



2017 Senate District 26 Questionnaire

Completed questionnaires will be public documents available on our website, so put your best foot forward. If we ultimately hold an endorsement vote in your race, your questionnaire will be circulated to our membership before the vote.

Name	Eileen Naples
How long have you lived in the 26th Senate District?	12 years
Why do you want to serve as a member of the NYS Senate?	I'm running for the 26th Senate District because my neighbors deserve someone who knows how to make a tangible difference in their lives.
What have you accomplished in public life that you are most proud of?	In 2011, the NYS legislature solved a specific problem for domestic violence victims and passed a strong law criminalizing strangulation. I was among the first prosecutors in the state to try a felony case under the new law and the first to have a Medical Examiner testify as an expert in a case where the victim survived.
What are the greatest strengths and struggles of Senate District 26?	The 26th is the best district in New York. We know the world wants to come to us to sightsee, work, and play. The Statue of Liberty is in the 26th and illustrates one of our most compelling strengths in the way the district tells the story of immigrants through sustaining and thriving communities in Greenpoint, Carroll Gardens, Chinatown, and the Lower East Side. Our greatest challenge is keeping our neighborhoods affordable for New Yorkers when our guests go home.
What are some of the issues specific to the Brooklyn portion of the district you would address?	I would work to grant New York City design-build authority with labor protections for necessary repairs to the BQE. Doing critical repairs under design-build with a PLA in place would save approximately 2 years and close to \$300 million. I would work to support the swift completion of Bushwick Inlet Park because the North Brooklyn community has worked so hard over too many years to acquire the complete site.
Why do you want New Kings Democrats' endorsement?	Through their work on the County committee in Brooklyn, NKD has created a model of how reformers can gain the access necessary to constructively reform our political systems. Albany badly needs to make ethics reform a priority and NKD would be an incredibly valuable partner in that fight.
If elected, what will your top three legislative and budgetary priorities be while in office?	1. Ethics Reform 2. Single-Payer Healthcare 3. Criminal Justice Reform
Do you pledge to caucus only with the Democrats? What are your thoughts on the IDC?	Yes, I pledge to caucus only with the Democrats. I do not support the IDC and would work tirelessly to urge them to caucus only with the Democrats.
Do you pledge not to support any members of the IDC financially or with endorsements?	Yes, I pledge not to support any members of the IDC financially or with endorsements.
How do you think the Democratic parties of Manhattan and Brooklyn should choose their nominee in this election?	By popular vote of registered Democrats.
In what ways would you like to expand voting access?	Automatic voter registration is fundamental to democracy. I would work to break down barriers to voting by ensuring early voting, same-day registration, easy absentee voting and increased language and disability access. I also want to restore voting rights to New Yorkers on parole and supervised release.
What criminal justice reforms would you like to see the Senate enact?	As a former prosecutor I will be a credible voice to Republicans and the IDC on criminal justice reforms. Discovery practices must be reformed statewide, cash bail must end, and we must close Rikers and expand community-based supervision.
NKD supports holding a New York State Constitutional Convention. Do you? Why or why not?	A Constitutional Convention is a once in a generation opportunity for progressive reforms, but I cannot support a convention that elects delegates along the current State Senate lines until voting rights are expanded and barriers to ballot access are lowered. With the gerrymandered lines of the current Senate, I do not believe the opportunities outweigh the risk to collective bargaining rights.
What endorsements have you received from publications, electeds, community leaders, or political organizations?	N/A

Of the elected officials in the NYS Senate, who do you admire most and why?	I am excited by Jamaal Bailey's work on criminal justice reform – he lead the way on Raise The Age and is already out front on discovery reform. I admire Liz Kruger's work on women's health from choice to breastfeeding.
What is one fun fact about you?	I am a huge theater and cabaret fan and have an extensive - and embarrassing - collection of Playbills and souvenirs.

I have reviewed this questionnaire and agree that the responses set forth in this document are accurate:

Candidate Signature: Eileen Naples

Date: 9/9/17

You must sign this questionnaire!