



## 2018 Candidate Questionnaire

Please complete and return this questionnaire right away. The questionnaire asks only for straightforward answers of a simple "support" or "oppose" variety.

Comments are not required. Please limit any comments to one statement or sentence.

Comments are not published within the Voter Guide publication due to space limitations. A single asterisk will indicate comments. Comments are only made available to voters that make requests for comments.


Candidate Name: Jo Rae Perkins Party Affiliation: Republican

Office Sought: U.S. House of Representatives District or Position: 4

Is this a partisan position  Yes  No

Campaign Website: https://www.Perkins4Oregon.com

Campaign Phone (for publication): 541-979-5395

Signature:  Date: March 22, 2018

### Tax/Economic Policy

**Personal Tax Kicker.** Recent discussions of Oregon's tax policy have included many comments on the tax kicker. In recent years efforts have been made to eliminate the personal tax kicker for certain Oregonians. Do you support or oppose Oregon's existing law that requires the state to return over-collected taxes to individual taxpayers?

Support  Oppose Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

**Small Business.** Senate Bill 1528 in the 2018 Oregon legislature was a bill focused on taxes for small businesses in the state. Proponents of SB 1528 say their support is about fairness to fund services and those that oppose the bill say it is an unfair 30% tax on small businesses. Do you support or oppose tax increases included in Senate Bill 1528?

Support  Oppose Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

**Tax Levies.** Current Oregon law requires a 3/5<sup>th</sup> majority vote in the legislature to levy/increase taxes. Initiative 31 seeks to amend the constitution to expand the 3/5<sup>th</sup> majority vote requirement in the legislature to include (beyond taxes) fees and changes to tax exemptions, deductions, and credits. Do you support or oppose this initiative and the expansion of the 3/5<sup>th</sup> majority requirement?

Support  Oppose Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

**Public Sector.** In a current case called Janus v. AFSCME, the U.S. Supreme Court will rule whether mandatory union fees in the public sector are constitutional. Taking into account free speech and rights of association, do you support or oppose requirements that public employees pay mandatory union fees as a condition of employment?

Support  Oppose Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Community Standards**

**Adult Businesses.** Factoring concerns about censoring free speech and expression, do you support or oppose zoning laws allowing local governments to prohibit adult businesses from locating near residential neighborhoods, schools, or day care facilities?

Support  Oppose Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Religious Liberties**

**Religious Organizations and Hiring Practices.** In recent years the list of protected classes in Oregon has expanded to include sexual orientation. Homosexual behavior runs contrary to the deeply held beliefs of many major religions. Do you support or oppose including religious protections in legislation to protect the religious liberties of churches and other religious non-profit organizations in hiring practices?

Support  Oppose Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

**Religious Organizations and Insurance Mandates.** The federal Department of Health and Human Services under the previous presidential administration pushed to institute laws that would require religious organizations to provide insurance coverage for birth control, sterilizations, and the morning after pill. Would you support or oppose a law in Oregon that requires religious organizations to offer birth control, sterilizations, and the morning after pill to their employees?

Support  Oppose Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

**Religious Liberties and Participation.** Bakery owners in Gresham declined to bake a cake for a same-sex wedding ceremony because of their religious beliefs. A complaint was filed by the same-sex couple with BOLI. As a result, the bakery closed and was fined \$135,000 by BOLI for declining to participate in a same-sex wedding ceremony. Do you support or oppose legislation that would protect a person with deeply held religious beliefs from forced participation in a ceremony against their conscience?

Support  Oppose Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

## Education

**Paying for Education.** The new federal tax law now allows spending funds from 529 college saving accounts on K-12 private school tuition (up to \$10,000 annually). Additionally, Oregon law allows tax filers to deduct up to \$4,660 of contributions to 529 accounts from their state taxes. Oregon House Bill 4080 would remove the \$4,660 state tax deduction if funds from a 529 savings account are used for K-12 private school tuition. Do you support or oppose state tax deductions for funds used from 529 savings accounts for private K-12 school tuition?

Support  Oppose Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

**School Safety.** Many schools are “gun free zones”. In recent years, there has been a number of incidents where a perpetrator has initiated violence in a school with a firearm leading to injury and loss of life. Do you support or oppose arming licensed and trained security personnel at local schools to protect children?

Support  Oppose Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

**Educational Savings Accounts.** ESA’s are tax-advantaged investment accounts designed to cover future education expenses from elementary through college, such as tuition, books, and uniforms. Do you support or oppose Educational Savings Accounts that allow parents to use a percentage of their tax dollars for the best educational choice for their child?

Support  Oppose Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

## Crime

**Human Trafficking.** In recent years efforts have been made to crack down on human trafficking in Oregon. Bills have been introduced to make harsher penalties for persons who patronize a trafficked child under the age of 18. Would you support or oppose enhanced penalties for the crime of trafficking if the victim is a minor?

Support  Oppose Comment: It depends on exactly how human trafficking is defined. Also depends on if the accused is under age 18 or not. I generally support enhanced penalties if the current penalties are lax for those who are the age of majority.

**Mandatory Sentencing.** Measure 11 in Oregon when passed created mandatory minimum prison sentences for certain violent crimes. A judge cannot give a lesser sentence, nor can a prisoner's sentence be reduced for good behavior or be paroled prior to serving the minimum sentence. There are those that believe Measure 11 hinders a judge's ability to account for particular situations at sentencing and that teen offenders are automatically tried as adults. Do you support or oppose mandatory minimum sentences for violent crimes against persons?

Support  Oppose Comment: I absolutely oppose treating a minor as an adult in any crime.

**Domestic Abusers.** Senate Bill 1562 (2018) is a bill aimed at domestic abusers. It expands the definition of strangulation and increases strangulation from a misdemeanor to a Class C felony if the victim is a family or household member. Do you support or oppose enhanced penalties for domestic abusers?

Support  Oppose Comment: I do not understand why this is only for family members. Therefore, I oppose this bill.

### Gambling

**Gaming.** Currently, state and federal law allow Native American tribes to build and operate one casino, provided that casino is within the boundaries of clearly and historically established tribal land. Various agencies and elected officials are considering a proposed casino off tribal lands. Do you support or oppose the expansion of current state and/or federal law to allow for off-reservation or independent casinos in Oregon?

Support  Oppose Comment: Just another tactic to break yet another treaty with Native Americans

### Life Decisions

**Abortion Laws.** If Roe v. Wade was overturned, would you support or oppose a law in Oregon restricting abortion with exceptions only for rape, incest and the life of the mother?

Support  Oppose Comment: I am 100% pro-life; Abortion due to rape or incest is a death sentence to the innocent child. Very rarely is the life of the mother in jeopardy. All efforts should be made to save life of both mother and baby. Yes to overturn Roe v Wade

**Reproductive Health.** The Reproductive Health Equity Act, HB 3391, was passed by the legislature and signed into law by Gov. Kate Brown in 2017. This law requires health insurers to provide birth control and abortion without charging a co-pay or deductible. It also dedicates state funds to provide reproductive health care to noncitizens excluded from Medicaid. Do you support or oppose the Reproductive Health Equity Act abortion requirements?

Support  Oppose Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

**Public Funding for Abortion.** Organizations that use public funds to provide abortions such as Planned Parenthood have recently come under national scrutiny and raised awareness over whether public dollars should be used to fund abortions. Do you support or oppose the use of state tax dollars for abortion?

Support  Oppose Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

**Parental Rights.** HB 2758, passed in the 2015 Oregon legislative session, made it possible for a minor who is an enrollee on a health insurance plan to receive “health services” (such as abortion, STD treatment, and treatment of sports injuries) using their parents’ health insurance without their knowledge or consent. Do you support or oppose HB 2758 in Oregon allowing minors to receive “health services” on their parents’ insurance without notifying a parent or guardian of services provided?

Support  Oppose Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

**Advance Directive.** House Bill 4135 (2018) makes adjustments to the statutory advance directive form found in ORS 127.53 addressing people’s end of life decisions. Under current Oregon law, a healthcare representative does not have the authority to make a life ending decision for an incapable person unless the representative has been given authority to do so, or the incapable person is in one of the four end of life situations defined in statute. Under HB 4135 a person that appoints a healthcare representative but makes no formalized decisions regarding end of life care would be granting his or her healthcare representative the power to make life ending decisions for the principal even if this is not the will of the principal. Do you support or oppose HB 4135 and the changes to the advance directive rules?

Support  Oppose Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Mail Response:** PO Box 13367, Portland, Oregon 97213

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**(For Office Use Only)**

Phone Survey Conducted by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_