



2018 Pennsylvania CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Candidate Name: Mary Popovich

Running For: State House of Representatives

District: 58

Party Affiliation: Democrat

Charitable nonprofits include groups like food banks, Habitat for Humanity, YMCAs, religious institutions, hospitals, museums, libraries, child care centers, and many more. What has been your personal experience with nonprofits (ex: as a board member, employee, volunteer, or donor)? How do these experiences shape your policy positions?

I have worked as a volunteer for many years in non-profit organizations. My position for continuance of non-profits to enhance our communities is strong support. I recently applied for a revitalization grant for our library and was awarded 5,000.00 for our facade project. I also just received a grant from PA Beautiful, for paint, which will help expand my facade grant. I continue to volunteer at our library, 501 (c) 3, and serve as vice president of board. I volunteer with the Salvation Army and American Red Cross. I also serve as President of West Newton Lions.

What is your position on the following tax issues that affect charitable nonprofits:

Do you support preserving state and local sales and real-estate tax exemptions for charitable nonprofits?

I support this bill. The work they do warrants this tax exemption.

Do you believe that nonprofits should be required to provide Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOTS) or Services in Lieu of Taxes (SILOTS)?

I am not familiar with this. If I had to choose, it would be SILOTS.

Would you support additional state tax revenues dedicated to fund nonprofits providing contracted government health and human services?

Yes. You can't put a price on health and human services, these need proper funding.

Additional comments about tax policies that affect nonprofits:

Nonprofits provide more than 720,000 jobs in Pennsylvania (15% of the state's workforce). What policies would you propose to promote continued job growth for private employers, including both nonprofit and for-profit business?

On the job training or apprenticeship programs. Work with schools to perhaps begin internship programs. Provide community service transcripts for students who work with non-profits. Meet with businesses and non-profit owners or managers to find out where the gap is in skills.

Would you favor legislation that would reduce the likelihood of a budget impasse in future years? If so, what type of legislation?

I believe when you serve the public, you have an obligation to have the budget pass on time. I would propose a surcharge to the individuals for every day the budget went unsigned. In addition, I would support a bill that no one can go home till it is completed.

Would you support regulatory changes that increase efficiencies and nonprofit-government partnerships. (Proposed regulatory changes could include reducing redundancies across state agencies - e.g. common pre-award processes, budget templates, use of a single audit, reporting template and central depository vault)?

Yes. Burdensome paperwork makes things complicated. A streamlined approach would have my support.

If elected, what would be your top three policy priorities?

Making sure nonprofits can continue to function in our communities, without unnecessary penalties or redundant forms. Health and Human Services are dependent on the budget being passed on time, I would propose penalties on state officials if this is not done. I am an advocate for health and human services for the underserved. I would support legislation for a steady source of funding to enhance these programs.