

2018 Elections: Key Health Questions for State Candidates

Health care is a critical issue in the 2018 state elections. Voters will weigh choices for governor in 36 states. Thousands of legislative seats are up in states where decisions are made each year for funding of health care. The election results will impact legislative and administrative changes to health care programs including Medicaid, health insurance marketplaces, and insurance coverage affecting everyone in your state. The Trump administration is handing more control over health care programs to state officials. This makes the November elections a crucial time for voters to know where state-level candidates stand on health care issues.

As voters engage with state candidates leading up to November elections, there will be opportunities to get their views on health care issues. Asking the following questions can help voters assess which candidates will work to protect and improve health care.

Key Health Care Question for State Candidates

- 1) Will you support legislation that prevents health insurance companies from discriminating against people with preexisting conditions in any way?
- 2) What will you do to address the rising costs of prescription drugs? Will you support state legislation to prohibit drug companies from charging excessive prices?
- 3) Will you oppose unnecessary red tape and restrictions that would result in people losing health care coverage? Will you support full funding of Medicaid in the state?
- 4) How would you support oral health programs so that fewer people relied on emergency rooms to meet their dental emergencies?
- 5) What will you do to ensure that everyone in our state has access to high-quality health and health care, regardless of their race, income, health status, or geographic location?
- 6) How will you ensure that none of your constituents are left behind as our state's health coverage and delivery systems change due to technological improvements, economic changes, and policy updates?