



**2019-20**  
**American Federation of Teachers**  
**CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE**

*for Candidates for the U.S. Senate  
and U.S. House of Representatives*



*A Union of Professionals*

American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO  
555 New Jersey Ave. N.W.  
Washington, DC 20001  
202-879-4400  
[www.aft.org](http://www.aft.org)

# American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO

We care. We fight.  
We show up. We vote.

For a Better Life, and a Voice  
at Work and in Our Democracy

All Americans want a better life and a better future for our families—namely, good jobs; high-quality, affordable healthcare; a secure retirement; affordable college; great public schools; a healthy democracy; and justice for all. The AFT’s 1.7 million members fight for all this by ensuring we have a voice at work and in our democracy—through politics, collective bargaining and collective action. Together, through our union and with our communities, we accomplish what would be impossible to achieve alone.

We live in a perilous era of extreme economic inequality, existential threats to our democracy, and dangerous and growing ethnic and racial divisions. So we cannot rest—not simply because our opponents aren’t going away, but because we are the change agents, the movement builders, the dreamers and the fighters for a better life, a better world and the very soul of America. Together, we will win a better life and a better future for all.

That’s why our union fights for:

- Safe and welcoming environments in our schools, our hospitals and our communities;
- The investments in public schools, colleges and services necessary to fund our future;
- The freedom to teach and the freedom to care so we can meet our students’ and patients’ needs;
- The freedom to live securely on one job’s wages, with a decent retirement and the right to join a union, and without catastrophic healthcare costs or crushing student debt.

We want to work with members of Congress to make sure these issues are reflected in their policy agendas. During the 2020 election cycle, the AFT will represent the professional and economic interests of our members and the communities they serve. To that end, we have prepared this questionnaire to gauge your views on issues of concern to our members. We hope you will take this opportunity to share your vision for preserving our democracy, protecting our most vulnerable, and strengthening our economy and our communities.

A strong democracy allows for disagreement and debate on issues, and we recognize that candidates may not necessarily agree with the AFT 100 percent of the time. ***We encourage you to use the comment section at the end of the questionnaire to share your thoughts or address any issues or concerns you feel the AFT and its affiliates should consider.***

Candidate Information:

Name: Rick Kennedy State: TX District: 17

Address: PO Box 3697  
Pflugerville, TX 78691

Phone: 512-633-5649 Email: rick@rickkennedyforcongress.com

Signature: Richard F. Kennedy Date: 23 June 2020

Please return the completed candidate questionnaire to:

Amanda Nelson  
Texas AFT Political Department  
[anelson@texasaft.org](mailto:anelson@texasaft.org)

and

Janice Springer  
AFT Political Department  
[jspringer@aft.org](mailto:jspringer@aft.org)

# **PUBLIC EDUCATION**

## **1. FEDERAL ROLE IN ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION**

Currently, more than 50 million students attend our country’s public schools. The teachers, paraprofessionals and other school employees who work with these students each day care deeply about the quality of our public schools and the education their students receive.

Since 1965, the Elementary and Secondary Education Act—and its subsequent reauthorizations, most recently the Every Student Succeeds Act—has represented the federal government’s largest investment in K-12 education, and it is a crucial mechanism both in funding and in guiding policy for all public schools.

➤ *Do you believe the federal government has a role in elementary and secondary education?*

Yes

No

*Do you support the Every Student Succeeds Act? Are there specific changes that you would like to see in ESSA?*

I support the ESSA because at its core it is the reauthorization of the 1965 Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

I would in general like to see the country move away from standardized testing as a means of assessing teacher and school performance and student achievement.

Also, I advocate for career counselors in every school to help students decide on their pathway after high school graduation, whatever that looks like for the individual student.

## **2. “SCHOOL CHOICE” PROPOSALS**

Many states still spend less on K-12 education than they did before the 2008 recession. Despite this fact, the Trump administration and some in Congress seek to destabilize, polarize and privatize public education through so-called school choice proposals. These proposals call for the use of taxpayer money to support private and religious schools. This approach goes by many names, including vouchers, opportunity scholarships, tuition tax credits and education savings accounts.

Decades of experiments with voucher-type programs have the same conclusion: Vouchers and the like fail most of the children they purportedly are intended to benefit and drain needed resources away from public schools, which 90 percent of our nation’s students attend. The Department of Education’s own analysis of the Washington, D.C., voucher program found that it has had a negative effect on student achievement. The Louisiana voucher program has led to large declines in kids’ reading and math scores. Students in Ohio’s voucher program are doing worse than children in its traditional public schools.

- *Do you oppose vouchers and/or other proposals that allow taxpayer dollars to be used for private and religious schools at the K-12 level, either as a limited experiment or as a full-scale program?*

*Vouchers, including so-called opportunity scholarships*

- Yes, I oppose.                       No, I support.

*Tuition tax credits*

- Yes, I oppose.                       No, I support.

*Education Savings Accounts*

- Yes, I oppose.                       No, I support.

### **3. CHARTER SCHOOLS**

Charter schools have the potential to be incubators for innovation and collaborative labor-management relationships. The AFT believes that public charter schools should not siphon funding away from school districts and should be held to the same standards as traditional public schools. These standards include access for all students, health and safety standards, civil rights requirements, academic accountability and financial transparency requirements.

- *Do you support requiring charter schools to meet the same requirements as traditional public schools, particularly as they relate to access for all students, health and safety standards, civil rights requirements, academic accountability and financial transparency?*

- Yes, I support.                       No, I oppose.

- *Do you support teachers in charter schools having the right to organize and join a union?*

- Yes, I support.                       No, I oppose.

### **4. COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**

We need to meet kids where they are, and that means recognizing that fully half of all public school students live in poverty. The community school strategy—using the neighborhood public school to weave together community partners to provide all the services and supports students and their families need—has proven incredibly effective in helping to mitigate inequity and poverty. Educators, school leaders, parents, businesses, faith-based organizations, higher education institutions, public agencies and community groups determine—together—how to fill their community’s needs, from child care services and dental clinics, to counseling, English language instruction, family engagement opportunities, legal assistance and housing services. The aim is to provide coordinated supports to give students, parents and teachers the tools to learn, grow and teach. As a result, community schools become centers of the community.

Community schools in Austin, Baltimore, Chicago, Cincinnati and many other cities have boasted extraordinary success, with less chronic absenteeism, lower dropout rates, increased graduation rates and better student participation in after-school programs. A study by the Finance Project shows that community schools return \$10 to \$14 in social benefits for each dollar invested.

Community schools provide wraparound support services in a cost-efficient manner and improve student safety, health and academic achievement.

- *Do you support an expansion of federal funding for community schools to reach a total of 25,000 schools across the country?*

Yes, I support.                       No, I oppose.

## **5. EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

High-quality early childhood education and care programs like Head Start, Early Head Start, child care programs, preschool programs and full-day kindergarten increase the likelihood that young children, from birth to age 5, will have the language and literacy foundation on which later school success is built. Yet too few children, especially disadvantaged children, have access to such programs.

- *Do you support a role for the federal government in facilitating and leveraging funding for universal access to noncompulsory early childhood education and care programs for children from birth to kindergarten?*

Yes, I support.                       No, I oppose.

## **6. THE FREEDOM TO TEACH**

Teachers and others who work in public schools are leaving the profession at the highest rate on record. There were 110,000 fewer teachers than were needed in the last school year, nearly doubling the shortage of 2015. All 50 states started the last school year with teacher shortages.

The challenge is not just attracting people to teaching. The United States must do a much better job of keeping teachers in the profession. And we are losing the teacher diversity battle as well. This crisis has two major roots: deep disinvestment from public education and the deprofessionalization of teaching.

*In addition to increased investments, what would you do to support changing the culture so that the teaching profession is marked by trust, respect and the freedom to teach?*

We need to pay teachers more: it is clearly one of the unintended lessons of the COVID19 quarantine. I will work with all professionals & elected officials at the local, county, congressional district, state & federal governments to make this happen.

As a STEM candidate, I also urge additional investment in technologies that will assist teachers in their profession. To help students learn, we must meet them where they are—and where they are is firmly in the midst of 21st century technology.

## **HIGHER EDUCATION**

### **7. HIGHER EDUCATION**

The AFT believes that higher education is a public good. We believe the United States has a national interest in a system of higher education finance that makes it possible for students to go to college without debt. And we believe federal lawmakers should act to lift the burden of existing student debt from student loan borrowers who play by the rules.

- *Do you support federal proposals to incentivize states to maintain or increase their higher education investments, so as to make public higher education available without debt?*

Yes, I support.                       No, I oppose.

- *Do you support federal legislation to fix the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program, making its promise truly available to the 33 million federal student loan borrowers who are employed in eligible jobs?*

Yes, I support.                       No, I oppose.

- *Do you support a legislative requirement for federal student loan servicers to act as fiduciaries to the interests of student loan borrowers?*

Yes, I support.                       No, I oppose.

- *Beyond PSLF, do you support full or partial cancellation of existing student loan debt, which is now a \$1.7 trillion drag on the U.S. economy and 90 percent of which is owed directly to the U.S. Department of Education?*

Yes, I support.                       No, I oppose.

- *Do you support expanding the coverage and purchasing power of the Pell Grant program to limit college loan indebtedness for low- and middle-income students?*

Yes, I support.                       No, I oppose.

### **8. FINANCIAL AND PROGRAM INTEGRITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION**

For-profit colleges have come under scrutiny and criticism for high costs; aggressive, questionable recruitment practices; poor financial management; and a track record of inadequately preparing students to finish college and find gainful employment. Today, students at for-profit institutions constitute about 10 percent of the undergraduate student body and about 25 percent of Pell Grant and loan recipients, yet they represent 48 percent of undergraduate loan defaults.

The Obama administration implemented tougher regulations and statutory standards to address predatory lending. However, the Trump administration has sought to roll back many of these protections to pursue policies that would actually make students more vulnerable to predatory colleges.

- *Do you support statutory and regulatory moves that curtail fraud and abuse at predatory for-profit colleges?*

Yes, I support.  No, I oppose.

- *Do you support statutory and regulatory moves that provide relief to defrauded students and hold the predatory institutions accountable for their actions?*

Yes, I support.  No, I oppose.

## **VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND SAFETY**

### **9. SAFE AND HEALTHY SCHOOL BUILDINGS**

Many children in this country are being educated in substandard public school buildings, as recently reported by the U.S. Government Accountability Office. As you may know, children have no statutory right to a safe and healthy school environment. There also are no national standards for selecting new school building sites, and schools have been built on old Superfund sites and brownfields.

- *Do you support a federal role for establishing guidelines or standards for children's health and safety in school?*

Yes, I support.  No, I oppose.

### **10. SAFE SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES**

Our collective responsibility is to ensure that our schools are safe and welcoming places for teaching and learning—not armed fortresses. The Trump-DeVos approach includes arming teachers and school personnel. This approach is opposed by the AFT. Creating safe schools can't be an empty promise. It will require a balanced approach that addresses both the physical safety and the emotional well-being of students, educators and school employees—an approach that includes comprehensive school safety programs and procedures, welcoming and supportive school environments, mental health supports and commonsense gun safety legislation.

The AFT calls on Congress to provide the resources to fully staff every school in America with qualified mental health professionals who can identify and intervene before students reach a crisis point. Congress must also invest in ongoing schoolwide practices to reduce bullying behavior and to support community schools, after-school activities and programs like peer counseling, wellness programs and other social supports that are crucial steps toward reducing violence in schools.

- *Do you support increased investment in community/school safety measures that avoid turning schools into armed fortresses or arming teachers and other school personnel?*

Yes, I support.  No, I oppose.

- *Would you support funding to provide every school with a mental health professional?*



Yes, I would support.

No, I would oppose.

### 11. GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION

Tragically, too many of our nation's schools and communities are being terrorized by the effects of gun violence. As we work to address existing trauma, we must also focus on the underlying causes of gun violence. The AFT supports expanding the background check system, banning both assault weapons and high-capacity ammunition magazines, establishing extreme risk protection order systems and rescinding the gun industry's immunity. The AFT calls on Congress to provide funding for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to conduct research on gun-related deaths and rescinding the gun industry's immunity.

- *Do you support expanding the background checks system?*

Yes, I support.

No, I oppose.

- *Do you support establishing extreme risk protection order systems?*

Yes, I support.

No, I oppose.

- *Do you support a ban on the sale, transfer, importation and production of assault weapons?*

Yes, I support.

No, I oppose.

- *Do you support providing the Centers on Disease Control and Prevention with significant funds to conduct research into gun-related deaths?*

Yes, I support.

No, I oppose.

- *Would you fight to end the gun industry's immunity to lawsuits?*

Yes

No

### 12. PATIENT SAFETY AND NURSE STAFFING LEVELS

Registered nurses are the health professionals most closely linked with fall prevention, patient satisfaction and prevention of 30-day readmissions. However, hospitals have cut their staffing levels to the bare minimum, compromising patient care and causing droves of nurses to leave the profession. If hospitals were accountable for providing minimum safe-staffing levels, nurses would have adequate time for high-quality direct care, managing patient needs, reconciling medications at discharge, providing crucial education to patients and families at discharge, and other critical duties that help prevent readmissions and reduce costs.

- *Would you support minimum safe-staffing levels for nurses, to ensure that patients receive the level of care they deserve and for which hospitals are paid?*

Yes, I would support.

No, I would oppose.

### **13. HEALTHCARE WORKPLACE SAFETY**

Healthcare and social service workers are nearly five times more likely to experience a workplace violence injury as workers in any other sector of the economy—and the threats are growing. It is difficult enough delivering safe and effective patient care in a stressful and frequently understaffed workplace; these workers shouldn't have to risk their lives.

- *Would you support a federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration standard or federal legislation to ensure that all hospitals and other healthcare workplaces have strong and effective violence prevention and security programs?*

Yes, I would support.

No, I would oppose.

## **ECONOMIC SECURITY**

### **14. UNIONS, WORKERS' VOICE AND COLLECTIVE BARGAINING**

Labor unions give workers a collective voice in the workplace and are integral to the social and economic health of our country. Strong unions are key to a strong middle class. Furthermore, unions provide a collective voice for policies that benefit all working people, like increases in the minimum wage, affordable healthcare, safer nurse-staffing levels, high-quality public services and great public schools.

However, despite the clear benefits of a strong labor movement, there are forces who benefit from a weakened labor movement—the same forces who benefit from a rigged economy and who have pushed for limiting voting rights, attacked immigrants and undermined civil rights protections.

- *Do you support the right of all workers to join a union?*

Yes, I support.

No, I oppose.

- *Do you support the right for unions and their members to collectively bargain?*

Yes, I support.

No, I oppose.

### **15. ECONOMIC JUSTICE AND TAX FAIRNESS**

A fair and vibrant economy means everyone, from working- and middle-class Americans to big businesses, pays their fair share in taxes. For far too long, the wealthiest Americans and large corporations have not paid their fair share, leaving education, healthcare and infrastructure sorely underfunded and economic inequality skyrocketing. President Trump's 2017 tax reform bill only made it worse: In the first year after the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act was enacted, individual taxpayers paid \$93 billion *more* in taxes, and large corporations paid about \$91 billion *less*.

Comprehensive and progressive tax reform is not only the right thing to do but a necessary step. We will not have an economy where everyone can succeed unless we reform our tax code to fund our future for all Americans, not just the wealthy few.

- *Would you support efforts to eliminate the cap on state and local tax deductions?*  
 Yes, I would support.       No, I would oppose.
- *Would you support reversing the tax cuts for the wealthy and corporations contained in the TCJA that have increased the deficit, which is now being pointed to as a reason to cut Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, education and other vital programs?*  
 Yes, I would support.       No, I would oppose.
- *Would you support efforts to ensure that the richest Americans pay their fair share of taxes?*  
 Yes, I would support.       No, I would oppose.
- *Instead of providing incentives for Wall Street to outsource jobs and profits to other countries, would you support efforts to close corporate tax loopholes, including the perverse incentives for moving jobs and profits out of the United States?*  
 Yes, I would support.       No, I would oppose.

## **16. CLIMATE CHANGE AND JOBS**

Americans face the dual crises of climate change and increasing economic inequality, and, for far too long, we've allowed the forces driving both crises to create a wedge between the need for economic security and a safe living environment. This is a false choice; we know that we can and must have both. Many solutions are already being put into place that include good union jobs building a clean-energy and climate-resilient economy.

Solving climate change should simultaneously build resilient infrastructure, improve community health and safety, safeguard wildlife, and strengthen and create economic opportunities and sustainability for all citizens. We must also recognize that our nation's wealth, and indeed the global economy, has been built on the contributions of millions of workers in carbon-intensive industries. These workers should not be cast aside. Workers should not be forced to choose between a better environment and family-supporting wages.

- *Do you support policies that combine an aggressive emission-reduction strategy with a sound infrastructure, jobs and community-resilience strategy?*  
 Yes, I support.       No, I oppose.
- *Do you support climate change solutions aimed at helping the hardest-hit workers and communities—particularly for low-income communities of color that are disproportionately burdened by environmental hazards in the United States?*  
 Yes, I support.       No, I oppose.

## 17. RETIREMENT SECURITY FOR ALL

A secure retirement for workers requires Social Security, a pension and personal savings—the traditional three-legged stool. However, employers have increasingly shifted from defined benefit pensions to defined contribution savings plans, which has broken the pension leg of the stool and put the idea of a secure retirement in jeopardy. Without a renewed commitment to retirement security, our nation faces a retirement income gap that will force many workers to work longer than they should, and will require the government to spend more on social safety net programs for retirees who rely on Social Security for the bulk of their retirement income.

A meaningful retirement security plan would preserve and strengthen Social Security while creating the structure for all individuals to have access to a pension-like guaranteed retirement account that contains the following features: an employer contribution, portable benefits, lifetime payouts after retirement, and pooling of assets for investment by professionals, as well as efficient, transparent administration and effective oversight of plan assets.

- *Would you support legislation that seeks to strengthen Social Security in a way that does not cut benefits for any current or future retirees, counting raising the retirement age as a benefit cut?*

Yes, I would support.       No, I would oppose.

- *Would you support legislation requiring every employer to provide a secure pension plan with the various features enumerated above for every worker?*

Yes, I would support.       No, I would oppose.

## HEALTHCARE

### 18. HEALTHCARE AFFORDABILITY AND ACCESS

While congressional attempts to repeal the Affordable Care Act have failed, President Trump and a group of Republican governors are pushing the courts to declare the law unconstitutional. The impact of a negative decision by the courts would be devastating: Millions of people would lose health insurance in the coming decade, and millions with pre-existing conditions would be one reoccurrence away from bankruptcy or death. Even if the ACA survives this constitutional challenge, healthcare remains inaccessible and unaffordable for too many.

- *Would you support legislation that moves the nation to universal healthcare coverage?*

Yes, I would support.       No, I would oppose.

- *To ensure Americans have access to affordable prescription drugs, would you support lifting restrictions on Medicare to negotiate drug costs with pharmaceutical companies?*

Yes, I would support.       No, I would oppose.

- *Would you support legislation that protects patients from surprise medical billing?*

Yes, I would support.

No, I would oppose.

While the ACA has provided millions of people with access to high-quality and affordable health insurance, it was never intended to penalize employees who had negotiated reasonable, comprehensive healthcare coverage with their employers. However, under the ACA, these negotiated plans can be taxed at rates up to 40 percent.

- *Would you support efforts to repeal the excise tax on employer-provided healthcare plans?*

Yes, I would support.

No, I would oppose.

## **DEMOCRACY, CIVIL RIGHTS AND IMMIGRATION**

### **19. PROTECTING DEMOCRACY**

Our nation's democracy is not simply a form of government but also, in the words of John Dewey, "a way of life" that extends to civil society and the economy. A vibrant and robust system of public education is essential to democracy and crucial for its survival.

However, in recent years, there has been a chipping away at the foundation of our democracy that, since the *Citizens United* decision, includes a deluge of unlimited and unaccountable "dark money" from wealthy individuals and corporations into the political process. This has led to extreme gerrymandering, obstruction of normal government processes, voter suppression and disenfranchisement, union suppression, and other assaults on our democracy that skew the agenda in Washington toward special interests and away from the priorities of ordinary voters.

Overturing *Citizens United* and getting dark money out of politics is essential to return power to the American people and end the assault on the fundamental pillars of democracy.

- *Would you support a constitutional amendment to overturn Citizens United and restore power to the American people?*

Yes, I would support.

No, I would oppose.

### **20. VOTER SUPPRESSION**

Our system of fair and open elections is vital for the preservation of our democracy and needs to be protected. There has been an unfortunate increase in restrictive voter ID laws, voter roll purges, outcome-driven redistricting, limited voting opportunities, the spread of misinformation about polling sites and hours of operation, and even foreign interference.

On the first day of the 116th Congress, House Democratic lawmakers introduced H.R. 1, the For the People Act of 2019. The bill would expand voter registration and voting access, make Election Day a federal holiday and limit voter roll purges. Furthermore, H.R. 1 would establish provisions related to election security, including protecting the security of voter rolls, developing a national strategy

to protect the security and integrity of U.S. democratic institutions, and improving the cybersecurity of election systems. The bill also would require states to form independent, nonpartisan redistricting commissions.

- *Would you support ongoing efforts to protect the security and integrity of U.S. elections?*

Yes, I would support.       No, I would oppose.

In *Shelby County v. Holder*, the Supreme Court struck down Section 4(b) of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which also weakened Section 5. Together, Sections 4(b) and 5 required certain states and local governments to obtain federal preclearance before implementing any changes to voting laws. Consequently, the Voting Rights Act, a law that had ensured voting rights and fair elections for millions of Americans for more than 50 years, now lacks an enforcement mechanism to ensure safe and fair elections in communities where their state and local governments don't support everyone's right to vote.

- *Do you believe that Congress should act forcefully and provide a legislative remedy to reinstate Sections 4(b) and 5 of the Voting Rights Act in order to protect voting rights and ensure fair elections?*

Yes, I would support.       No, I would oppose.

## **21. FAIR AND ACCURATE CENSUS**

Congressional representation for the next 10 years, and hundreds of billions of federal, state and local dollars, are tied to an accurate count in the 2020 census. But this administration and its allies have tried to sabotage the census by adding a question about citizenship (which the Supreme Court ruled unconstitutional) and by delaying and withholding funds necessary for a robust census.

- *Would you support and work to ensure a robust and accurate census, and the fair apportionment of congressional representation and federal, state and local funds to all communities—including traditionally underrepresented communities—based on an accurate and robust count?*

Yes, I would support.       No, I would oppose.

## **22. EQUAL PAY**

As record numbers of women enter the workforce, pursue higher education and run for office—some while raising children and supporting their families—they do so without federally guaranteed equal pay for equal work. While the wage gap has narrowed over time, women in the United States who work full time year-round only earn 82 cents for every dollar men make, a difference of \$10,194 less per year in median earnings. The wage gap for every dollar men make is even bigger for Latinas (54 cents), Native American women (57 cents), African American women (62 cents), and Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander women (61 cents). Addressing these significant pay disparities is a necessary step to improve economic security for women and their families.

- *Would you support legislation to establish federally guaranteed equal pay for women?*

Yes, I would support.       No, I would oppose.

### 23. LGBTQ NONDISCRIMINATION

Our country is strongest when all Americans can be who they are, without fear of bias, discrimination or inequality in their workplaces or communities. Our nation’s civil rights laws protect people from discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, and, in most cases, sex, disability and religion. But federal law does not provide consistent nondiscrimination protections based on sexual orientation or gender identity.

While lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer people have the right to marriage equality, that’s not enough. We need to address the fact that, in 30 states, LGBTQ people are at risk of being fired, refused housing or denied services simply because of who they are. Far too many students face bullying or worse because of their sexual identity, and far too many of our members—teachers, nurses and state employees who identify as LGBTQ—face uncertainty and discrimination in the workplace and in their day-to-day lives.

- *Would you support legislation that protects LGBTQ people by providing consistent nondiscrimination protections based on sexual orientation and gender identity?*

Yes, I would support.       No, I would oppose.

### 24. IMMIGRATION

The AFT supports the rights and dignity of all immigrants to the United States, including a total repeal of the Trump administration’s “zero tolerance” immigration policies and indefinite family incarcerations that erode our values, divide our nation and separate children from their parents.

We support a comprehensive immigration reform plan that includes a road map to citizenship (including the Dream Act, which would create a pathway to legal status for qualified individuals who came to the United States before the age of 18, if they meet the educational, work or military service requirement), and we support labor protections to stop the exploitation of immigrant workers.

The AFT supports sanctuary policies that build trust between law enforcement and the community, and strongly opposes attempts to force local and state law enforcement officers to implement federal immigration laws.

We also support the continuation of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, which provides temporary protective status, work authorization and a Social Security number for individuals who came to the United States before the age of 16—unencumbered by Trump administration attempts to end the program.

- *Do you oppose the separation of children and detention of families trying to cross into the United States?*

Yes, I oppose.       No, I support.

- *Do you support comprehensive immigration reform legislation that creates a pathway to citizenship?*

Yes, I support.

No, I oppose.

➤ *Do you support DACA and the Dream Act?*

Yes, I support.

No, I oppose.

➤ *Do you support sanctuary and community trust policies?*

Yes, I support.

No, I oppose.



***OPTIONAL: ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS***

Thank you to all teachers everywhere. You make a difference—every day, student by student.

Everyone associated with the Rick Kennedy for Congress campaign appreciates you. Me, especially!

--Rick