

## JPCC 2024 CBJ Municipal Candidate Questionnaire

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Please email your response to [jpsc.pac@gmail.com](mailto:jpsc.pac@gmail.com) by August 27, 2024.

1.The Juneau Pro-Choice Coalition believes all women have the right to obtain a medically safe, legal abortion. Do you support this position and would you vote to ensure access to both surgical and medication abortion without restrictions? No  
Restrictions for minors as noted below.

2.Which of the following statements reflect(s) your views on access to abortion services by minors under age 18?

Parental notification and consent with judicial bypass provision. If we have to give permission to go on a field trip we should be aware that our children are in need of help, and so long as there isn't reasonable cause not to involve the parents, they should be made aware. I can't imagine being able to offer the support a child will need in such circumstances if you aren't aware of the cause of the emotional and physical state.

3.Do you favor legislation that:

a.requires husband/partner notification about an abortion? No

b.requires husband/partner's consent for an abortion? No

Requires makes the bar to high in cases where it is difficult to determine who the father is, difficult to contact that individual, or in cases of rape.

Encourage if appropriate is a better standard, although I'm sure my legalese in defining that sentiment needs tweaking.

4.Do you favor the same public funding of abortions for Medicaid-eligible women as is available for other Medicaid-eligible health care? Yes. If the health care provider says it is a good, it should be a go without judgment from those who are not privy to the circumstances.

5. Will you support legislation to protect abortion rights including travel across state lines to access the service? Absolutely.

6.As an elected official, will you support efforts to provide and improve Alaskans' access to:

a.reproductive health and family planning services? Hard Yes

b.all contraception, including emergency contraception?Hard Yes

c.abortion services? Hard Yes

d.reproductive health and family planning education in schools and throughout the community? Hard Yes

7.As an elected official, will you publicly support Planned Parenthood? Yes, it has been the go to provider for most of the young women I know.

8.What, in your view, are the most appropriate public policies to address the issues of teen pregnancy, Alaska's high rate of sexually transmitted infections, sexual assault and abuse, and reproductive health access for men and women?

Addressing these issues requires comprehensive and multifaceted public policies developed in collaboration with Indigenous and local communities to develop culturally relevant programs that address unique reproductive health challenges and respect community values.

Implementing age-appropriate, medically accurate, inclusive, comprehensive sex education that also addresses the psychological aspects of sexual health, such as the trauma from sexual assault or the mental health impact of teen pregnancy.

Engaging at-risk youth with positive role models and support systems through mentoring programs, after-school activities, and community resources that offer guidance on healthy relationships and life skills.

Offer economic and social support for families, such as childcare, parental leave, and job training programs, to alleviate the economic pressures that contribute to issues like teen pregnancy and sexual exploitation.

Ensuring easy access to affordable contraceptives, STI testing and treatment, prenatal care, abortion services, and family planning for all individuals of reproductive age regardless of income reduces unintended pregnancies and encourages individuals to be proactive in maintaining their reproductive health.

Offering meaningful, comprehensive support systems for survivors of sexual assault and abuse, including access to medical care, mental health services, counseling, legal assistance, and crisis intervention.

Implementing and enforcing strict policies on consent and sexual violence prevention in schools, colleges, and workplaces.

Launching culturally sensitive public awareness campaigns aimed at reducing stigma around sexual health, promoting safe sex practices, and encouraging healthy relationships and consent.

Advocate for stronger legal protections against sexual violence and abuse, and ensure that these laws are enforced consistently, providing avenues for justice and recovery.

Support initiatives that promote gender equality and combat systemic issues that contribute to sexual violence.

9. How important are reproductive health rights to you personally, and why? Right to control over your own person is a fundamental human right.

Alaska includes an explicit right to privacy in the Alaska Constitution. "The right of the people to privacy is recognized and shall not be infringed." Alaska Constitution, Art. 1, Section 22. The right of a person to follow the advise of their attending physician, particularly when involved in measures that are enacted to save the live of the patient - are not land I am willing to walk over.

As a mother whose love for her child is boundless, I cannot imagine any woman taking the decision to terminate a pregnancy lightly. I have been humbled by the courage of women who have shared the stories of their choices, and the lasting impact their decisions have made.

I am not a medical professional, but I am aware that there are many situations where the recommendation would be warranted such as ectopic pregnancy, severe preeclampsia/eclampsia, anencephaly, Edwards Syndrome, the need of the mother to undergo chemotherapy, radiation or other cancer treatments that are incompatible with pregnancy, severe cardiac disease, sepsis, amniotic fluid infections, among others.

When we add a lack of privacy, shame, harassment, judgment, the inability to get a safe procedure conducted locally by a qualified professional - we are adding an inexcusable layer of woe to someone who is already facing difficult challenges and heartbreak.

The reports of women in the United States who have died due to the inability to obtain abortions, especially following the Supreme Court's decision to overturn Roe v. Wade is horrifying to me. These cases often involve emergency pregnancy complications like sepsis, hemorrhage, and severe preeclampsia, where delays in care due to legal restrictions have put women's lives at risk.

A person's right to life doesn't end when they are born, and when they face the choice to terminate their pregnancy that choice falls to the mother, with the support of her healthcare provider. It is not a space that belongs to the courts.

I respect a woman's right to chose to follow through with the medical care that she needs, and respect the privacy of those who are making a choice that I am grateful I never had to face.

Candidate Signature:

Date: August 13, 2024

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end.