

Juneau Pro-Choice Coalition

Political Action Committee

PO Box 22860 • Juneau, AK 99802 • www.juneauchoice.com • juneauchoice@gmail.com



2015 Municipal Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name Josh Keaton Email josh.keaton@gmail.com
Campaign Address 8402 Decoy Blvd Fax NA
City Juneau State AK Zip 99801 Phone NA*
Campaign Manager AA Phone NA

Mail to: _____ or FAX to: * contact via email only

Juneau Pro-Choice Coalition PAC (907) 586-1073
PO Box 22860
Juneau, AK 99802

1. Do you think that abortions should remain legal in the United States? Yes No
2. In Casey v. Planned Parenthood (1992), the U.S. Supreme Court allowed states to impose restrictions on abortions. Do you think Alaska should place restrictions on abortions? Yes No
3. If you answered "yes" to question 2, please describe those restrictions:

4. Which of the following statements reflect(s) your views on access to abortion services by minors under age 18?
 - a. I favor no restrictions. Yes No
 - b. I favor requiring parental notification. Yes No
 - c. I favor requiring written parental consent. Yes No
 - d. I favor requiring parental notification with judicial bypass provision.* Yes No
 - e. I favor requiring parental consent with judicial bypass provision.* Yes No
 - f. Other restrictions: _____

*Judicial bypass means a minor has the option to appear before a judge to seek permission to "bypass" the parental consent or notification requirement.

Comments: *This question is ambiguous and therefore I had to answer in multiple ways. This is dependent on age among other factors. The question encompass ages as young as 10. This is a huge age range with lots of developmental and mental maturity changes. At one extreme a 12 year old should require parental consent. At that age I do not believe a child is mentally mature enough to make significant health decisions and an adult should be assisting in those decisions. In a non-abusive home the parents have that role. On that note I do support an option for judicial bypass for those horrible instances where the minor is in an abusive home. In those cases social workers should be mandated to help that child navigate the courts and provide non-biased counseling to the minor. At the other extreme, a 17 year old, moved away from home in college, should have no restrictions. They are an adult at that point making their own decisions and a magical age of 18 doesn't change that. In the*

middle may be a age range where they are mentally mature enough to make a life changing decision like this, therefore not require consent, but still require notification (with bypass provision for abusive situations) since the parents are still legally responsible for their care and need to know in case of future medical emergencies.

5. Do you favor legislation that:
- a. requires husband/partner notification about an abortion? Yes No
 - b. requires a husband/partner's consent for an abortion? Yes No

Comments: *I do not believe that a regulation is needed and any regulation would have unintended consequences. However on a personal note, speaking as a husband, I believe in any marriage there should be open communication on these significant issues. Hiding something like this without discussion would significantly affect a relationship.*

6. Do you favor the same public funding of abortions for Medicaid-eligible women as is available for other Medicaid-eligible health care? Yes No

Comments: *The Alaska Supreme court has consistently ruled that preventing funding of these services to Medicaid-eligible women is unconstitutional. On those grounds I support the same public funding of abortions for Medicaid-eligible women as is available for other Medicaid-eligible health care.*

7. Do you favor an Alaskan law or a constitutional amendment that allows a hospital administrator or board to refuse to allow legal abortions to be performed in a publicly funded hospital? Yes No

Comments: *When you allow public institutions to operate based on personal opinion and control what services are allowed you are allowing one person's values (in this case the hospital administrator) to be imposed on others. This is a slippery slope that could result in forcing patients to seek unsafe alternatives. A public institution should operate within the law and maintain neutrality in instances that are controversial. It should be the Doctor's personal choice whether they provide those services. If a doctor is willing and the operation is legal, the use of public facilities should be allowed.*

8. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in Roe v. Wade that the constitutional right of privacy "is broad enough to encompass a woman's decision whether or not to terminate her pregnancy," and that governments may not interfere with her decision up to the time of fetal viability. Do you agree with this ruling? Yes No
9. As an elected official, will you publicly support efforts to provide and improve local access to:
- a. reproductive health and family planning services? Yes No
 - b. emergency contraception? Yes No
 - c. abortion services? Yes No
 - d. reproductive health and family planning education in schools and throughout the community? Yes No

Comments: *I do not believe that we need to place any barriers to provide these services. As a school board candidate, the only service I would have any say in is education. I firmly support providing education about reproductive health care, respect of other's choices, and responsible sexuality.*

10. As an elected official, do you publicly support Planned Parenthood? Yes No
Planned Parenthood provides lots of valuable services to the community including sexual health education, prevention, etc. I believe these services are needed.

11. What, in your view, are the most appropriate public policies that the community, municipality, and citizenry can enact to address the issues of teen pregnancy, reproductive health for men and women, and unintended pregnancy?

Comments *We need to be improving the education of sexual health and family planning to our youth, not placing barriers to that education. Enhanced education will allow our youth to make informed decisions and help address the issue of teen pregnancy and high rates of sexually transmitted diseases.*

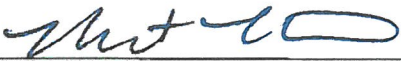
QUESTIONS 12 – 13 ARE FOR SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES ONLY

12. Do you support the discussion of healthy sexuality, reproduction, contraception, and sexually transmitted diseases in the school health curriculum? **Yes** No

Comments. *Education about reproductive health care, respect of other's choices, and responsible sexuality is necessary to reduce rates of teenage pregnancy, HIV/AIDS, sexual assault, and STD's. As a parent, I will ensure my children have a comprehensive sex education; unfortunately some kids will not have that opportunity. Therefore, I support a health curriculum that includes a non-biased and comprehensive education on reproductive health care and responsible sexuality.*

13. Do you support providing family life/parenting and reproductive health education within the school district but outside the health curriculum? **Yes** No

Comments *We should not place barriers on community services providing additional education if there is a need and this education is non-biased and comprehensive. With family life/parenting and reproductive health education there is a need and enhanced education on these topics will help address some social issues that our youth are struggling with.*

Signature:  Date: 9/8/15

Please use the back of the page for additional comments or clarifications.