

Public Health on the Ballot

This November, 435 U.S. representatives and 35 U.S. senators are up for election. Congress has the power to help make the United States a healthier nation. As you consider your options at the polls, find out if your candidates are likely to champion public health if they are elected by asking your candidates the following questions at a town hall, on the phone, on Twitter, in an email or however you reach them. We encourage you to also **ask, "why?"** *Why do you support this policy over the other? Why have you taken that position? What's your evidence?*

Public health needs champions in Washington, D.C., who will support evidence-based policies. Let's ask the right questions to make sure we know where our candidates stand on important public health issues.

AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

- ☐ Will you fight to protect the Affordable Care Act and its benefits for our community, including guaranteed health care coverage for those with preexisting conditions and access to insurance coverage?
- ☐ How do you plan to support the Affordable Care Act and policies that make health care affordable for our community?

POLICIES THAT SUPPORT FAMILIES, WOMEN AND CHILDREN

- ☐ Will you promote and support laws that guarantee women access to the full range of reproductive health services?
- ☐ Will you support paid family and medical leave and affordable child care for all Americans?
- ☐ Will you champion affordable housing and a living wage for working families?

CLIMATE CHANGE AND HEALTH

- ☐ How will you protect our community from the health impacts of climate change?
- ☐ Will you support climate change policy that's backed by science?

FUNDING FOR PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENTS AND PROGRAMS

- ☐ Will you support robust funding for public health agencies and programs, including our state and local health departments?
- ☐ Will you oppose efforts to take away funding from the Prevention and Public Health Fund?

OPIOID RESPONSE

- ☐ Will you fight for policies that prevent opioid addiction and reduce harm?
Tell me about the specific steps you plan to take if elected.

GUN VIOLENCE

- ☐ Will you support funding for gun violence prevention research to help keep our community safe?

For more information, visit the apha.org/speak-for-health webpage or contact speakforhealth@apha.org.