

Juneau Pro-Choice Coalition Political Action Committee

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2024 General Election Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name Mary Peltola

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Please answer all questions. If you would like a question clarified, please contact LaRae Jones at (907) 321-6882 or Nancy Courtney at (907) 321-2285. Space is provided at the end of the questionnaire for additional comments or clarifications of your responses. If we have questions based on your responses, we may contact you for a follow-up discussion. ***Thank you for your time and consideration.***

Please email your response to jpcac@gmail.com by October 1, 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?

Yes No

If "no," please explain: _____

2. If yes to question 1 above, would you vote to ensure access to surgical and medication abortion without restrictions?

Yes No

If "no," please explain: _____

3. Which of the following statements reflects your views on access to abortion services by minors under age 18?

a. I favor no restrictions. X

OR

- b. I favor requiring the following restrictions (please check all that apply):
- i. Parental notification.
 - ii. Parental consent.
 - iii. Parental notification with judicial bypass provision.*
 - iv. Parental consent with judicial bypass provision.*

*Judicial bypass means a minor has the option to appear before a judge to seek permission to “bypass” the parental notification or consent requirement.

4. Do you favor legislation that:
- a. requires husband/partner notification about an abortion? Yes No
 - b. requires husband/partner consent for an abortion? Yes No

5. Do you favor the same public funding of abortions for Medicaid-eligible women as is available for other Medicaid-eligible health care? Yes No

Comments Abortion is reproductive healthcare and should be treated as such.

6. Will you support legislation to protect abortion right, including travel across state lines to access the service if necessary? Yes No

Comments Absolutely. It is unconscionable that any government would monitor where women travel for the purpose of preventing them from receiving an abortion.

7. As an elected official, will you support efforts to provide and improve Alaskans’ access to:
- a. reproductive health and family planning services? Yes No
 - b. emergency contraception? Yes No
 - c. abortion services? Yes No
 - d. reproductive health and family planning education in schools and throughout the community? Yes No

Comments As a member of Congress, I’ve cosponsored legislation to protect access to contraceptives and family planning. I will absolutely fight to keep the government from infringing upon reproductive healthcare.

8. As an elected official, will you publicly support Planned Parenthood? Yes No

9. 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?

Comments What we need is education on these issues. For too long we've thought that if we shove these issues under the rug and pretend like they aren't there, they simply won't be a problem. Clearly, that has not worked. It's why I support continued funding for sexual health and wellness programs, both in schools and out with organizations like planned parenthood. People deserve access to safe, non-judgmental, and medically accurate information that ensures that people understand the risks associated with unsafe sexual activity. We also should introduce sexual education curriculum that emphasizes the importance of consent, which is somehow lost in many school's curriculums.

10. How important are reproductive health rights to you personally and why?

Comments I've worn many hats in my life, and while I may be a Member of Congress, I'm also a woman and a mom. When I talk to women all around Alaska, and from my own personal experience, I know that they, not the government, should be in charge of their own reproductive destiny. I'm appalled by recent attacks on landmarks for freedom such as the overturning of Roe v. Wade and the proliferation of abortion bans that put the health of women across our country at risk. Being a mom and understanding the emotions that come with childbirth, I can only imagine how difficult the choice to have an abortion can be, and I find it unconscionable that any government would seek to get in the way of that decision. As a Congresswoman, I will always fight for fish, family, and freedom, and I believe that the freedom to decide when and how your pregnancy occurs is among the most important and intimate decisions anyone could have to make.

Please use space below for additional comments or clarification.

As a member of Congress, I have sponsored and cosponsored legislation aimed at protecting reproductive freedom, and will always fight to do so. I have had the privilege to support such important bills as the Black Maternal Health Momnibus Act, the Women's Health Protection Act, the Freedom to Decide Act, the Protecting Access to Medication Abortion Act of 2023, and more, and I commit to always being a fighter for women's healthcare freedom.

Candidate Signature: Mary Peltola

Date: 9/19/2024