

# Juneau Pro-Choice Coalition Political Action Committee

PO Box 22860, Juneau, AK 99802 \* [www.juneauchoice.com](http://www.juneauchoice.com) \* [jpc.pac@gmail.com](mailto:jpc.pac@gmail.com)



## 2023 Municipal Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name Emily Mesch Email emilyforassembly@gmail.com  
Campaign Address 8181 Grant St  
City Juneau State AK Zip 99801 Phone 360-819-2976  
Campaign Manager \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**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 August 28, 2023**

**Mail:**

Juneau Pro-Choice Coalition PAC  
PO Box 22860  
Juneau, AK 99802

or

**Email:** [jpc.pac@gmail.com](mailto:jpc.pac@gmail.com)

1. The Juneau Pro-Choice Coalition believes all women have the right to obtain a medically safe, legal abortion under the standards set by the Supreme Court in the Roe v. Wade decision. Do you support this position and would you vote to ensure access to 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. X

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.\* \_\_\_\_\_

\*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 notification about an abortion? Yes  [No]
  - b. requires husband/partner's consent for an abortion? Yes  [No]

Comments \_\_\_\_\_

These requirements would violate bodily autonomy.

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 \_\_\_\_\_

We cannot discriminate between medical procedures: if a board-certified doctor deems a legal procedure to be necessary, then it should be covered.

5. Alaska law states that publicly funded hospitals may not ban abortion performed in the hospital by qualified medical personnel. Do you agree with this law? [Yes]  No

Comments \_\_\_\_\_

6. In Roe v. Wade (1973), the U.S. Supreme Court ruled 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 that decision up to the time of fetal viability. Do you agree with this ruling? [Yes]  No

Comments \_\_\_\_\_

7. 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 \_\_\_\_\_

8. As an elected official, will you publicly support Planned Parenthood? [Yes]  No

9. 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, Alaska's high rate of sexually transmitted infections, sexual assault and abuse, and reproductive health access for men and women?

Comments It starts with education. In the absence of knowledge, superstition will propegate.

In Juneau, part of it is also ensuring the independence and continued operation of Bartlett Hospital,

while supporting providers like Planned Parenthood and SEARHC to maintain ease of access

to medical care for all Juneau residents.

10. Do you support comprehensive, medically-accurate sexual health education programs\*\* in the Juneau School District? [Yes ] No

Comments \_\_\_\_\_

11. Do you support adoption of comprehensive sexual health education policies and funding for programs proven to be effective at local and state levels?

[Yes ] No

Comments \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*Sexual health education includes instruction on puberty, healthy sexuality, relationships, consent, pregnancy, STI prevention, reproduction and anatomy, and abstinence.

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

Comments It's essential. Every individual has the right to make medical decisions for their body.

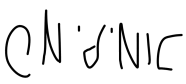
**ASSEMBLY CANDIDATES ONLY:**

13. Do you favor appointment of an anti-choice individual to the:

- a. Juneau Human Rights Commission? Yes [ No ]
- b. Bartlett Regional Hospital Board of Directors? Yes [ No ]

Comments I currently sit on the Juneau Human Rights Commission. While the topic of abortion has not arisen during my tenure, I am confident that the commission would support a pro-choice position, and I believe it's important that this remain true.

**PLEASE USE AN ADDITIONAL PAGE FOR ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OR CLARIFICATIONS**

Candidate Signature: 

Date: 09/01/23