

**PA STATE LEGISLATIVE 2022 QUESTIONNAIRE  
FOR PHILLY NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORKS**

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**CANDIDATE CERTIFICATION**

Candidate Name: G Roni Green

Office Sought: State Representative 190<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

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: G Roni Green

February 16, 2022

**Please complete, sign and return this form via Email to:**

**Gloria Gilman: [gmgilman@gmail.com](mailto:gmgilman@gmail.com)**

**and**

**Stan Shapiro: [shapsj@comcast.net](mailto:shapsj@comcast.net)**

## 2022 PA State Legislative Questionnaire

**BACKGROUND** *Please note: answers to questions 7-9 are optional.*

1. What, if any, elected or appointed government office(s) have you held? State Representative for 190<sup>th</sup> Legislative year 2020
2. If you have previously held a government office:
  - a. What are the primary issue areas in which you were involved? Elected during pandemic, didn't get to do much work in Harrisburg.
  - b. What committees, caucuses or working groups have you served on? Assigned to Agriculture and Urban Affairs
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.)  
Committeeperson for 38<sup>th</sup> Ward – 9<sup>th</sup> Division for over 10 years; Board member for RAH (Registered Community Organization; Minimum Wage with SEIU; Fight For \$15  
References: Mark Green (Ward Leader) Rosalie Cooper (President of RAH)
4. Please provide copies of all your significant campaign materials, including position papers, advertisement copy, and flyers.
5. What, if any, endorsements have you received? What others are you seeking? SEIU 32BJ, Local 668; Healthcare PA; Free the Ballot; (Seeking WFP, Philly NOW, PASNAP, AFL-CIO, Democratic Executive Committee endorsements from other elected officials)
6. What is your plan to win this race, including your fundraising goals and strategies.  
Strong field program and strong vote by mail chase program mixed with community, labor and ward leader support.
7. What, if any, genders, do you identify with?
8. What is your sexual orientation?
9. What is your racial, ethnic identity?

### 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, please say so.**

## I. OVERALL

What would be your three highest priorities as a legislator? Explain. Living Wage (increasing the minimum wage in Pennsylvania); Addressing the gun violence epidemic;

Affordable Child Care/Child Tax Credit; Affordable and Quality Healthcare.

## II. Education

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

Yes

2) What role do you believe standardized tests should play in evaluating teachers, schools and students, if any? I believe teachers should be vetted.

3) What factors do you believe should be considered in determining *overall levels* of school funding in the Commonwealth, and funding *per school district*? *That both old monies and new monies in the education budget should be allocated through the Fair Funding Formula.*

4) Approximately 33% of Philadelphia students are enrolled in charter schools. What is your position on the expansion of charter schools? Should they be given public money via vouchers or similar programs (like ESAs)? What role do you think public schools play in our city?

I'm against billionaires that push legislation that pulls money from public schools and diverts it to charter schools that they have financial interest in and pit charter school parents against public school parents. Instead we should be making sure that billionaires like Jeff Yass pay their fair share in taxes to make sure every child has an excellent education.

## III. Budget and Taxes

1) Do you support a Constitutional Amendment to permit progressive taxation in PA, in whole or part? Yes

2) What changes if any would you support in the corporate net income tax levels? See this: <https://krc-pbpc.org/issues/corporate-income-taxes/> I would support policies that would ensure that billionaires and corporations pay their fair share.

- 3)
- 4) What changes, if any, would you support in the personal income tax? I would expand tax credits for working class families and reduce them for ultra high net worth individuals
- 5) Do you support the [Fair Share Tax Plan](#) proposed by the PA Budget and Policy Center, with its emphasis on raising the tax rate on unearned income? Yes
- 6) Do you support full elimination of the Delaware loophole? Yes
- 7) Do you support a tax on fracking, and at what level? Yes I'm not in support of manufacturing practices that would result in poor health outcomes for working families. That said, I would support a reasonable severance tax on the fracking industry that does not risk union jobs and that takes the proceeds and reinvests them in primarily in affected communities.
- 8) Do you support the Keystone Opportunity Zone program? Would you introduce legislation to eliminate it, or to limit the number of times a parcel's KOZ designation can be renewed or extended? More generally, do you support tax breaks to lure or retain businesses? The evidence for the effectiveness of using businesses' tax credits to not only attract and retain businesses but also ensuring those businesses create family sustaining jobs ,invest in community programming and uphold fair labor standards are mixed at best. At this point in time, I would not support the expansion of any further business tax programs until we fix the ones on the books.

#### **IV. Public Banking**

Would you support the creation of a Pennsylvania Public Bank, modeled after the Bank of North Dakota, and/or the creation of local public banks in PA cities and counties? I'm not familiar with the public owned bank, but I am familiar with the union owned banking model and I would be supportive of that. I would be interested to learn more about the public banking model.

#### **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 in light of the pending decision by the U.S. Supreme Court to override or sharply curtail Roe v. Wade? I would support, cosponsor and introduce (working with women's rights groups) legislation that will strengthen women's rights positions.
- 3) Would you support proposals to ensure that women and men working in the Commonwealth receive equal pay for equal work? 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 childcare? If yes, how would you achieve this? Yes...working with grassroot organizations, providers and shareholders collaboratively.

## **VII. Environment**

- 1) Do you support a ban on fracking in whole or part? Explain. No.. I'm not in support of manufacturing practices that would result in poor health outcomes for working families. That said, however, I would not support a policy that would cost union jobs without full funding and a plan for a just transition.
- 2) .
- 3) Would you support banning the use of single-use plastic bags? Long as there are provisions for the union jobs that would be lost.
- 4)
- 5) Do you think Philadelphia should be compelled or induced to sell PGW? I would approach this issue by working with community and stakeholders alike to get more information to make an informed decision.
- 6) What measures would you support to move PA off its reliance on fossil fuels and expand use of renewable energy sources? I am not familiar with all of the policies on the table but we should be moving in this direction as long as we don't leave workers behind.

- 7) What criteria would you use in making appointments to the P.U.C.? I would be looking at an individual's record of community involvement, experience advocating for working families and industry knowledge.
- 8) What steps would you take to ensure environmental justice in the placement and remediation of structures that pollute? I would work to introduce policies that provides both incentives and mandates for sustainable manufacturing and production processes, supply chains and construction that reduce the amount of pollution in Philadelphia well in excess of the state's climate change goals.
- 9) What, if any, other measures would you support to preserve or improve our environment? (water issues, park preservation, detoxification of school buildings, etc.) I support all of them and will prioritize them according to what my constituents want first.

## VIII. Criminal Justice

- 1) Should stop and frisk be limited or outlawed?      Yes, it should be outlawed.
- 2) How would you deal with the problem of mass incarceration of minorities, particularly minority youth?      The focus should be rehabilitation and not incarceration.
- 3) Should marijuana be fully legalized?      Yes
- 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?      No
- 7) Should PA begin to close prisons? Explain.      PA has already begun to close public prisons.

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

9) When if ever, should a juvenile be tried as an adult? At no time

10) As a general matter, what do you think the state can do to reduce the murder rate in Philadelphia, while maintaining respect for civil liberties and the overall need for decarceration of our city? Improve job access and educational equity.

## **IX. Campaign Finance Reform**

Would you support legislation to provide public financing for state and local election campaigns? I would support reforms that would level the playing field for all candidates

## **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? The minimum wage should be increased immediately to \$15 at the very least should be indexed to inflation.

3) Do you believe that Philadelphia and other municipalities should continue to be pre-empted from increasing the minimum wage on their own? No

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

5) Philadelphia remains the most impoverished major city and about 75% of our residents lack bachelor's degrees. What policies would you implement to ensure that decent, high-paying jobs created here are accessible to the

majority of our population, not just the relatively well-educated and already well off? Allowing all workers to join a UNION.

## **XI. Reforming Legislative Districts**

- 1) Do you support legislation that would (1) form an independent commission, and (2) apply sound methodologies, to draw all congressional, State House, and Senate districts fairly in Pennsylvania? It would depend on how independent the commission is.

## **XII. Public Health**

- 1) Would you support state legislation to create a single-payer system in PA?  
Yes
- 2) How would you reduce or eliminate the racial disparities in the provision of health care, in particular the distribution of lifesaving COVID vaccines and medications? It would start by increasing the diversity of public healthcare workforce.

## **XIV. Housing**

- 1) To expand first time home buyer tax credits and ensure that developers who take advantage of PA business tax credits provides more affordable housing.

Would you support a mandate requiring landlords to show good cause for evictions? Yes