

#27

COMPLETE

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Q1

Candidate Information

Name	Maida F. Townsend
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Q2

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

State Representative

Q3

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

Chittenden 7-4

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?

Serving on Appropriations I have refrained from signing on to legislation/resolutions/advocacy letters calling for specific dollars for specific purposes. The committee has the responsibility for figuring out ways to balance needs and available funds. I continue to be amazed at how creative we are in finding ways to support financially this, that, or next need when it initially seemed impossible.

Page 3

Q9

Agree

On institutional racism, do you

Q10

Anything you want to add on institutional racism?

As recently as the second year of the last biennium, it was a very tough job in House GovOps moving the bill designed to deal with systemic racism in state government. Why? Because some committee members just did not believe, did not accept that such a situation existed. It took a long time to convince them otherwise. We did get the bill moved and passed. The very fundamental work of helping people "see" is on-going and very hard and much needed.

Page 4

Q11

Agree

On community schools, do you

Q12

Yes

Do you wish to sponsor legislation establishing community schools?

Q13

Anything you want to add on community schools?

The financial wherewithal to support the spectrum of needed services should not rest solely on the locality. This cannot be a mandate asking the schools to do more without requisite financial support.

Page 5

Q14

Agree

On universal school meals, do you

Q15

Yes

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on universal school meals?

Q16

Respondent skipped this question

Anything you want to add on universal school meals?

Page 6

Q17

Agree

On student and staff safety, do you

Q18

Yes

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

Q19

Respondent skipped this question

Anything you want to add on student and staff safety?

Page 7

Q20

Agree

On para-educators, do you

Q21

Yes

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on para-educators?

Q22

Anything you want to add on para-educators?

Essential as part of the team supporting students!!

Page 8

Q23

Agree

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?

I was involved in efforts to go in this direction in the 1980's, and at various times since. I do not want to sponsor legislation in this regard because of the complexity required. Ways and Means issues are my nightmare. I can support without being on a sponsor list.

Page 9

Q26

Agree

On public funded and provided Pre-K, do you

Q27

Yes

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?

As with the community schools issue, the financial underpinnings cannot rest solely with the locality. The situation cannot be to expect more done without adequate resources.

Page 10

Q29

Agree

On health reform, do you

Q30

Yes

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on health care reform?

Q31

Anything you want to add on health care reform?

Related, I find objectionable the current push to have providers within the UVMHC network and independent providers marginalized (at best). I continue to ask if the word "monopoly" has been rendered obsolete.

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

Yes

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

Q36

Respondent skipped this question

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

Page 13

Q37

Agree

On retirement security for teachers, do you

Q38

Anything you want to add on retirement security for teachers?

Also, maintain the defined benefit as opposed to a defined contribution plan!

Page 14

Q39

Agree

On good cause employment, do you

Q40

Yes

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on good cause employment?

Q41

Anything you want to add on good cause employment?

"At will" employment is tantamount to reducing employees to widgets.
