gounardes/A5846A Gibbs)

Yes

Comments (optional)

Supporting legislation that extends polling hours in emergencies is important because it ensures that all voters have the opportunity to participate, even when unforeseen circumstances—like severe weather, technical issues, or other disruptions—occur. Extended hours help prevent disenfranchisement, maintain fairness in the electoral process, and protect the principle that every eligible voter should be able to cast their ballot. This kind of measure strengthens trust in elections and reinforces the integrity of democratic participation.

7. Do you support the Democracy During Detention Act (S440 Myrie/A2121 Walker), which establishes the election infrastructure to make voting accessible for all those eligible to vote who are detained in jails?

Yes

Comments (optional)

Supporting the infrastructure to allow eligible detained individuals to vote is important because it ensures that all citizens, regardless of their circumstances, can exercise their fundamental right to participate in elections. Providing this access helps uphold fairness and equality in the democratic process, prevents disenfranchisement, and reinforces the principle that every eligible voter's voice matters, even while temporarily detained.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE

8. Are you a public campaign finance participant? If not, please explain why.

Yes

9. Are you a supporter of the state's public campaign matching funds program, and do you commit to ensuring the program is fully funded?

Yes

Comments (optional)

I strongly support the program and will advocate for full funding to ensure that all candidates have access to public financing, which promotes fairer and more competitive elections.

10. Do you support requiring disclosure of a contributor's employer in campaign finance reports? (S1910 Rivera/A3092 Carroll)

No

Comments (optional)

I was hoping there was a maybe option for this because one main concern I would have is that people may be subject to workplace retaliation, harassment, or professional scrutiny if their employer is publicly linked to their political activity. Additionally, many individuals have complex employment situations—such as multiple jobs, freelance work, or self-employment—that make disclosure confusing or misleading. Requiring employer disclosure could also discourage small-dollar contributions and participation in the political process, but there should be trust in the process.

11. Do you support requiring Independent Expenditure entities (Super PACs) to disclose their top three donors on ads, similar to the requirements under NYC law? (S8445 Fahy/A10097Solages)

Yes

Comments (optional)

Disclosure is essential to prevent hidden influence over elections and maintain voter trust, similar to NYC's existing law.

12. Do you support applying lower contribution limits to lobbyists and people doing business with the state or seeking contracts from the state? New York City imposes lower contribution limits for registered lobbyists and individuals doing business with the City.

Yes

ETHICS

13. Do you support requiring lobbyists to report their campaign contributions and fundraising activity, as well as campaign consulting services they provide?

Yes

14. Do you support including lobbying regarding a nomination or confirmation of a nominee that requires Senate confirmation in lobbying reports? (S374 Gianaris/A7456 McDonald)

Yes

15. Do you support codifying sexual harassment as conduct that violates the public officers and employees code of ethics? (Gounardes S4197/Kelles A6201)

Yes

Comments (optional)

Supporting the codification of sexual harassment as a violation of the public officers and employees code of ethics is important because it sets a clear standard of behavior for all public officials and employees, ensuring accountability and protecting both staff and the public. It creates a formal mechanism to address misconduct, deters abuse of power, and reinforces that public service requires professionalism, respect, and ethical conduct. By making harassment explicitly unethical, it strengthens trust in government and promotes a safer, more respectful workplace.

POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY

16. Do you support giving the New York City Civilian Complaint Review Board access to certain sealed and confidential records in matters involving potential police discipline? (S4966 Bailey/A292 Cruz)

Yes

Comments (optional)

This ensures that independent oversight bodies can conduct thorough and effective investigations, increasing transparency, accountability, and public trust in law enforcement.

17. Do you support transferring disciplinary hearings involving police officers from the NYPD to the Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings (OATH)? (S3927 Myrie)

Yes

Comments (optional)

I support moving disciplinary hearings involving police officers to the Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings (OATH). An independent adjudicatory process reduces conflicts of interest, ensures impartiality, and strengthens public confidence that disciplinary decisions are fair and consistent.

REVISING CITY CHARTERS

15. Do you support banning the establishment of “lame duck” charter revision commissions, established by mayors right before the end of their term? (S8934 Liu)

Yes

16. Do you support mandating that charter commissions conduct their process over a mandatory minimum timeline of 180 days before issuing recommended ballot questions to a city’s charter?

Yes

Comments (optional)

This ensures adequate time for public engagement, careful deliberation, and thoughtful recommendations, allowing all New Yorkers’ voices to be represented in decisions that shape city governance.

ADDITIONAL INFO

What else would you like us to know about yourself?

My name is Nathaniel Hezekiah, III, and I am running for the 32nd Assembly District to serve as your next New York State assemblymember. I witnessed injustice at an early age when my father and step father died from gun violence. I knew from that very moment of pain, I was destined to equalize the paradigm for those who are marginalized, and stand up for what is right, even if it isn’t easy. For me, this is personal, not politics.

With vision, courage and persistence, together, we can fight for economic justice and mobility for our communities, eradicate violence and maintain safer neighborhoods, build and maintain affordable housing for all, remove barriers and expand on access and quality of education, and ensure healthcare is accessible for everyone.

I have been with you in the community for 20+ years:

- Prioritizing safe streets
- Volunteering with our seniors, youth and families around food insecurity
- Supporting our small businesses
- Facilitating a \$5 million+ investment to MWBE’s for ongoing work with JFK development
- Championing projects through the \$15 million+ earmarked for affordable housing efforts, including the Greater Allen Housing Development