



Central Brooklyn Independent Democrats: 2022 State Candidate Questionnaire

Name of Candidate: Olanike Alabi

Office Sought: NYS Assembly – District #57

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Name of Person(s) completing the questionnaire: Olanike Alabi

Please answer each of the following questions to the best of your ability:

1) Why do you seek an endorsement from CBID?

I share your values and commitment to social justice, civic engagement, reform, transparency, and accountability. I recognize the importance of having a strong democratic presence in Brooklyn and want to bring that presence to the NYS Assembly to represent and fight for progressive legislation.

2) If elected, what would be your top legislative priority? Healthcare. Considering the COVID-19 pandemic, chronic diseases and advancing primary and preventive healthcare, it's important that we strengthen our public hospital system (i.e., NYC H + H). My priority would be to expand NYC H + H, which primarily serves the uninsured and underinsured.

3) What measures would you support to improve educational opportunities for all students in New York State.

I would seek to ensure A New Deal for CUNY and SUNY to provide free tuition for students who seek to attend colleges and universities in NYS.

4) NYS previously passed the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act. What are your priorities and what level of funding would you support to implement this Act? Do you support the Climate Can't Wait package? The Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act is a priority along with Healthcare, Education, Housing and COVID-19 Relief and Recovery. I would work with my colleagues to prioritize and baseline funding during NYS budget negotiations. Yes, I support the Climate Can't Wait package.

5) How do you propose getting same-day voter registration and universal absentee voting approved by voters in NY?

It's important to implement same-day voter registration and universal absentee voting. If same-day voter registration had been in place during the 2016 presidential primary, more than 70,000 New Yorkers would have been eligible to vote. The only reason we don't have same day registration and universal absentee voting right now is because of the efforts that were put forth to prevent it. The Democratic party must be willing to be just as aggressive with our support for these measures and prove to the public that these measures are in their best interest as well. Through civic engagement, petitions, rallies, and advocacy we can raise awareness and support for both.



6) **What, if any, groups or types of people will you not accept campaign contributions from? If so, please note whose money you will not accept.** I will not accept any corporate, real estate developer fossilfuel interests, police unions and bank contributions.

7) **Do you support the work of the state's Public Finance Commission? Do you support any campaign finance reforms in NY State? If so, please describe.** Yes. I support a public campaign finance system at the state level and similar to the NYC Matching Funds program. I also support closure of the LLC loophole, campaign spending limits and eradicating "dark money".

8) **The Supreme Court has ruled that state legislatures can gerrymander political districts along partisan lines. How and by whom should political districts be drawn?**
State and city Independent Redistricting Commissions should draw political districts to avoid partisan politics and the US Department of Justice and specifically the Civil Rights Division must ensure that such maps do not violate voting rights and disenfranchise voters based on race, language, etc.

9) **Now that the Reproductive Health Act has passed, what is your next priority in increasing reproductive healthcare access and gender equity?**
While New York currently allows wide access to an abortion, I believe that the next step is to improve access to healthcare, including mental health care and gender equity by prioritizing funding and passing the NY Health Act.

10) **What actions would you take to promote safer and more efficient transportation options for pedestrians, cyclists, mass transit users, and drivers in New York?**
We need to invest in and expand our current transportation network. A start could be municipal control of the NYC Transit system. Having a robust, safe, age-friendly, and functional transit system that relies on clean energy is vital. Providing alternatives to vehicle use will protect our environment.

11) **What policies do you support to ensure fairness in employment and workplace conditions, as well as strengthening and increasing access to unions?**
As someone who was unlawfully terminated several years ago, I am strongly committed to fairness in employment, workplace conditions and worker's rights. I believe in everyone's right to unionize. I also support raising the minimum wage.



12) What would you do to ensure access to affordable and quality housing for everyone?

Investing in repairing NYCHA housing developments and providing homeownership opportunities, housing vouchers along with expanding SCRIE and DRIE are some solutions to providing access to affordable and quality housing. Also, reforming the 421A and 485A tax subsidies to work for residents not developers is another solution.

13) What are your views on criminal justice reform issues, such as (but not limited to) police

accountability, and ending solitary confinement?

I strongly support education and rehabilitation over incarceration. I believe that police should be held accountable for their actions. We must also protect the right to peacefully protest. I believe that solitary confinement should be limited. I am also in favor of elder parole.

14) Do you support the New York Health Act?

Yes