



VOTE

EVERY VOICE MATTERS

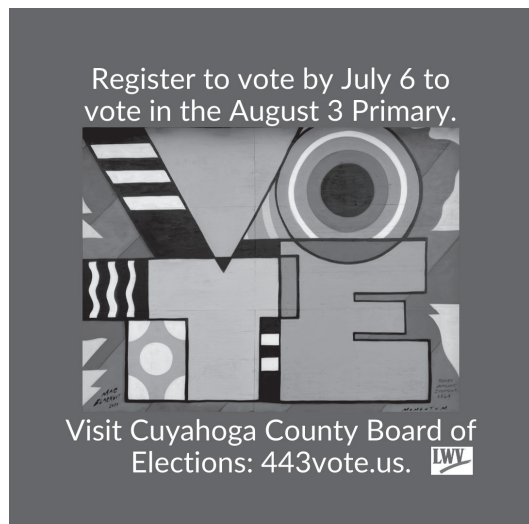
BE RESPONSIBLE

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF GREATER CLEVELAND



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF THE AKRON AREA

SPECIAL ELECTION VOTER GUIDE



AUGUST 3, 2021 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 11 SPECIAL PRIMARY ELECTION

Do you know which candidate you want to vote for? And why? Do you know you have to choose either a Democratic or Republican party ballot when you ask for a ballot by mail or vote in person early or on Election Day? Look inside to read the responses to five questions from all 15 candidates running to represent us in Ohio's Congressional District 11. If you choose a Democratic Party ballot, you must select ONE candidate from a list of 13. If you choose a Republican Party ballot, you must select ONE of two candidates.

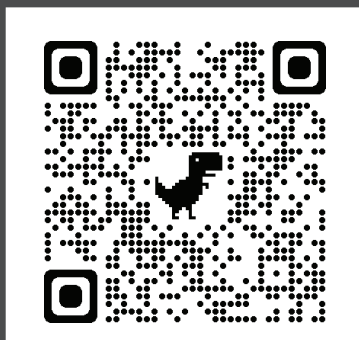
POLLS OPEN ON ELECTION DAY 6:30AM TO 7:30PM

Vote-by-Mail ballots can be hand-delivered to the Board of Elections offices until 7:30pm on Election Day.

Vote-by-Mail ballots must be postmarked by Monday, August 2.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The information in this Guide was gathered from a number of League sources. All candidate information has been submitted by the candidates themselves. It includes responses received by June 2, 2021. To view the complete Special Primary Election Voter Guide online, including all questions and candidates' answers, please go to VOTE411.org. The League of Women Voters of Greater Cleveland (LWVGC) is grateful to Cleveland VOTES, the LWV of Akron Area, and all of the donors who supported the publication of the printed and online Voter Guides with donations to the LWVGC Education Fund. We also thank the LWV of the US and LWV of Ohio.

Verify Your Voter Registration:
<https://voterlookup.ohiosos.gov/voterlookup.aspx>



DEMOCRATIC PARTY PRIMARY CANDIDATES



Martin Alexander

58, Attorney, Substitute Teacher
 Education: Harvard Law School, JD;
 New York University, BA, Politics/Sociology
 Residence: Boardman (Mahoning County,
 outside of District 11 but within Ohio as required)
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 martinalexanderforcongress@gmail.com

How would you work to lessen the impact of poverty in District 11? Discuss income inequality, access to affordable healthcare, education, etc.

To stimulate the local economy, my office would focus on assisting Individuals, Businesses, & Municipalities in applying for and obtaining available Federal Funding/ Federal Grants. Additionally, I would support an increase in the minimum wage to \$15 per hour. I verily believe improving public education now will help alleviate poverty in the future. Funding schools through property taxes leads to unequal schools in poor communities. The Ohio Supreme Court ruled Ohio's property tax system of school funding was unconstitutional and held it should be changed by the Legislature, but no subsequent action has been taken. Plus, schools are not getting their fair share of State lottery proceeds; I would try to change that. Also, historically, the federal Government has provided relatively little funding for schools. I would try to change that, as well. I want to introduce a plan for the creation of a Federal Government Job Placement Agency tasked with the duty of assisting lower income, unemployed or

underemployed job applicants by matching them primarily with Government (and perhaps some private sector) jobs that are commensurate with their education, training, skills, and experience. I would appoint at least one staffer who was knowledgeable about (and could ably assist constituents in) obtaining affordable health care. Also, I intend to draft/introduce a bill that would automatically enroll all income-eligible people in Medicaid.

Are there national gun safety regulations you would support? If yes, what are they? If no, why not?

I favor legislation that will provide effective gun control, without violating the Second Amendment. To that aim, I support: stricter background-check requirements, banning automatic assault weapons and high-capacity ammunition clips, and preventing convicted criminals and those who are mentally ill from lawfully owning or possessing a firearm.

National changes in policing policy are being considered by Congress. What changes would you like to see go into effect across the country?

Biased judges should no longer be allowed to misinterpret and misapply Qualified Immunity in such a manner that it continues to operate as an absolute bar to holding police officers accountable and civilly liable for misconduct. Choke holds and putting a knee on a suspect's neck should be illegal. No Knock Warrants should be considered presumptively illegal. When executing a warrant, police should normally be required to knock & announce their purpose. I would support Cash Bail Reform measures to give effect to the Eighth Amendment's constitutional prohibition against excessive bail. For example, I would support changing the current system, which favors wealthy defendants, to one based on a sliding scale that considers defendants' ability to pay. I

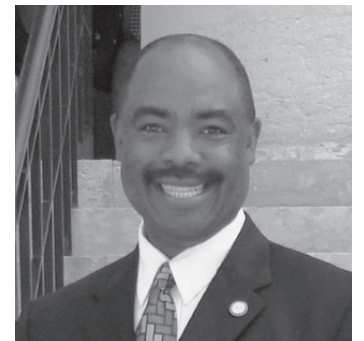
would like for disenfranchised, convicted Felons' Voting Rights to be restored, without charge automatically upon release from prison. I want to reign in or impeach racially biased judges who hand-out disparate sentences along racial lines. I would like for all police officers to be equipped with body cameras. Also, I wish to see better screening at the hiring stage, to weed out recruits who harbor racial biases. And, I want better (and ongoing) training for police officers, including racial sensitivity training. Additionally, I would like to see more police officers assigned to a regular beat, since many sociologists and criminologists believe this leads to improved community relations.

Should Congress step in to create national election regulations regarding voting rights and campaign funding?

Yes, Congress should introduce legislation to strengthen the Voting Rights Act and legalize "Jim Crow" style, facially neutral, Voter Suppression Laws that have an intended, disparate, adverse impact on African-Americans attempting to freely exercise their 15th Amendment constitutional right to vote. Congress should legislatively overturn the Supreme Court case of Shelby v. Holder and restore §§ 4(b) and 5 to the Voting Rights Act. Congress should also legislatively overrule the Supreme Court case of Citizens United and restore limits on corporate campaign advertising spending.

Is bipartisan decision-making possible in Congress? Are there issues on which you are willing to compromise?

Bi-partisan decision-making is possible, but not where one or both party/parties insist(s) on displaying blind, slavish allegiance to general, political, ideological dogma. I will strive to keep an open mind; I will focus more on actual issues than ideology; and I will not be inflexible or unwilling to compromise.



John E. Barnes Jr.

63, CEO Embassy Realty Investments,
 Former State Representative
 Education: Master's degree, Case Western Reserve University's Weatherhead School of Management; International Program in conjunction with CASE-MOD Center for Organizational and Personnel Psychology from Katholieke Universiteit, at Leuven (Brussels), Belgium; Trade Union Program Executive Education, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.; Cahn Fellow John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University; Honorary Doctorate from Chancellor University; Distinguished Alumni Award, Case Western Reserve University, from the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Ohio; Fellowship, Bowhay Institute for Legislative Leadership Development, Robert M. La Follette School of Public Affairs, University of Wisconsin-Madison; John F. Kennedy High School
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 Campaign phone: (216) 650-6683
 Website: VoteBarnes.com
 Facebook: BarnesforCongress
 Instagram: JohnEBarnesJr
 TikTok: BarnesforCongress
 YouTube: BarnesforCongress



With all of the twists and turns of this election cycle, there is one thing that remains true: You can count on the League of Women Voters to provide you with accurate, unbiased, nonpartisan information about ballot issues, candidate information, and the election process. Let the League help you navigate the election this year.

Whether you vote by mail, vote early, or vote on Election Day - we've got you covered.

DEMOCRATIC PARTY PRIMARY CANDIDATES

How would you work to lessen the impact of poverty in District 11? Discuss income inequality, access to affordable healthcare, education, etc.

Northeast Ohio has programs to fight poverty. I added \$6 million to the budget. The problem is those programs are not good enough to respond to sustained poverty in post Covid-19 Pandemic. In Congress, Barnes will be about the business of saving lives. Including First Class Constituent Services, Covid-19 Pandemic Recovery, Senior Programs, Job Creation, Health Care Choice, Education focused on Careers, Infrastructure, Criminal Justice Reform, and Fighting Poverty. John Barnes we need leadership to Fighting Poverty. First organize and convene a community intervention of stakeholders, universities, and the institutions of government, businesses and the philanthropic community to understand: 1) where we are; 2) where we want to go; and 3) what actions are necessary to make swift progress for people trapped in poverty. Second, Commence a dialogue with President Joe Biden, to target American's poorest large City (Cleveland) and Akron to promotes individual, community, and regional growth opportunities to establish public and private partnerships based on community intervention discoveries. Third, establish a system of professional services including grant writers for community based organizations, individuals, and small businesses. For example that includes but not limited to a) healthcare, b) vocational training and career technical education skills development.

Are there national gun safety regulations you would support? If yes, what are they? If no, why not?

Yes. National gun safety regulations should include but not be limited to: 1) gun manufactures liability Insurance; 2) remove assault weapons off streets; 3) require background check before purchases (either in person, mail, or online) to prevent and reduce selling guns to people who have documented laps of mental reasoning. Mental Illness in the 11th Congressional District is a crisis particularly post Covid-19 Pandemic. As a consequence crime is breaking records, people are scared. We've got to find a way to protect and balance health confidentialities with limited access and help people who are sick unaware of certain questionable behavioral realities. This is essential to ensure public safety, which works to defend and protect our children in schools, people in community space, and workplaces.

National changes in policing policy are being considered by Congress. What changes would you like to see go into effect across the country?

I support the George Floyd Act. I think it is extremely important to have a national database to assist human resource departments to know who they are hiring. Establishing a national database will contribute significantly to provide predictive analytics, geographical personal tracking, and behavioral trends around the Nation for evidence based training focuses. This will contribute significantly to promote positive change, which can help with hiring decision, develop de-escalation training policy based on evidence, that can work toward restoring confidence in the community policing systems. I would like to see more community relations, community policing, axillary police block watch programs, and fund and hire 24/7 de-escalation professional experts to

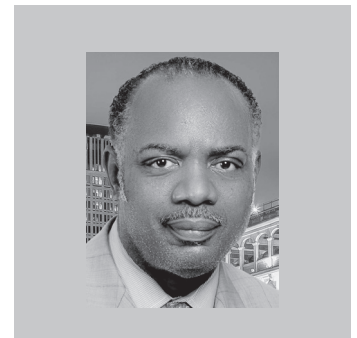
build community relationships that will also at a time of increased community crime help with enhanced neighborhood safety, security, and give people a reason to believe in municipal policing systems.

Should Congress step in to create national election regulations regarding voting rights and campaign funding?

Yes. National election regulations should be created based on one person one vote and equal protection under law for all Americans.

Is bipartisan decision-making possible in Congress? Are there issues on which you are willing to compromise?

Yes. The challenge with reaching bipartisan decisions in our political system is there are too many people who can't stand being in the same room with people they disagree with. President John F. Kennedy said he does "not seek the Republican answer or the Democratic answer, but the right answer." I say the right answers for People. As State Representative here are some of my bipartisan accomplishments: Supported JobsOhio 19,013 new and sustained jobs and attracted \$738,116,586 in capital investment; \$7.6 billion D12; \$126 million infrastructure & potholes funding; \$60 million for Minority & Female owned businesses; \$6 million budget increase fighting Poverty; \$2 million Harvard Community Services Center to help teen mothers & young men; \$500,000 Warrensville Heights Senior Nutrition Program; \$300 Bedford Historical Society; \$1.9 million Bedford Heights and Maple Heights Northfield Road Resurface; \$100,000 Maple Heights Senior and Young Program; \$2.55 million Mayfield Noise Wall Replacement; \$500,000 Shaker Heights Green Space Development; \$5 million Revitalization Grant Amazon 2000 New Jobs North Randall.



James Jerome Bell

55, Realtor, Consultant
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Facebook: jamesjeromebell
Instagram: jamesjeromebell
YouTube: jamesjeromebell

How would you work to lessen the impact of poverty in District 11? Discuss income inequality, access to affordable healthcare, education, etc.

First and foremost I would give equal opportunity to all of our children. I would make sure that from the federal standpoint all available resources are given to the school district's economically educationally Etc. to do our best to enhance the children's learning from Early Education to graduate level. As far as affordable healthcare it would be my duty as a congressman to make sure that all Healthcare is accessible to All Peoples of all economic and social economic backgrounds that they have a healthy standpoint of living; also I believe that the impact of poverty in our district is something that is seen on a nationwide scale so to alleviate poverty we must have good food to eat clean air clean water lead free housing and so much more that is just the starting point I guess we can say the Tipping Point to a better utopian society.



**POLLS OPEN ON ELECTION DAY
6:30AM TO 7:30PM.**



DEMOCRATIC PARTY PRIMARY CANDIDATES



James Jerome Bell

Are there national gun safety regulations you would support? If yes, what are they? If no, why not?

I believe that we have to have sensible gun control where we can acknowledge a person's right to bear arms along with having creative laws to govern the systematic misuse of the Second Amendment. We must find ways to curb violence with the use of guns and other weapons. We must make America what it all to be and free from destructive forces that plagued us as a society as a whole.

National changes in policing policy are being considered by Congress. What changes would you like to see go into effect across the country?

I would like to see first and foremost complete psychological background checks for all candidates for civilian police. Also we need to make sure that police who have been fired from other districts do not get a free pass to get on other police forces without due process. I believe also that we have to have better relationships between the police and the communities in which they serve. I'll know that you legislate love, you can't legislate fear and other things, but what you can do is righteousness and Justice so

with that I would want to do my best to bring about laws that will curtail Injustice.

Should Congress step in to create national election regulations regarding voting rights and campaign funding?

I believe the right of every American is the right to vote also believe that campaign funding should be and always should be fair and Equitable for all candidates involved and to make America what all to be we need Justice and fairness and campaign regulation and laws.

Is bipartisan decision-making possible in Congress? Are there issues on which you are willing to compromise?

All things are possible with the Creator I believe that some things are not compromisable such as reparations for African Americans. I believe that we must have fair and Equitable treatment for all people within America's borders to treat them as to whether they are immigrants or other Persuasions other religions are the orientations ETC. We need to make America what it truly is a land and biting for all we need to hold America up to the standards of which our forefathers deemed it to be a land of life liberty and the pursuit of happiness. And when I'm in Congress that is what I will fight for people of the 11th District of Ohio and also the peoples of America.



Shontel Brown

46, Cuyahoga County Council Member
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Twitter: @ShontelMBrown
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YouTube: Shontel Brown for Congress

How would you work to lessen the impact of poverty in District 11? Discuss income inequality, access to affordable healthcare, education, etc.

Ohio's 11th Congressional District includes some of the richest and poorest communities in the country. Too many of our neighbors rely on emergency rooms because they do not have a primary care doctor. In the richest country on earth, nobody should go without health care. I will work with the Biden-Harris administration to pass a high-quality public option that will lower costs, drive down prescription drug costs, and expand coverage to achieve universal health care. I believe a public option that President Biden supports is the fastest and most immediate mechanism to get there. If elected, I will support the Biden-Harris plan to make child care more affordable. I will support universal Pre-K, free community college for all, free four-year public college for families making under \$125,000, some college debt cancellation for everyone. This pandemic has only underscored the challenges of the digital divide in Northeast Ohio. Children are falling behind in virtual school or struggling to

do homework. I plan to fight for the resources to connect every community to high-speed, broadband internet. Should I have the honor to be elected, I will fight alongside Senator Sherrod Brown to dramatically cut childhood poverty by making the recent changes to the child tax credit permanent. I also plan to pick up Secretary Fudge's mantle and finish the fight to make sure no American goes hungry. This includes fighting to pass the PRO Act, which strengthens unions and empowers workers.

Are there national gun safety regulations you would support? If yes, what are they? If no, why not?

Homicide rates in parts of Northeast Ohio are higher than they have been in decades. On average, 100 people are killed in the United States every day by a gun. This is uniquely an American problem – and one that I will work to address with urgency. In Congress, I will fight to require universal background checks for gun sales, mandate waiting periods for gun purchases, and ban assault weapons that have no place on American streets. In addition, I will work to hold gun manufacturers accountable for the harm their products cause and to ban high-capacity magazines that are often used in mass shootings. I believe we must restrict the aftermarket modifications that make weapons more deadly and turn semi-automatic weapons into fully automatic weapons. Finally, if you have been convicted of a hate crime or domestic violence, you should never be allowed to purchase a gun. A comprehensive approach to solving this problem also means dealing with the root causes of gun violence. It means stopping gang crime before it begins by giving kids a future that includes education and a job that actually pays the bills. Meaningful reform includes efforts to prevent suicide and decrease the isolation and hopelessness that leads some to believe that is their only option. I will work with President Biden to implement the American Jobs Plan that will create jobs to make sure our kids get that chance at a future, and I will ensure that mental health is covered by insurance.



August 3, 2021 Special Congressional Primary Election Early In-Person Voting Hours



Weekdays*	July 7 - July 23	8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Weekdays*	July 26 - July 30	8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Saturday	July 31	8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Sunday	August 1	1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Monday	August 2	8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

*Weekdays are denoted as Monday through Friday.

2925 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115 | (216) 443-VOTE (8683) | www.443vote.us

Early voting days and times in Summit County are the same as in Cuyahoga County.

DEMOCRATIC PARTY PRIMARY CANDIDATES

National changes in policing policy are being considered by Congress. What changes would you like to see go into effect across the country?

In Congress, I will proudly support the George Floyd Justice for Policing Act, which increases accountability for law enforcement misconduct, improves data-collection and transparency, and eliminates discriminatory policing practices. In Cuyahoga County, I have sought to develop options so that people who call 911 have a crisis intervention option and don't have to rely on the police. Accordingly, I will champion the Crisis Assistance Helping Out On The Streets (CAHOOTS) Act. Moreover, in Washington, I will prioritize strengthening civil rights laws, advancing comprehensive criminal justice reform, reducing gun violence, and ending the use of private prisons. I believe Ohio should follow Illinois' lead and ban cash bail.

Should Congress step in to create national election regulations regarding voting rights and campaign funding?

We have to make it easier to register voters, and Congress should and needs to step up. We cannot count on states to do the right thing. What we are seeing in Republican-led states is an all-out assault on voting rights that is a threat to our democracy. Ohio is overly aggressive in purging voters from the rolls, and that happens elsewhere too. As Chair of the Cuyahoga Democratic Party, I am very proud that we saw an increase in turnout and for our collective efforts to register new voters. Our democracy relies

on high participation. In addition, during the 2020 election, I also held the Secretary of State accountable for deliberately making it harder to vote in Cuyahoga County. In Congress, I will champion the For The People Act and The John Lewis Voting Rights Act, which will expand voting rights, limit gerrymandering, create new ethics rules, and reduce the role of money in politics. Additionally, we need to reverse the Citizens United decision that allowed for a flood of dark money in our politics. Money in politics is a significant problem in our democracy. We need real campaign finance reform.

Is bipartisan decision-making possible in Congress? Are there issues on which you are willing to compromise?

Yes, I believe bipartisan decision-making is possible in Congress. I believe we can work together and I will seek common ground, but I will never compromise who I am or forget about the people who helped get me here. I am committed to working with Republicans to support policies that put people before politics. In 2020, I wrote legislation that classified racism as a public health crisis in Cuyahoga County to address inequality and human rights issues. It passed with bipartisan support. I am committed to continuing that same charge in Washington and making sure the people of Northeast Ohio are a priority when considering all issues.



Seth J. Corey

65, Pediatric Hematologist-Oncologist,
Cleveland Clinic

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Medicine; Yale University
Residence: Cleveland

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Website: coreyforohio.com

Facebook: [CoreyforOhio](https://www.facebook.com/CoreyforOhio)

How would you work to lessen the impact of poverty in District 11? Discuss income inequality, access to affordable healthcare, education, etc.

I would first address the issue of adult illiteracy we are facing in OH-11, which can make filling out a job application impossible for some. Passing prevailing wage laws while attracting new industry and family-sustaining work to the district. Healthcare – we need providers to coordinate care. Not only does this reduce costs; it creates a better outcome when we prioritize patient-centered care. Universal Pre-K and screenings for learning disabilities earlier are essential. Recognizing trauma as a public health crisis and intervening sooner. Tuition-free community college to create opportunity would also be a priority.

Are there national gun safety regulations you would support? If yes, what are they? If no, why not?

Yes, I would support universal background checks. This gives us the ability to potentially stop someone who has red flags from legally being able to purchase a firearm.

National changes in policing policy are being considered by Congress. What changes would you like to see go into effect across the country?

I would like to see a ban on no-knock warrants, more training for our officers particularly on mental health issues and a trauma-informed approach to policing. I would also like us to come up with funding to ensure that every single member of law enforcement has a body cam on at all times. Passing the George Floyd Justice Act would help with much of this.

Should Congress step in to create national election regulations regarding voting rights and campaign funding?

Voting should be accessible to all Americans who are eligible to vote. We should stop making it so hard for people to run for office. It's time to level the playing field with campaign finance reform laws, and to put servant leaders in Washington, not career politicians bought and paid for by lobbyists and special interest groups.

Is bipartisan decision-making possible in Congress? Are there issues on which you are willing to compromise?

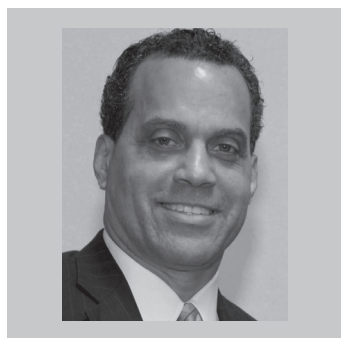
I think too often we have people making decisions who are removed from the situation. As a doctor I have witnessed the consequences of passing or not passing legislation. I understand the impact of poverty, healthcare disparities, and many other issues my patients face on a very personal level – not from some analytical vacuum. I think when you remember real people are depending on you, it forces you to work to get things done for them. That doesn't mean we compromise our values, but certainly we can negotiate terms. I think bipartisan decision-making is a duty, and when you have people who are doing it for the right reasons, your goal should look the same: to make our country a better place for everyone to work, live, and raise your children in.

VOTE 411

ELECTION INFORMATION YOU NEED

From VOTE411, you can learn what's on your ballot, your polling place location, information about candidates and issues on your ballot, and candidates' answers to questions posed by the League of Women Voters. You may also find links to news articles, candidate forum videos, and other election information. Visit VOTE411.org today!

DEMOCRATIC PARTY PRIMARY CANDIDATES



Jeff Johnson

63, Court Administrator,
Cleveland Housing Court; Attorney
Education: JD and MA, Political Science,
Case Western Reserve University;
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Twitter: @VoteJeffJohnson
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How would you work to lessen the impact of poverty in District 11? Discuss income inequality, access to affordable healthcare, education, etc.

- 1) Raise the minimum wage to \$15 per hour. Nobody should work 40 hours a week and still need public assistance. Provide a livable wage.
- 2) Create wealth building with information and assisting more citizens to be homeowners and accumulate capital assets. Historic systemic racism has created significant inequities and barriers against minorities that still exist. We must create generational wealth to break a cycle of poverty.
- 3) Focus on children by making permanent the enhanced child tax credit. It is expected to cut child poverty in half.
- 4) Fight hunger with federal programs like SNAP and replace food deserts with healthy food choices.
- 5) Invest in Education by providing federal education funds that seek to close disparities in educational achievement, provide more resources to teachers and expand vocational education. Also, free community college, larger Pell grants, and forgiveness of student loan debt.

- 6) Remove health inequities by continuing to strengthen the ACA with lower premiums, more expansion of Medicaid, and a public option that will increase access to affordable quality health care.
- 7) Close the pay gap for women.
- 8) Make permanent the expanded EITC for childless workers.
- 9) Fight for environmental justice – clean water and air, safe food, and remove poison lead.
- 10) Strengthen labor unions to improve wages and work conditions.
- 11) Stabilize and expand public transportation.
- 12) Fund affordable housing initiatives.
- 13) Fight policies that maintain segregation.

Are there national gun safety regulations you would support? If yes, what are they? If no, why not?

I would support these reasonable and common-sense national gun safety regulations –

- 1) Renew and expand the assault weapons ban – as President Joe Biden has said in the past, “assault weapons are a threat to our national security, and we should treat them as such.”
- 2) Ban high-capacity magazines by making it illegal to possess or sell ammunition clips that contain more than 10 rounds of ammunition. During the previous ban on assault weapons and high-capacity magazines, mass shooting deaths and injuries were 70% less likely to occur than before and after the ban.
- 3) Close all background check loopholes – must expand Brady background checks to include sales at gun shows, over the internet, and private sales. One in five gun sales is done without a background check. Additionally, close the loopholes that allow people decided by courts to be abusers to possess firearms.
- 4) Repeal gun manufacturers’ immunity from liability.

- 5) Pass a national “red flag” law.
- 6) Ban “ghost guns.”
- 7) Require the age of anyone purchasing a gun to be at least 21 years. It is important that we work to pass these national gun safety regulations. The U.S. Supreme Court in its D.C. v Heller decision, while saying there was an individual right to possess firearms for traditionally lawful purposes, including self-defense in the home, it also said the Second Amendment right is not absolute and a wide range of gun control laws remain “presumptively lawful.” Most citizens support more gun safety laws.

National changes in policing policy are being considered by Congress. What changes would you like to see go into effect across the country?

- 1) Require federal uniformed police to have body-worn cameras and marked federal police vehicles to have dashboard cameras.
- 2) Require state and local law enforcement agencies that receive federal funding to agree to use body-worn and dashboard cameras.
- 3) Restrict the use of qualified immunity doctrine for local and state police officers.
- 4) Change the intent element of 18 U.S.C. sec 242 from “willfully” to “knowingly” or with reckless disregard. This federal criminal law is often used to prosecute police misconduct.
- 5) Establish a federal registry of police misconduct complaints and disciplinary actions.
- 6) Provide federal grants to state attorneys general to have an independent process to review misconduct or excessive use of force by police officers.
- 7) Grant power to the Justice Department to issue subpoenas to state and local police departments as part of a “pattern or practice” investigation of bias or misconduct by police forces.
- 8) Prohibit federal police officers from using chokeholds or other carotid holds and require state and local police agencies that receive federal funding to adopt the same prohibition.

- 9) Prohibit the issuance of no-knock warrants in federal drug investigations and provide incentives to state and local governments to enact a similar prohibition.
- 10) Mandate that federal officers use deadly force only as a last resort and that de-escalation be attempted; condition federal funding to state and local law enforcement to have the same policy.

Should Congress step in to create national election regulations regarding voting rights and campaign funding?

Yes, it is important that we have national election and campaign funding regulations. General minimum standards for federal and state elections. Standards that can be expanded by states to provide greater access but not less than the national standards. Across the nation, many states are proposing and passing increased restrictive voting access laws in response to the 2020 elections. National election regulations are needed to fight these voter suppression efforts. I support HR 1, known as the “For the People” Act that is in the U.S. Senate. It seeks to regulate voting rights and campaign funding. New regulations should include allowing mail-in voting nationwide and expanding early voting to at least 15 days for 10 hours daily at accessible polling places. Voters should also be able to register when they cast their ballot on election day or during early voting. Ballot drop boxes are necessary for voter access with one box provided for every 20,000 voters. Additionally, more polling places should be required per population numbers and any closing must be sent to voters at least a week before an election. Ballots must also be able to be electronically tracked so voters know the status of their ballots. I also support the John Lewis Voting Rights Act of 2021 that will restore the preclearance formula to the VRA of 1965 allowing the federal government to review and reject if necessary, changes by states of their voting laws that are determined to be discriminatory.



Election Day problems? Report an issue by calling: 1-866-OUR-VOTE

DEMOCRATIC PARTY PRIMARY CANDIDATES

Is bipartisan decision-making possible in Congress? Are there issues on which you are willing to compromise?

For many, it is very difficult now to imagine that members of Congress can come together in a bipartisan approach to agree and pass important public policy. But I believe they should take every opportunity to find common ground on governing our nation. I have always understood during my 23 years in elected office as an Ohio State Senator and Cleveland City Councilman that I had to try to find mutual agreement if possible, with the other legislators I worked with so something significant can get done. It was difficult at times and we fell short, but the effort was made. I would not seek compromise for its own sake and will stop if certain principles I hold are at risk. I will always seek to vote for and pass laws that I believe will have a positive impact on my constituents and others even if other legislators are unified in opposition. In the end, for me the proposal I support needs to pass. Also, I don't believe we should require a supermajority in the U.S. Senate to pass a new law. I support removing the filibuster in the Senate or at least begin with requiring members of the Senate to filibuster from the floor of the Senate. For some, compromise in government is bad and should not be attempted. For me, on all issues before the legislature seeking mutual agreement is among the first steps that should be taken as an elected member.



Will Knight

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How would you work to lessen the impact of poverty in District 11? Discuss income inequality, access to affordable healthcare, education, etc.

Create empowerment zones. Work with two of the best hospitals in the country to create better access to underrepresented communities. Support of the Paycheck Fairness Act. Pregnant workers fairness act. And all acts that support fairness in the workplace. Recognize the impact COVID had on women in the workplace and seek to remedy these issues.

Are there national gun safety regulations you would support? If yes, what are they? If no, why not?

Enforce the current laws on the books. And am in support of universal background checks.

National changes in policing policy are being considered by Congress. What changes would you like to see go into effect across the country?

More inclusion of mental health professionals. Create community engagement programs. And centers for counseling both for law enforcement and community members. Job retraining.

Should Congress step in to create national election regulations regarding voting rights and campaign funding? Yes.

Is bipartisan decision-making possible in Congress? Are there issues on which you are willing to compromise?

Absolutely. We need to find more solutions not problems.



Pamela M. Pinkney

60, Political Preacher, Published Author, Pastor and Apostle Community Activist
Education: Case Western Reserve University, Upward Bound; Cuyahoga Community College; graduated from Central State University; Cleveland Institute of Music; Shaker Heights High School. Also attended Baldwin Wallace College; Bishop College in Dallas, Texas, where I was a Dallas Opera understudy; Oklahoma City University; and Muskegon Bible Institute, where I did post-graduate studies. I am still studying.
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How would you work to lessen the impact of poverty in District 11? Discuss income inequality, access to affordable healthcare, education, etc.

First of all, funding needs to be re-directed. There is too much money spent on alcohol, guns, tobacco, and drugs. In other countries people do not pay for their education or healthcare because they know it is a must. Until we address racial disparity and the abuse and neglect of the disabled, including the mentally ill, we will not correct poverty in any of these areas. More funding and other resources need to be allocated for the victims and over comers of domestic violence and homelessness.

Are there national gun safety regulations you would support? If yes, what are they? If no, why not?

I am not certain at this time because I do not believe that anyone really needs a gun to do anything. Guns have had a negative impact on my life both personally and professionally.

LWV MISSION STATEMENT:

Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.



DEMOCRATIC PARTY PRIMARY CANDIDATES



Lateek Shabazz

67, Educator

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How would you work to lessen the impact of poverty in District 11? Discuss income inequality, access to affordable healthcare, education, etc.

I will work for a \$15 per hour wage. Also I will advocate free medical care for children under the age of eighteen. I will also advocate more trade schools.

Are there national gun safety regulations you would support? If yes, what are they? If no, why not?

Just keep guns out of the hands of the mentally ill people.

National changes in policing policy are being considered by Congress. What changes would you like to see go into effect across the country?

Police should live in the community they work in.

Should Congress step in to create national election regulations regarding voting rights and campaign funding?

Congress should make voting easier not harder. Voting day should be a national holiday.

Is bipartisan decision-making possible in Congress? Are there issues on which you are willing to compromise?

Yes, bipartisan is possible in Congress. The issues that I am willing to compromise is with the fixing of Infrastructure. Our inner city children are being lead poisoning in high numbers. I will work hard on this issue.



Tariq K. Shabazz

27, Political Candidate

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How would you work to lessen the impact of poverty in District 11? Discuss income inequality, access to affordable healthcare, education, etc.

As a young man I grew up in poverty, and the majority of things that I have seen still affect me at this current time. I have the life experience that so many people within this district can relate with. OH-11 is one of the most segregated and impoverished districts throughout the country. There are an immense number of things neglected such as human security, economic security, food security, housing security, etc., and these impactful conditions contribute to the continuous trauma that people are experiencing. The government represents the will of the people and it is imperative that it is providing tangible policies to attenuate the conditions addressed. As the next Congressman I will advocate for

Reparations in reference to American slavery which not only addresses the egregious deeds, but also provides the economic restitution necessary to promote progress in reducing the racial-wealth gap. This policy will contribute greatly to increased homeownership, businesses, improved communities and a bolstered American Economy. I will advocate for Medicare for all because no person's financial status should dictate the level of care and treatment that they receive in the United States of America. The US must shift away from its exploitative system that is driven by profit and transcend into a healthcare system that values the lives of the people. I oppose Privatized prison systems because it establishes a precedent that incarceration is based on profit.

Are there national gun safety regulations you would support? If yes, what are they? If no, why not?

There are a few pieces of legislation presented within the Congress such as HR1446 and HR8 that have the potential to provide more scrutiny in the process of firearm transfers as well as overall universal background checks. HR1446 offers the element of establishing parameters to measure potential illegal transfers which truly depends on its implementation. HR8 itself amends Section 922 of Title 18 gun regulation in prohibiting the transfer of a firearm to any individual who is unlicensed without a mandatory firearm license dealer present to conduct a background check. These policies provide accountability with the transfer of weapons and preventing illegal purchases. The 2nd Amendment should always be upheld for individuals to protect themselves, loved ones, property, etc. These pieces of legislation do not abridge said right.



August 3, 2021 Special Congressional Primary Election Important Dates & Deadlines

Voter registration Deadline July 6

Early In-Person voting begins July 7

Last day to postmark absentee ballot August 2

Last day to return absentee ballot August 3 by 7:30 pm

To register to vote, request an Absentee Ballot application, and more, visit your county's Board of Elections.

EXTENDED INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE

The League of Women Voters
has extended election information available at

www.VOTE411.org.

DEMOCRATIC PARTY PRIMARY CANDIDATES



Nina Turner

53, Former State Senator, Political Consultant, Former Cleveland City Council Member

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Instagram: ninaturnerohio

YouTube: Nina Turner for US

How would you work to lessen the impact of poverty in District 11? Discuss income inequality, access to affordable healthcare, education, etc.

I will champion policies that lessen the impact of poverty by supporting an Opportunity Agenda of a living wage, the Green New Deal, Unions, Canceling Student Debt and Medicare for All. Almost two-thirds of workers who would benefit from a

minimum wage increase are women and almost a quarter are women of color. The Green New Deal will create millions of good paying union jobs for every skill level across industries as we work to transition away from oil and gas and address environmental injustice across our district and our nation. We need federal jobs guarantee to ensure that everyone has access to living wage employment and we must strengthen the labor movement across the nation to protect workers and keep jobs at home. Full student debt cancellation would stimulate the economy, close the racial wealth gap, and enable young people to graduate without crippling debt, just for going to college. Medicare for All ensures healthcare is a human right and not tied to employment.

Are there national gun safety regulations you would support? If yes, what are they? If no, why not?

Yes. Sweeping gun safety regulations are absolutely essential to our communities. We must pass common-sense gun laws and promote responsible gun ownership. As the next Congresswoman of Ohio's 11th District, I will work to pass sweeping reforms such as "red flag" laws, closing gun show loopholes, and requiring permits and universal background checks. I believe that we can, and we must, find a balance between the Constitutionally-guaranteed right to bear arms and the rights of people who feel safe in the absence of firearms and we must end gun violence and mass shooting in our country through these reforms.

National changes in policing policy are being considered by Congress. What changes would you like to see go into effect across the country?

Our country urgently needs reforms to our law enforcement system, including ensuring officers that mental health of our officers is strong with regular psychological testing. We must demand accountability by making it a felony for an officer to lie on a police report; mandate both implicit and explicit bias training; create a universal database that chronicles police-involved shootings; require background checks so officers cannot commit an offense or get fired from one force and then go and work for another undetected. These policies are crucial and would have real and immediate impacts. These common-sense reforms are long overdue and we must fight to enact these policies, along with supporting ongoing national efforts such as the George Floyd Policing Act and Ohio efforts such as the first of its kind bi-partisan Task Force on Community and Police Relations, of which I served as co-chair.

Should Congress step in to create national election regulations regarding voting rights and campaign funding?

Yes. I have seen firsthand a corrupt system that works to undermine the people's voices while instead favoring the ultra wealthy and big corporations. That's why I am a firm believer that it is essential to both ensure voting rights at the ballot box, but also

through campaign finance reform. I am devastated by the dominance of money in politics and its profound impact on both our current leaders and our future leaders who need funds to be viable in our political arena. As candidates, we should be able to focus our campaigns wholly on addressing the concerns of our constituents, and as a leader in Congress, I will fight to support legislation like the John Lewis Voting Rights Act that protects the right to vote for all and policy change that ensures the focus of our politics is on the people.

Is bipartisan decision-making possible in Congress? Are there issues on which you are willing to compromise?

Yes. We can find common ground on many issues if we can first center the poor, working poor, and barely middle class as the priority. Not corporations, not ultra wealthy donors, and not huge lobbyists. I will continue to work with anyone on the justice journey to build a coalition focused on getting things done for the people. The people deserve leaders who understand how to achieve progress and will continue to press toward the very best our country can do for the most vulnerable in our nation.



FOR RESIDENTS OF CLEVELAND:

DON'T FORGET THE UPCOMING CLEVELAND PRIMARY ELECTION

**(including Mayoral race and City Council races
in more than half of the city's 17 wards)**

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2021

Voter registration deadline: August 16, 2021

Early in-person voting begins August 17, 2021

