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Q1 Candidate's Name

Jennifer "Jen" McMillin

Q2 Candidate's District

Illinois House - 101st

Q3 Will you support closure of any State Operated Developmental Centers and shift corresponding resources toward integrated, community-based living options? **Yes**

Q4 Would you support legislation to eliminate the subminimum wage for workers with disabilities in Illinois? **Yes**

Q5 Do you support per-beneficiary funding caps in the Illinois Medicaid system? **No**

Q6 Should Illinois Medicaid and SNAP benefits have a mandatory work component? **No**

Q7 Would you advocate raising Medicaid reimbursement rates for home-based nursing services? **Yes**

Q8 Do you support a fair (graduated) income tax? **Yes**

Q9 Will you demand improved disability access to the State Capitol complex and General Assembly, including but not limited to a formal reasonable accommodation request process for public proceedings, provision of key materials in alternate formats, and captioning of floor proceedings? **Yes**

Candidate's Questionnaire 2018

Q10 What will you do to ensure people with disabilities, who identify as members of other marginalized communities (e.g. black/brown, LGBTQ, immigrant, etc.) know they are welcome to live and pursue their full potential in Illinois? In other words, how can you address systemic oppression against multiply marginalized disabled people?

We must always look for ways to amplify the voices of marginalized communities, including those with disabilities. As the next state representative of the 101st district, I will work diligently to seek out those in marginalized groups to hear their concerns, ensure my events are accessible for all people, and fight to create more accessibility at the state capitol.

Q11 How will you ensure a free and appropriate public education for Illinois students with disabilities?

Not only should we ensure that every educational opportunity is ADA accessible under current law, we need to expand our definition of accessible. While at Lincoln College, I have had the opportunity to work with students that had IEPs in their secondary schools, and we created new opportunities to work with students to meet their needs under the ACCESS program. We need more supportive services like ACCESS in our public school systems to make sure every student has the opportunity to learn.

Q12 How will you work to expand affordable, accessible, integrated housing options in Illinois?

We need to look for ways to expand accessible and integrated housing options within the state. This includes looking for ways to prioritize modern living options for independent living, and paying a living wage to those with disabilities.

Q13 What would you do to make Illinois more compliant with the Ligas, Williams, and Colbert Consent Decrees?

At the state level, we need to bring groups like INCIL and SILC together with the Department of Human Services to discuss what outcomes are desired and what a reasonable timeline is for achieving not only compliance, but a new baseline for independent living. Together, we can prioritize the needs of our target populations and look for ways to meet the new standards of care and service as defined by Ligas, Williams, and Colbert Consent Decrees.

Q14 How will you play a role in making business accessible to all customers with disabilities?

I am an advocate for creating inclusive spaces for every constituent, regardless of their ability. We must ensure our business communities understand the importance of making their services accessible.

Q15 What will you do to provide full and equal access to public transportation in Illinois?

In the 101st district, we are lucky enough to have some access to rural transportation. It is my hope to ensure that transportation system is fully accessible and continues to meet the needs of constituents.

Q16 How can wages for Illinois' Personal Assistants, Direct Support Professionals, Community Care Program and Homemaker service providers be improved and/or stabilized?

Illinois' personal assistants, direct support professionals, community care program and homemaker service providers deserve to be properly compensated for the important work they do. The state of Illinois needs to make sure funds allocated for these workers is paid in full and on time to ensure a high standard of care.

Candidate's Questionnaire 2018

Q17 Illinois has 19,000+ residents with disabilities on the PUNS (Prioritization for Urgency of Need for Services) waiting list. Thousands more are waiting for DON (Determination of Need) assessments to become eligible for home and community-based care. What concrete steps will you support to reduce these backlogs and improve Illinois' laggard status (we rank #47) when it comes to home-based disability services for eligible Illinoisans?

For too long, Illinois has cut needed services to minority groups, such as those with disabilities. We must ensure that the Department of Human Services is well-staffed to reduce the PUNS waitlist and keep up with the determination of need requests. Citizens of Illinois should not suffer due to the state's inability to pass budgets and staff agencies.
