



Candidate Questionnaire

CleanSlateNow Action is committed to eliminating the corrupting influence of special interest money in politics. We believe candidates best represent the public interest by choosing to accept contributions only from individuals. We encourage candidates to reject contributions from political action committees, special interest groups, and corporations. *We are active in Denver, throughout Colorado, and across the country.*

The questions below are meant to provide information to voters about the kind of campaign contributions you are taking in your pursuit of public office and the kind of legislation you would support and propose if you take office. Your answers will also help us when considering if we will endorse a candidate in your race. Though we publicize the names of candidates who do not take PAC and special interest group money, no question is meant to serve as a litmus test. We seek to inform, educate, and engage you, other candidates, elected officials, and the public about issues surrounding campaign finance reform, and we hope the information you provide will help voters make up their own minds about the candidates. **Please complete and return the questionnaire by February 15, 2018**, if possible, or as soon as you can to be of use to voters.

Thank you for your participation, and good luck in your campaign!

Mike Johnston CO Gubernatorial (D)
Name Office Sought/District

mike@mikejohnstonforcolorado.com www.mike4co.com 720-634-6526
e-mail address website phone number

-
1. If elected, will you actively seek to enact meaningful campaign finance reform of the following forms?
 - a. Support overturning *Citizens United*? **Yes**
 - b. Ban contributions in local elections from corporations, unions, and other organizations banned from donating to state office campaigns? **Yes**
 - c. Limit special interest group contributions? **Yes**
 - d. Incentivize small-dollar contributions (\$150 or less) from individuals with matching funds? **No**
 - e. Enact public financing of elections? **No**

Are there other reforms you would propose?

I support many of the measures included in the November 2018 Ballot initiative listed below, including disclosure of “dark money,” banning of corporations from making direct contributions and bringing the city of Denver’s contribution limits in line with State limits; however, I do not believe that the state of Colorado currently has the resources to commit public matching funds for elections. Until we solve our budget crisis and fulfil our commitment to other public services like education, transportation and infrastructure, to name a few, we cannot commit public funds.

2. Will you accept, or have you accepted contributions from special interest groups or organizations, including political committees, political action committees, or small donor committees? *(This does not include political party contributions.)*

No

3. Will you accept, or have you accepted contributions from Leadership PACs (a committee an elected official uses to donate to other candidates and elected officials, separate from their candidate committee)?

No

4. Will you establish, or have you established your own Leadership PAC?

No

5. Will you accept, or have you already accepted contributions from large corporations (i.e., offices in more than one locality, or based out of your state with a regional or national focus)?

No

6. Will you accept, or have you already accepted contributions from small corporations (presence in only one locality, i.e., “Mom-and-Pop Shop”)?

No

7. Will you accept, or have you already accepted money from lobbyists?

Yes

8. Will you accept, or have you already accepted money from unions?

No

9. Do you support **The Democracy for The People Initiative**, which is on the November 2018 ballot and requires the **disclosure of dark money** in Denver elections, **the banning of corporations from making direct contributions** to Denver municipal candidates, the **lowering of Denver’s relatively high campaign contribution limits** to be on a scale with the limits for state offices, and the **establishment of a public financing system for elections**, providing matching funds for small-dollar donations (\$50 and less) to candidates who opt not to accept special interest money? **Yes** **No**

May we list you as an endorser? **Yes** **No**

Would you work to bring a similar reform to your community? **Yes** **No**

10. Please use as much additional space as you'd like to share any thoughts about campaign finance reform and the role of special interest money vs. contributions from individuals in political campaigns.

As a gubernatorial candidate, I firmly believe that contribution limits make our elections cleaner, more transparent and fairer. I support the work that many, including the Democracy for the People Initiative, have done to illuminate the problems of high campaign contribution limits and corporate expenses, and as a candidate I have committed to never take PAC money or money from corporations, even groups have endorsed me. I believe in the value of public financing but, as I mentioned above, I am committed to first solving some of our state unmet needs in education, infrastructure, healthcare and human services before I can commit to utilizing state funds in this way.



Signature

February 21, 2018

Date

Completed questionnaires may be scanned and emailed to Owen@CleanSlateNowAction.org or mailed to CleanSlateNow Action at P.O. Box 100093, Denver, Colorado 80250.