

2018 Legislative Questionnaire

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CANDIDATE CERTIFICATION

Candidate Name: Art Haywood

Office Sought: Pennsylvania State Senate

I have read the attached questionnaire responses and certify that the information provided is accurate and the opinions Stated accurately reflect my own positions.

Candidate Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please complete, sign and return this form via mail to:

**Neighborhood Networks
c/o Stan Shapiro
7213 Cresheim Rd.
Philadelphia, PA 19119**

If returning via email, please send to shapsj@comcast.net and sign and return this first page with the candidate signature by mail.

NN Legislative Candidate Questionnaire

BACKGROUND

1. What, if any, elected or appointed government office(s) have you held?

Pennsylvania State Senator– Current
Former President of the Board of Commissioners, Cheltenham Township

2. If you have previously held a government office:
 - a. What are the primary issue areas in which you were involved?
Senator Haywood has expanded support and sponsored legislation for raising the minimum wage to \$15 per hour and sponsored legislation to increase funds for public education with a severance tax on national gas drillers. He hosted the first annual Gun Violence Awareness Day in the capitol in June 2015 and is a champion for gun violence prevention. He is a strong supporter of unions and is against the right to work. Senator Haywood has also sponsored legislation calling for single-payer health care to make ensure every Pennsylvanian has access to affordable, quality care.
 - b. What committees, caucuses or working groups have you served on?
Senator Haywood currently serves on the following committees: Appropriations, Finance, Judiciary, Aging and Youth, Health and Human Services, Urban Affairs, Communications and Technology and Consumer Affairs and Licensing.
3. If you have not previously held a government office, what community or policy issues have you worked on, and in what capacity? (Please provide the names of two or three individuals who can provide information about your previous work.) N/A
4. **Please provide copies of all your significant campaign materials, including position papers, and information on your campaign strategy, expected funding sources, and endorsements.**

Please see www.haywoodforsenate.com

5. What is your plan to win this race?

Obtain endorsement of major local Democratic committee, major activists organizations and major labor unions. Phone bank several thousand voters and canvass several thousand voters. Place social media ads.

ISSUES

Please note: Although many of the following questions may be answered “yes” or “no” you should feel free to elaborate if doing so would provide a clearer Statement of your position. If you believe you do not have enough information to answer a question, or have not formed an opinion, say so.

I. OVERALL

What would be your three highest priorities as a legislator? Explain.

Senator Haywood’s three highest priorities include:

1. Increase the State’s minimum wage to \$15 per hours;
2. Reduce gun violence in our communities; and

3. Increase funds for public education with a severance tax on national gas drillers.

II. Education

- 1) How do you feel about the role of charter schools in Pennsylvania's educational mix? If dissatisfied, what changes in State law would you sponsor to fix the problem?

Charter and cyber charter schools are now an integral and embedded part of our State and local education system. However, we can improve their performance, hold them more accountable educationally and financially, limit growth and prevent them from undermining our traditional public schools. We must address comprehensive charter school reform to address all three of these goals.

- 2) What factors do you believe should be considered in determining *overall levels* of school funding in the Commonwealth, and funding *per school district*?

The Commonwealth should provide assistance to struggling schools. Pennsylvania has school districts and buildings that are in trouble and the only source of immediate assistance has to come from the State. Whether it's financial, educational, or both, we must create diagnostic programs to identify problems within schools and customize solutions to improve administrative, instructional, and learning performance. Our constitution requires that, "The General Assembly shall provide for the maintenance and support of a thorough and efficient system of public education to serve the needs of the Commonwealth." This is not a requirement that the Legislature is fulfilling. While the Senate Democrats have prioritized education funding and made great strides at increases, we still have not achieved the goal of funding public education by 50% at the State level or equitable funding. We must do more.

- 3) Do you believe public college, or community college, should be tuition free?

Senator Haywood supports increasing resources for higher education by restoring funding that was cut to higher education during the previous administration and better funding PHEAA loans. The Senator is also an advocate for free community college, ensuring all Pennsylvanians have the opportunity to pursue independence through higher education.

Higher Education has become integral in today's high-tech, internationally competitive workplace. However, Pennsylvania now has the highest student tuition debt among the States, indicating a system that is costly and prohibitive to enter. We must do more to make our community colleges and State system of higher education more affordable so that everyone that wants to continue their education past high school has an opportunity to do so.

- 4) What role do you believe standardized tests should play in evaluating teachers, schools and students, if any?

Senator Haywood believes standardized tests are one measure of how well our schools are performing, and should be considered among other evaluation criteria.

- 5) What is your view of plans to increase the use of computers in public schools, particularly as a way to reduce the number of teachers?

Senator Haywood supports the increased use of computers in public schools as a tool to improve students' preparation for knowledge and technology-based careers, not as a strategy to reduce the number of teachers.

III. Budget and Taxes

- 1) Do you support a Constitutional Amendment to permit progressive taxation in PA, in whole or part?
Yes.
- 2) If legal, would you support raising the tax on unearned income as a way to increase State revenue without increasing burdens on working people?
Yes, Senator Haywood's fair share tax plan does just that by raising taxes on capital gains, dividends, royalties and other income from wealth are taxed at the rate of slightly over 6%.
- 3) What changes if any would you support in corporate net income tax levels?

My fair share tax plan is the tax plan that I support.

- 4) What changes, if any, would you support in the personal income tax?
Pennsylvania's Personal Income Tax (PIT) rate of 3.07% among the lowest in the country in States that impose the tax. Included in paying the PIT are many businesses that have a structured as "pass-through entities." Senator Haywood believes the PIT for individuals should be lowered, while treating business or passive income differently. This will raise money, potentially to pay for property tax relief, reduce individual income tax bills, and tax business income more closely to corporate income. This is the fair share tax plan.
- 5) Do you support full elimination of the Delaware loophole?
Pennsylvania's tax code is riddled with loopholes, exemptions, tax credits, and deductions that could all be used to reduce the tax rate and provide a level playing field for all businesses, rather than just those that have the lobbying strength to get special treatment. Senator Haywood supports closing the so-called "Delaware Loophole."

Do you support a tax on fracking, and at what level?

Pennsylvania has the second largest shale deposits in the hemisphere, yet it is the only shale-producing State without a severance tax. Because of this, Senator Haywood has introduced SB415, which would implement an affordable 8% severance tax, generating more than \$1 billion in new State revenues in the first year alone. This money would be set aside for the "Growing Greener" environmental protection program, and it would also be distributed to public schools and the State's pension fund.

Senator Haywood understands that concerns have been raised regarding the potential impact of shale drilling on our environment and health. He supports further research to determine how Pennsylvania can ensure that drilling is done as safely as possible. While we await conclusive research on this important issue, the Senator supports a severance tax that ensures drilling companies pay their fair share towards our Commonwealth's future.

- 6) Would you support abolition of the property tax for all or some payers? If so, which ones, and how would you replace the revenue?

Senator Haywood believes Pennsylvania's property taxes are antiquated, unfair, and inequitable. They are also a deterrent to people aging in the homes that they have worked throughout their lives to own and they act as a disincentive to homeowners improving and maintaining their homes. The Senator supports providing substantial property tax relief and eliminating the property taxes of 60% of homeowners by providing rebates.

IV. Public Banking

Would you support the creation of a Pennsylvania Public Bank, modeled after [the Bank of North Dakota](#)? Explain

Senator Haywood's legislative staff have conducted research on the public bank approach and is considering the implications for PA.

V. Women's Rights

- 1) Do you believe there should be any restrictions on a woman's right to choose? If so, what?

No.

- 2) What additional protections should be enacted into law to protect women's health care?

Senator Haywood is committed to guaranteeing women and minorities have access to high quality, affordable healthcare – If health care is a right, it must be provided to all, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, disability, age, or sexuality. For too long, health care has not been equitably available to women and minorities. Insurance and hospital access has been denied, too expensive, or not covered necessary services in the past. He will fight to ensure everyone has equal access in the future.

- 3) Would you support proposals to ensure that women and men working in the Commonwealth receive equal pay for equal work?

Yes.

- 4) Do you support legislation to protect individuals against sexual assault?

Yes.

VI. Children and Families

- 1) Should the State require businesses to provide paid family leave?

Yes.

- 2) Should the State provide universal availability of affordable child care? This would be extremely challenging in many rural areas of PA.

VII. Environment

1) What measures, if any, would you support to move PA off its reliance on fossil fuels and expand use of renewable energy sources?

Senator Haywood has a commitment to our environment and believes sustainability is a community responsibility. He supports efforts to increase utilization of renewable energy, and has co-sponsored legislation to: provide tax credits for green construction and manufacturing of energy start rated products; require all new State buildings to meet Department of Environmental Protection regulations on green buildings; remove solar energy systems from sales and use taxation; add LEED consideration into reimbursement for school construction under the school code; and amend the Commonwealth's Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards to increase electricity sold in the Commonwealth from renewable resources.

The Senator encourages neighbors to participate in community clean-ups and recycling efforts to respect our environment and the future generations that depend on it.

2) Do you support a ban on fracking in whole or part?

I would prefer tighter industry controls to eliminate negative environmental impacts.

3) Would you support developing the Philadelphia area as an Energy Hub?

There are terms that might make the Energy Hub Work, but he present proposals have serious problems that the Senator does not support.

4) Do you think Philadelphia should be compelled or induced to sell PGW?

This issue should be addressed by Philadelphia local government.

VIII. Criminal Justice

1) Should stop and frisk be limited or outlawed?

Yes.

2) How would you deal with the problem of mass incarceration of minorities, particularly minority youth?

Senator Haywood believes Pennsylvania has a track record of investing in incarceration instead of education. He opposes mass incarceration, which has created a pipeline to prison for children across Pennsylvania. He supports an increase in education funding and a community-driven reading revolution to combat the pipeline to prison.

The Senator encourages citizens to view safety and crime reduction as a community effort, and to support the work of law enforcement by keeping an eye out for suspicious activity. He supports the use of new technology and apps such as Nextdoor to increase communication between neighbors.

3) Should marijuana be legalized for recreational use?

Possibly

4) Should privately-owned prisons be permitted in Pennsylvania?

No.

5) Should we ban the box in Pennsylvania?

Yes.

6) Should PA continue to build new prisons?
PA should replace outdate prisons.

7) Should PA begin to close prisons? Explain.

Yes. The PA prison population is going down and the prisons should close as a result.

8) Do you support an end to the death penalty?

Yes.

9) When if ever, should a juvenile be tried as an adult?

Senator Haywood does not believe a juvenile should ever be tried as an adult.

IX. Campaign Finance Reform

Would you support legislation to provide public financing for State and local election campaigns?

Yes.

X. Labor

1) Would you support legislation to strengthen protection for workers trying to form or join a union?

Yes.

2) Should the minimum wage be increased? If so, to what level and should the increase be indexed to inflation?

Senator Haywood is a State-wide leader in efforts to raise Pennsylvania's minimum wage. The minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour is poverty pay. As a member of Raise the Wage PA Coalition, the Senator has co-sponsored legislation to raise the wage to \$15. Raising the wage will stimulate our economy with new consumer spending, and reduce government spending on public assistance by over \$200 million a year. Senator Haywood was recognized as pro labor legislator of the year by the AFL-CIO in 2016, and received the Economic Justice Award by the Philadelphia Unemployment Project in 2017.

3) Do you believe that Philadelphia and other municipalities should continue to be pre-empted from increasing the minimum wage on their own? No and Senator Haywood has legislation to end this preemption,

4) Do you support privatization of retail liquor sales in Pennsylvania? Are there any other services that you believe should be considered for privatization?

No.

XI. Transportation

Currently the State constitution mandates that revenue from the State gasoline tax be spent only on roads and bridges. Would you support an amendment to the Constitution allowing gas tax revenue to be spent on public transportation?

Yes.

XII. Reforming Legislative Districts

- 1) Do you support SB 22 (2017), which would (1) form an independent commission, and (2) apply sound methodologies, to draw all congressional, State House, and Senate districts fairly in Pennsylvania?

Yes and he is a co sponsor of SB22.

- 2) Would you support the reduction in size of the current PA House from 203 seats to 151 seats, as stipulated in HB 153?

Willing to discuss.