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Q1 Candidate's Name

Nancy Zettler

Q2 Candidate's District

Illinois Senate District 33

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?

I am unable to answer this fully since I have not had the opportunity to research specific issues faced by disabled members of marginalized communities. However, I know that all kinds of discrimination exists and I will educate myself on those specific issues and will do whatever needs to be done to fight against existing systemic oppression and I will stand firmly with them. I will not accept any form of discrimination and will use all resources available to me as a legislator to represent and fight for them.

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

I will work to assure adequate funding needed to properly educate all Illinois students, especially students with disabilities. I like the recently enacted funding law as a good start towards appropriately funding the educational needs of disabled students.

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

I am unable to answer this fully since I have not had the opportunity to research the issues surrounding the expansion of affordable, accessible, integrated housing options in Illinois. However, I will educate myself on those issues and work to expand such housing options.

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

I do not have a sufficient knowledge of the Ligas, Williams and Colbert Consent Decrees and Illinois' failure to comply fully with the decrees, to give a well-informed answer. I can say that I will always make sure that I reach out to the people who know the issues best, like SILC, to educate me on all issues that impact people with disabilities. My father was a victim of MS and spent the last 25 years of his life restricted to a wheelchair and unable to take care of himself. He depended on us, and later the DuPage Convalescent Center when we could no longer provide the care he needed, to help him live the fullest life he could. I grew up seeing firsthand what the disabled and their families and caretakers face every day and what barriers society puts in their way. I will fight along side them and for them every day in Springfield.

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

Again, I would need to educate myself on the specific issues that exist, but I will do whatever is needed to affect change. I am more than willing to take the lead on any issue important to the disability community.

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

Again, I would need to educate myself on the specific issues that exist that prohibit full and equal access to public transportation, but I will do whatever is needed to affect change. I am more than willing to take the lead on any issue important to the disability community.

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

We should begin by compensating all such care providers like the healthcare professionals that they are. I agree with allowing PAs and others caring for disabled individuals to work up to 56 hours per week with the commensurate overtime pay, paying them for travel time between clients, allowing them to accrue personal and sick days, paying for five additional hours on work days as a start.

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?

I will work to replace funding and programs cut by Governor Rauner and provide additional funding to add personnel and programs that will provide home-based disability services to eligible Illinoisans.
