

UNITE HERE! 2020

ONE JOB SHOULD BE ENOUGH

2020 CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

UNITE HERE is an organization of working people who believe that one job should be enough to provide for our families. We represent over 300,000 people across the United States and Canada working in the hospitality industry and beyond. We are mostly women and people of color, hailing from all corners of the planet.

Without a union, people who cook and clean for a living often live in poverty, but with UNITE HERE, housekeepers and cooks have achieved middle-class wages and top-notch healthcare. Having attained some of the highest standards for work in the global hospitality industry, we are now the fastest growing private-sector union in the United States.

Our fight extends beyond the workplace, and we have successfully leveraged the power of our Union to achieve policies we need for our communities to thrive.

The 2020 presidential election is a critical inflection point for our nation, and UNITE HERE is launching a major effort to engage at the grassroots level in key swing states, like Nevada, Arizona and Florida.

We look forward to hearing from candidates on key policy questions for UNITE HERE members.

Part 1: One Job Should Be Enough

- A. Every year, it gets harder for workers to unionize without facing union busting campaigns and major legal battles funded by big corporations with deep pockets. How will you fight to advance workers' rights, particularly the right to organize a union?
- B. What specific programs do you propose for meeting the basic economic, health, and benefit needs of workers?
- C. Big casino companies have lobbied to strip workers of federal protections on tribal lands. Do you oppose legislation that would curtail workers' rights at tribal commercial enterprises?

- D.** Airline catering workers serving American, Delta and United live in poverty while their companies have earned \$50 billion in profits. Thousands of workers voted to strike, but months after doing so they are prevented from taking action until released by the National Mediation Board (NMB). If elected, would you urge the NMB to grant airline catering workers' request to be released to strike? Will you publicly call on the NMB to do so now?
 - E.** Do you support changing the Railway Labor Act to give workers the right to strike if, after 12 months of federal mediation, no settlement has been reached?
 - F.** Do you support commonsense legislation to fund under-funded worker pensions that are under stress through no fault of workers, so that they can retire in dignity?
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Part 2: High Quality, Affordable Healthcare

- A.** What policy solutions do you propose to ensure access to affordable, high quality healthcare for all Americans?
 - B.** Will you oppose all taxes on non-profit health plans like ours, through which nearly one million Americans receive top-notch, cost-effective care? What will you do to encourage the growth of non-profit health plans?
 - C.** If elected, what will you do to tackle the problems of price and profit in our healthcare system? Will you pledge to fight for all legislation that reins in Big Pharma and soaring drug and healthcare prices?
 - D.** On drug prices specifically, do you support Congressman Doggett and Senator Brown's Medicare Negotiation and Competitive Licensing Act of 2019 (H.R. 1046, S. 377)? If not, what specific bills on controlling drug prices currently introduced in Congress do you support?
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Part 3: Immigration and Civil Rights

- A.** Do you support real immigration reform that provides a timely and certain roadmap to citizenship and eliminates the many loopholes that hurt all workers? Please explain your position.
- B.** What is your commitment to see the Dream Act turned into law and to provide a pathway to citizenship for Temporary Protected Status holders?
- C.** What programs do you propose to reform the broken criminal justice system?
- D.** On the campaign trail, how will you publicly distinguish yourself as an advocate for all workers who have been demonized by Donald Trump and the GOP?
- E.** What will you do to restore our country's values and practices as a safe haven for refugees and asylum seekers and to reverse the damage done by the current administration?
- F.** Do you agree that the H2-B and J-1 "temporary" work visa programs and the immigration reform for the 1% EB-5 investor program need to end? Please explain your position.