

SCVI

CANDIDATE ENDORSEMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

DEAR CANDIDATE,

Thank you for campaigning for elected office in the 2024 election cycle and your interest in St. Croix Valley Indivisible. We welcome your responses to the questions below and look forward to scheduling a time for you to interview with our Candidate Endorsement Committee. If you have any questions about our Candidate Endorsement process and timeline, please contact SCVI Co-Chair, [Linda Steinworth](#).

CLIMATE JUSTICE TEAM

1. The 100% clean energy standard for MN by 2040 that Gov Walz signed into law in 2023, states that all electric energy provided to MN customers be generated from carbon-free sources by 2040. To achieve this goal, legal and regulatory changes are required. For example, allowing permit modifications for utilities to build solar and wind farms at greater scale, extensions on the life of nuclear power plants, or additional nuclear storage facilities allowed in the state. What changes in law or regulation do you support or oppose?
2. Packaging waste and e-waste negatively impacts our environment and exacerbates climate impacts. Two bills currently in committee in the MN Legislature, if not passed this year, will be back to the 2025 Legislature. Please state your position and rationale on each.

- a. The 100% E-Waste Collection/Recycling Bill [HF 3566/SF 3940] aims to achieve 100% collection of e-waste. By defining and funding a new e-waste collection and recycling infrastructure, it would update Minnesota's current system, which is outdated and inefficient.

- b. The Packaging Waste and Cost Reduction Act [HF3577/SF 3561] would hold packaging producers accountable by having them pay a fee on the amount of packaging sold into the state, creating a powerful financial incentive to move away from the production of environmentally harmful and excessive materials.

DEMOCRACY TEAM

A number of initiatives will likely come up for consideration in the next biennium to potentially increase voters' ability to influence policies affecting their lives and encourage representation responsive to constituent needs. Please address the following questions:

- 1. Would you support an independent citizen redistricting commission to draw legislative and congressional maps and local voting districts after each census?
- 2. Would you support changing Minnesota's public financing to include a small donor match program?
- 3. Would you protect Minnesotans voting rights by supporting enactment and/or expansion of a State Voting Rights Act?

HEALTH JUSTICE TEAM

1. The Minnesota Legislature is currently debating gun safety bills. SF4312 is a bill requiring storage of firearms by securing them with a locking device or in a locked firearm storage unit. SF606 requires mandatory lost or stolen gun reporting. HF601 requires mandatory reporting of lost or stolen guns. Do you support these bills? Why or why not? What other bills would you support, or ideas do you have to reduce gun violence in our community?
2. Our current healthcare system is broken. Many in our community cannot afford healthcare or have healthcare in name only because they cannot afford to use it. A recent study found that 25% of Minnesotans with health insurance skipped needed care because of cost. The Minnesota Health Plan (similar to Medicare For All but for Minnesota) would provide affordable healthcare to all Minnesotans based on income. Would you support the Minnesota Health Plan? Why or why not? If not, how would you solve this health crisis?
3. Reproductive freedom has been under fire across the country. Last session, Minnesota took steps to protect a woman's right to make decisions about her own reproductive health. This session, state legislators are focused on legislation requiring insurance to cover abortion care and gender affirming care. Do you support this legislation? Other possible legislation includes funding for abortion clinics, same sex parents recognized as birth parents on legal documentation, and requiring insurance plans that cover maternity benefits to include comprehensive coverage including fertility treatments. As a legislator, would you support these bills? If no, why not?