

AIDS United 2018 Midterm Election Candidate Questionnaire

Q23. Right now, we are closer to ending the HIV epidemic in the United States than at any time in almost four decades. To better understand how Congressional candidates will work to build on the progress we have made and ultimately end the HIV epidemic, AIDS United has created this questionnaire. We ask that your campaign review and complete this survey by close of business on September 24th. This will allow us ample time to compile and release the results well in advance of the general election in November. We will publish the responses without edits. Thank you very much for your participation in this questionnaire.

Q1. Candidate First Name

George

Q20. Candidate Last Name

McDemott

Q2. State Where Candidate is Running

Maryland 4th congressional district

Q21. Congressional Chamber in Race

- Senate
 House

Q22. Candidate District

Maryland's 4th congressional district

Q3. Party Affiliation

- Democrat
 Republican
 Independent
 Other

Q4. Name of Party Being Represented

This question was not displayed to the respondent.

Q5. What are your views on the federal government's role in funding or supporting HIV research into potential treatment advances, prevention efforts, and attempts to identify a vaccine and a cure? What, if any, changes to the current HIV prevention and research agenda or funding levels would you propose?

Both the federal and state governments have a responsibility to eradicate AIDS all forms as quickly as possible the humanitarian and financial devastation caused by the foot dragging of our government and state governments only leads to more people being infected. We have a moral and legal duty to prevent this at all costs , and the government must post valid statistical data instead of the garbage it puts out now. Once again, state and federal courts and legislatures appear to want to unload opioid and other addictive drugs as well as marijuana over the sensible restraints of any government concerned with this population in future by not addressing these problems all segments of society pay dearly through loss of family members, false incarceration, financial distress and loss of standing we can do better

Q6. What is your position on the use of federal funds to implement evidence-based substance abuse prevention and treatment strategies to help address opioid addiction? For example, what is your position on the use of medication to combat overdoses (i.e. naloxone) or medication-assisted treatment (MAT) to treat opioid disorders? Syringe services programs and safer injection facilities?

100% for it however, statistical analysis will show that the federal funding of these programs. In many cases is wasted by federal and state agencies who now subcontract out the care to private for-profit corporations who feed the campaign funds political appointees who want to water down all the bills that would actually work for the betterment of society and put the lawyers and judges responsible for turnstile injustice of criminals in jail for disrespecting Constitution and their oath of office

Q7. The Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program provides HIV-related services in the United States for those who are uninsured or underinsured and has demonstrated its success at linking and retaining people in care, improving both individual health outcomes for enrollees, and a reduction in new HIV transmissions. What is your view of the current funding levels allocated to the Ryan White Program? What changes, if any, would you make to the program and its funding?

I support the initiatives of Ryan's and others . My extended family has had several cases of HIV and drug addiction, in every case that has been underfunding of the research and development of vaccines by the pharmaceutical industry due to greed and corporate corruption as well as waste fraud and abuse of targeted funds for programs that were never properly administered

Q8. What is your view of the Housing Opportunities for Persons with HIV/AIDS (HOPWA) program, which provides funding for housing assistance and related supportive services for low-income people living with HIV and their families. What changes, if any, would you make to the HOPWA program?

Once again it comes down to maintaining the integrity of these programs which in far too many cases leads to waste fraud and abuse due to the administrators profiteering off of the social network while giving substandard care to those in need. Accountability. Accountability. Accountability and transparency of all programs priority number 1

Q9. The Affordable Care Act (ACA) has provided previously uninsured individuals with public and private health insurance. Please state your position on the ACA and outline your views on the best ways to expand coverage for people who cannot afford it or were denied coverage for some other reason (be it immigration status, pre-existing condition, etc).

The affordable care act will never work properly as long as state and federal legislators are being paid off by pharmaceutical companies and those in the medical care industry. There is no transparency very little oversight and very little accountability in the long run. After caregivers are found and exposed for looting the system for their own personal gain and financial personal. Illegal financial enrichment

Q10. What is your position on work requirements for Medicaid enrollees? What changes, if any, would you make to the Medicaid program?

As a Medicare recipient and receiver of services. It has been a safety net for myself and my family and many many concerns are that once again the corporate medical franchises and hospitals in my opinion are not providing honest services for the resources that they provide. I fear for the future unless immediate action is taken to address abuses within the system by the minority providers and their corporations

Q11. Americans living with HIV are subject to outdated and stigmatizing criminal laws. Will you co-sponsor legislation in Congress calling for the review of all HIV criminal laws? What other steps, if any, would you take to help reduce HIV/AIDS stigma and discrimination in the United States?

Yes I would

Q12. Do you support the 340B Drug Pricing program? What changes, if any, would you make to the program?

Unfamiliar with the bill at this time but it's time that pharmaceutical companies in their CEOs stop holding our citizens hostage to enhance their corporate salaries and golden parachute retirements,

Q13. What is your position on the criminalization of sex work?

I have always supported stronger laws to put sex traffickers and their lawyers behind bars lawyers are no different than the sex traffickers themselves exploiting humanity because their clients pay for their yachts and private planes/extravagant lifestyles. While as a society, all paid court corruption at the hands of the ABA and its agents. Who protects sex traffickers over their oath of office and laws of this nation through abuse of legal process, and loopholes in the laws of the controlling states and nation

Q14. More than 1 in 4 transgender women in the United States are living with HIV, and violence against transgender individuals is higher in 2018 than it ever has been. What do you think should be done to protect the rights and lives of transgender people living in this country?

The statistics shows that as a nation have a long way to go toward assuring that the legal rights of this community are protected and that educational programs on prevention and cure are more important now than at any time. This is a national crisis that needs to be addressed.

Q15. Are you familiar with Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP), the preventative use of antiretroviral medication for people who do not have HIV, but are at a high risk of infection? Would you be supportive of expanding access to PrEP?

Sorry to say I'm not familiar with the program without further study. It would be inappropriate for me to make a false assumption At this time

Q16. Similarly, are you aware of the recent scientific consensus around U = U, which stands for Undetectable = Untransmittable, that shows that a person living with HIV who is on antiretroviral medication & has an undetectable viral load cannot pass the virus to their partner? If enough people were able to achieve an undetectable viral load, the United States could begin to end the HIV epidemic in this country. Do you support expanding services to find and link as many people living with HIV as possible to treatment and to help people achieve an undetectable viral load through assistance with medication adherence programs?

Yes I would support research in this field

Q17. Do you support efforts to protect and provide substantial federal funding for family planning services? What is your position on the proposed rule change that would prohibit Title X funding recipients from providing their clients with a full range of medical options concerning their pregnancy, including abortion care, and increasing institutional capacity for HIV prevention services?

Yes it is only logical that title X funding be continued new innovations in research every day happen, and the beneficiaries of this type of research affect the entire nation and its economic base. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. I've always been told to be true. I personally believe that since many of these AIDS victims are also victims of child exploitation and sex slaves controlled by organizers in the sex trade and exportation rings don't blame the victims blame the enslavers

Q18. Many documented and undocumented immigrants living with and affected by HIV are refraining from seeking out HIV and general medical care due to fear of deportation or denial of citizenship. Do you believe that health care providers should be safe spaces for immigrants living with and affected by HIV to seek care?

Victim should not fear having to go to a doctor for treatment, especially those who have been sold into sex slavery by unknown parties. Patient client confidentiality should prevail.

Q19. What are your views on potential changes to the “public charge” rule that would make any use of a very wide range of benefits (including healthcare programs such as the Affordable Care Act marketplace subsidies, Children’s Health Insurance Program and potentially some Medicaid benefits detrimental to an immigrant’s chances at becoming a U.S. citizen?

As I have always been told ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. If we can arrest the spread of this horrible disease through proper diagnosis and treatment along with new research the benefits for the world. The incalculable the doctors credo is due no harm. Everyone should be treated equally as patients

