

#80

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Q1

Candidate Information

Name	Alison Clarkson
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Q2

Office you are seeking (e.g. House, Senate, Governor):

State Senate

Q3

Legislative District (e.g. Chittenden, Senate, Addison-1):

Windsor County District

Q4

Yes

Incumbent (select one):

Q5

Yes

Would you be interested in visiting a school in your district and meeting with local educators?

Page 2

Q6

Agree

On resisting austerity, do you

Q7

Yes

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on resisting austerity?

Q8

Anything you want to add on resisting austerity?

I have already sponsored increasing the Minimum Wage, Affordable Housing, Universal Health Care - lots of bills which support investing in Vermonters. I encourage you to look at the bills we've sponsored and our votes.

Page 3

Q9

Agree

On institutional racism, do you

Q10

Anything you want to add on institutional racism?

While Vermont has begun the work of righting centuries of wrongs, it still has a long way to go. We have taken some steps to heal wounds many of us didn't even realize were still open. There are many systemic failures we need to continue to reform: the growing inequality in our economic system, in our criminal justice system and in our educational system. Over the years I have served in the Legislature we've enacted measures from 'fair and impartial policing' policies, to improving inclusive educational policy, to increasing the minimum wage, to continuing our work reforming our criminal justice system, to addressing systemic racism in state government by hiring a Racial Equity Director, Xusana Davis, and by creating the Racial Equity Advisory Panel. We now need to support this work with meaningful appropriations.

In the wake of Floyd's killing by the Minneapolis police, the Vermont Legislature has re-focused its attention on justice reform. In the last weeks of June, we passed police reforms - banning chokeholds, ensuring racial data is collected and reported and mandating body cameras for the State Police. We will continue this work as we look to better coordinating our mental health and substance abuse professionals with our public safety community.

Page 4

Q11

Agree

On community schools, do you

Q12

No

Do you wish to sponsor legislation establishing community schools?

Q13

Anything you want to add on community schools?

Interested to learn more about this initiative.

Page 5

Q14 **Agree**

On universal school meals, do you

Q15 **Yes**

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on universal school meals?

Q16

Anything you want to add on universal school meals?

This pandemic has illustrated the reality of food insecurity in Vermont and the schools have really stepped up to the plate (as it were) to help feed Vermont students at home.

Page 6

Q17 **Agree**

On student and staff safety, do you

Q18 **No**

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on student and staff safety?

Q19

Anything you want to add on student and staff safety?

Yes, it is important faculty and staff are trained to de-escalate, defuse and redirect tough behavioral challenges.

Page 7

Q20 **Agree**

On para-educators, do you

Q21 **No**

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on para-educators?

Q22

Anything you want to add on para-educators?

They are often critically important for all students to succeed.

Page 8

Q23

Disagree

On school finance, do you

Q24

No

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on school finance?

Q25

Anything you want to add on school finance?

Having served on House Ways and Means for 8 years - we cannot raise enough money by simply moving to an income tax. Yes, I would like to have Vermonters pay their education tax by their ability to pay. We have worked for years to find an alternative to property tax. Income tax alone isn't enough - we need to supplement it sales tax and what else?? We only have 626,000 Vermonters - we have to find an equitable way to finance our Education System...but it needs to be balanced.

Page 9

Q26

Agree

On public funded and provided Pre-K, do you

Q27

No

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on public funded and provided Pre-K?

Q28

Anything you want to add on public funded and provided Pre-K?

Look at our voting records on all this. I've supported publically funded Pre-K from the beginning.

Page 10

Q29

Agree

On health reform, do you

Q30

No

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on health care reform?

Q31

Anything you want to add on health care reform?

Again, look at our voting records

I've sponsored a number of health care bills - I supported all aspects of universal health care for years.

Page 11

Q32

Agree

On the right to strike, do you

Q33

Respondent skipped this question

Anything you want to add on the right to strike?

Page 12

Q34

Agree

On teachers rights and professional growth, do you

Q35

No

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on teachers right and professional growth?

Q36

Anything you want to add on teachers right and professional growth?

People need to be given opportunities to grow in their work

Page 13

Q37

Agree

On retirement security for teachers, do you

Q38

Anything you want to add on retirement security for teachers?

I want retirement security for everyone, teachers and state employees - and will support measures to ensure this

Page 14

Q39

Agree

On good cause employment, do you

Q40

No

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on good cause employment?

Q41

Anything you want to add on good cause employment?

Again - look at our voting records
