

Juneau Pro-Choice Coalition

Political Action Committee

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2022 General Election Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name Les Gara Email Les@lesgara.com
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Campaign Manager Nate Graham Phone 907-318-0747

Please answer all questions. If you would like a question clarified, please contact LaRae Jones at (907) 321-6882 or Nancy Courtney at (907) 321-2285. Space is provided at the end of the questionnaire for additional comments or clarifications of your responses. If we have questions based on your responses, we may call you for a follow-up discussion. **Thank you for your time and consideration.**

QUESTIONNAIRES MUST BE RECEIVED BY October 17, 2022. Please email your response to juneauchoice@gmail.com.

1. The Juneau Pro-Choice Coalition believes all women have the right to obtain a medically safe, legal abortion. Do you support this position and would you vote to ensure access to both surgical and medication abortion without restrictions?

~~Yes~~ No

If "no," please explain: _____

2. Which of the following statements reflect(s) your views on access to abortion services by minors under age 18?

a. I favor no restrictions.
OR

- b. I favor requiring the following restrictions: Please check all that apply.
- i. Parental notification. _____
 - ii. Parental consent. _____
 - iii. Parental notification with judicial bypass provision.* _____
 - iv. Parental consent with judicial bypass provision.* _____

Not with legislation - I want families to talk, but there is ~~no way~~ to write a law that protects a 17 yo from having to talk to an abusive father who endangers her, or one who may have assaulted or impregnated her. These laws, while they sound nice, can't solve violence against a teen in an abusive family.

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

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

Comments I don't support interference with a woman's right to choose.

4. 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 I support medaid coverage for women who can't afford to end a pregnancy. I disagreed with Governor Walker's lawsuit to restrict Medicaid coverage and asked him to drop it or fire his AG.

Will you support legislation to protect abortion rights including travel across state lines to access the service? Yes ~~No~~

Comments I have also said as Governor I will protect any non resident and any provider from prosecution by another state for a legal abortion performed here.

5. Are you in favor of Alaska holding a Constitutional Convention? Yes ~~No~~

If a Constitutional Convention is held, will you support the removal or altering of Article 1, Section 22 giving Alaskans the right to privacy without infringement? Yes ~~No~~

Comments I support the right to privacy, and support a woman's right to choose.

6. As an elected official, will you support efforts to provide and improve Alaskan's access to:
- | | | |
|---|-------------------|----|
| a. reproductive health and family planning services? | Yes No | No |
| b. emergency contraception? | Yes No | No |
| c. abortion services? | Yes No | No |
| d. reproductive health and family planning education in schools and throughout the community? | Yes No | No |

Comments _____

7. As an elected official, will you publicly support Planned Parenthood? Yes ~~No~~

8. What, in your view, are the most appropriate public policies to address the issues of teen pregnancy, Alaska's high rate of sexually transmitted infections, sexual assault and abuse, and reproductive health access for men and women?

Comments I opposed HB 156 in 2016, which Governor's Walker and Dunleavy supported. We should provide

accurate, appropriate and safe sex ed and pregnancy prevention, without the political interference

HB 156 authorized, and I voted against that bill.

9. How important are reproductive health rights to you personally, and why?

Comments I don't believe I know better than a woman who is facing this difficult choice, and I don't beleive government should
tell women what they should do with their own bodies and on their own personal, private decisions

PLEASE USE SPACE BELOW FOR ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OR CLARIFICATIONS.

The right to choose is threatened on many fronts. I'm the only candidate who has said I will ask judicial candidates if they will honor
our court precedent supporting a woman's righ to choose. If a governor appoints justices who won't do this, we can lose the right to
choose just as we did on the federal level. The US Supreme Court's radical justices ruled the constituional right to "privacy" doesn't
protect abortion rights - a ruling right wing justices could issue here if we don't have a governor who appoints justices who will follow
our court precedent.

Candidate Signature: Les Gara

Date: 10/18/2022