

#6

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, December 09, 2025 9:54:17 AM
Last Modified: Friday, December 19, 2025 4:59:23 PM
Time Spent: Over a week
IP Address: 141.156.168.234

Page 1

Q1

Yes

I acknowledge that this questionnaire is due by December 19th for consideration by the AFSCME District Council 47 PEOPLE Committee.

Q2

Full Name

Dr. Ala Stanford

Q3

Registration Address

Q4

Email

Q5

Cell Phone

Q6

HQ Phone

Q7

Campaign HQ Address

Q8

Campaign Manager's
Name

Q9

Campaign Manager's
Phone

Q10

Campaign Manager's Email

Q11

Democrat

With which party are you registered?

Q12

Who are your opponents?

Sharif Street, Chris Rabb, Morgan Cephas, David Oxman, Isaiah Martin, Jahmeil Jackson, Pablo McConnie-Saad, Cole Carter, Karl Morris

Q13

What is your strategy to win office?

Our plan to win this race is to knock on every door and talk to every resident and voter to communicate Dr. Stanford's personal and professional story and her unprecedented and record service to Philadelphians during a time of crisis. We plan to raise \$3m by leveraging Dr. Stanford's personal and professional networks and traditional fundraising best practices through grassroots, digital outreach, and a robust major donor apparatus.

Q14

Please explain why you seek Labor's endorsement.

Laborers are the backbone of our community—the people who build our infrastructure, keep our neighborhoods running, and ensure our district thrives. Your hard work and dedication support every aspect of daily life, often without the recognition you deserve. That's why I'm asking for your support. I want to stand with you, listen to your needs, and fight for policies that protect your jobs, strengthen your families, and honor the essential role you play in our community's success.

Q15

Please list union leaders you seek input from when developing your agenda.

I am committed to shaping policy with direct and ongoing input from labor. That means actively consulting union leaders and members—including those serving on my team—so their experience and expertise guide my decisions. I believe that strong coalitions are built by listening to the people who keep our communities and economy running, and I will make it a priority to involve labor representatives in the development of every major policy position. By ensuring working people have a meaningful voice in the policymaking process, we can create legislation that supports fair wages, safe workplaces, and long-term economic opportunity for all.

Q16

Yes

Have you sought endorsement from any other AFSCME Affiliates?

Q17

Beyond our public endorsement, what specific support are you seeking from AFSCME DC 47?

I'm seeking the opportunity to hear directly from real Philadelphians about the challenges they face every day and the kind of support they need from their elected leaders, particularly in Washington. To represent this district effectively, I need to be grounded in the lived experiences of working people—not filtered through headlines or political talking points, but heard firsthand from those on the front lines. Your union's support is essential because it gives me a direct connection to the voices, priorities, and expertise of your members. Integrating this union's support with my campaign through volunteers is a top priority. With your partnership, I can ensure that the concerns of working families shape the policies I champion and that every decision I make is rooted in improving the lives of the people who keep our communities strong.

Q18

What significant endorsements have you received from organizations and individuals?

Congressman Dwight Evans, former Mayor Michael Nutter, former Congresswoman Allyson Schwartz (not public yet), Congressman Herb Conway (not public yet), Congressman Ami Bera (not public yet), and Governor Josh Green (not public yet).

Q19

Briefly describe what will be your top priorities and issue areas of focus if elected.

As a Congresswoman, my top priorities will be to lower everyday costs, cap drug prices, and expand access to childcare. I will fight to build and preserve affordable housing and address gun violence as a public health crisis. I will also fight for reproductive freedom; a woman's right to choose is non-negotiable.

Q20

Thirty states and the District of Columbia have set their minimum wage higher than the federal minimum of \$7.25 per hour, ranging from \$8.75 to \$17.00. Where do you think the federal minimum should be set? Should the target level be a living wage?

I believe the current minimum wage is not enough in a city like Philadelphia, where the cost of living is skyrocketing. I will fight to raise the federal minimum wage and work with city leaders to raise the wage to a living wage.

Q21

Do you oppose National Right-to-work laws which give workers the option to stop financially supporting unions while still enjoying the benefits of representation? If so, how would you use the power of your office to strengthen and support legislation like the PRO Act?

I believe in freedom – real freedom. The freedom to earn a living with dignity, the freedom to bargain collectively, and the freedom to have a voice at work. So-called ‘right-to-work’ laws don’t create opportunity – they weaken workers while leaving corporations untouched. I’ve spent my life building systems that protect people when power is unequal, and I’ll always stand with working families.

Q22

Would you support and/or introduce legislation to strengthen the Occupational Safety and Health Act and extend OSHA coverage to all workers, strengthen whistleblower protections and enhance OSHA’S enforcement programs?

Absolutely. I would fully support—and, if necessary, introduce—legislation to strengthen the Occupational Safety and Health Act. Ensuring that every worker is protected under OSHA is essential, and expanding coverage to currently excluded workers is long overdue. I am also committed to reinforcing whistleblower protections so employees can report unsafe conditions without fear of retaliation, and to enhancing OSHA’s enforcement programs to ensure that safety standards are consistently upheld. Protecting workers’ health and safety is not only a legal responsibility but a moral one, and I would make it a legislative priority.

Q23

Given the city’s aging infrastructure, what measures would you propose to support the city’s ability to meet the implementation of OSHA standards?

I would propose a combination of short-term risk-reduction measures and long-term capital planning to ensure the city can meet OSHA standards consistently and sustainably.

1. Conduct a Comprehensive OSHA-Focused Infrastructure Assessment

Begin with a citywide audit of facilities, utilities, and public works sites to identify hazards related to structural deterioration, outdated electrical systems, ventilation issues, confined spaces, and other OSHA-regulated areas. This baseline assessment allows the city to prioritize risks and allocate resources effectively.

2. Implement Immediate Hazard Mitigation Measures

For high-risk areas, introduce interim controls such as enhanced signage, restricted access zones, temporary shoring or barrier systems, and improved lighting. This provides immediate protection for employees while long-term upgrades are planned.

3. Modernize Safety Policies and Standard Operating Procedures

Update safety protocols to reflect current OSHA requirements, particularly regarding lockout/tagout, fall protection, hazard communication, machine guarding, and emergency response. Ensure all departments follow standardized, documented practices.

Q24

PA's 3rd Congressional District includes bridges, rail viaducts, and other transportation infrastructure receiving a failing grade that poses a danger to users and nearby residents and businesses. How would you prioritize upgrading or replacing declining infrastructure in your district?

Yes. I would make upgrading and replacing our district's declining infrastructure a top priority by:

1. Securing robust federal investment.

I would work to bring Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act funding directly into our district and aggressively pursue federal grants to modernize unsafe bridges, rail structures, and roadways.

2. Prioritizing safety and equity.

Projects posing the greatest safety risks—especially those affecting densely populated neighborhoods and business corridors—would come first. Communities that have historically been overlooked must receive equitable attention and resources.

3. Coordinating with state and local partners.

Effective modernization requires collaboration. I would work closely with PennDOT, local governments, transit agencies, and community stakeholders to ensure that repairs and replacements are efficient, transparent, and aligned with long-term regional planning.

Q25

What efforts would you take to protect public and private sector unions and their workers, and the right to organize and collectively bargain?

Protecting public- and private-sector unions—and the workers they represent—would be a core priority for me. I would do so by supporting and advocating for legislation like the PRO Act to close loopholes that allow employers to delay or obstruct union elections and to impose meaningful consequences for unfair labor practices. I would also oppose efforts to weaken bargaining rights, privatize union jobs, or undermine established labor agreements. Instead, I would work to expand bargaining rights and ensure that workers have a real seat at the table in decisions that affect their livelihoods.

Q26

What measures would you support to protect the financial soundness of the Social Security and Medicare trust funds?

At the federal level, I would support measures that modestly increase revenues without burdening typical workers by adjusting or lifting the Social Security payroll tax cap for very high earners so that a greater share of national income contributes to the trust fund. For the Medicare trust funds, I would fight to protect the Medicare Hospital Insurance trust fund. Federal policy should focus on lowering system-wide healthcare costs, such as expanding Medicare's authority to negotiate prescription drug prices and accelerating implementation timelines, and by combatting fraud, waste, and abuse through modernized data analytics and stronger provider oversight.

Q27

Would you oppose Medicare changes that shift cost to seniors, including premium increases, co-payment increases, benefit reductions or conversion to voucher systems? Why or why not?

I would strongly oppose any Medicare reform that increases financial burdens on seniors, including higher premiums, larger co-payments, benefit cuts, or conversion to a voucher system. These approaches undermine the core promise of Medicare: affordable, reliable healthcare coverage for older Americans.

Q28

How would you address the nation's \$1.8 trillion in student debt and over \$200 billion in medical debt?

To address the nation's \$1.8 trillion in student debt and over \$200 billion in medical debt, I would support programs that encourage professionals to work in areas where there is a shortage in personnel in the community. I would focus on responsible, opportunity-driven solutions that empower young people rather than simply shifting costs. I would do so by expanding job creation in high-growth sectors and by fighting to make higher education more affordable up front. To address the over \$200 billion in medical debt I would reduce medical debt through system-wide reforms. Medical debt often reflects broader healthcare system failures, so I would support: increased funding for community health centers, reducing uncompensated care and surprise bills and expanded access to preventive care to reduce expensive emergency treatment.

Q29

What legislation and other measures would you support to address inflation and the affordability crisis?

As your congresswoman I would support and strengthen the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) of 2022, a major federal law aimed at reducing inflationary pressures and lowering costs for American families. I would also support housing cost initiatives by the expansion and reform of the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) to incentivize building more affordable rental units. Lastly, I would fight to bring back premium tax credits to make health insurance more affordable for millions.

Q30

Do you believe that housing is a human right? What would you do to protect existing housing programs and increase the amount of permanently stable, quality, affordable and accessible housing?

Yes, I believe housing is a basic human right. I will protect and upgrade what we already have, expand what we build, reform what blocks supply, and ensure that affordability is permanent—not temporary by incentivize zoning reform and land-use modernization, expand community land trusts and limited-equity housing and, lastly, boost accessibility and aging-in-place upgrades to provide more housing options for people with disabilities and seniors, including supportive housing.

Q31

Do you believe the growing trend of monopolization is problematic for consumers and for our democracy? What measures would you take to enforce existing antitrust laws? Are additional laws necessary, and if so, what legislation would you support?

Yes, growing monopolization harms consumers and undermines democracy by concentrating power in the hands of a few corporations, driving up costs, reducing choice, and weakening workers' leverage. I believe in strong enforcement of existing antitrust laws, including fully funding and empowering the DOJ and FTC to stop anti-competitive mergers and hold powerful corporations accountable – especially in sectors like healthcare, housing, and food, where consolidation directly hurts working families. Our antitrust laws must also be modernized to reflect today's economy by considering impacts on workers, wages, small businesses, and communities, not just prices. Competition is essential to a fair economy, strong unions, and a healthy democracy, and I will always stand with workers to ensure the system works for people – not just profits.

Q32

Do you believe that Healthcare is a Human right? Would you support the single payer model of Universal Healthcare for all? What changes would you support to the Affordable Care Act?

Our healthcare system is deeply hierarchical, where better insurance too often means better care, and Medicaid patients are pushed to the margins. That is unacceptable. When reimbursement is equitable, it removes the tiered system and forces the focus back where it belongs: on outcomes and quality of care. Continued public support for hospitals and health and health systems must be tied to accountability – improving health outcomes, access, and equity – not simply volume or profit. Providers and systems should be held responsible for the care they deliver, especially when taxpayer dollars are involved, and we must ensure strong protections for our most vulnerable populations, particularly children and seniors over 65, so access to high-quality care is based on need, not insurance status.

Q33

What policies do you believe are necessary to address substance abuse, particularly the opioid crisis?

Addressing the opioid epidemic requires accountability, treatment, and prevention working together. As Medical Director at Riverview Wellness Village – an innovative, mayor-initiated model – I see every day that comprehensive care works. We provide integrated physical health, behavioral health, substance use disorder treatment, vocational training, and supportive services for people who are unhoused, and the outcomes are real and measurable. At the same time, we must continue and strengthen federal partnerships, including with the DEA, to ensure responsible prescribing practices by hospitals and clinicians, reduce diversion, and eliminate excessive prescription opioids from circulation. Ending this crisis means holding systems accountable while investing in evidence-based, whole-person care that restores lives and communities.

Q34

Do you support the decriminalization or legalization and regulation of marijuana or other controlled substances? Why/why not?

I do not support the broad legalization of marijuana. As a physician, I am concerned about public safety and health risks, including impaired driving, exposure to products laced with other substances, and the potential for irreversible brain damage – particularly for young people. Unchecked use and commercialization can create the same problems we have seen with other controlled substances, like prescription opioids, where dependence can escalate and lead people to seek stronger drugs to achieve the same effect. However, I do support marijuana for legitimate medical use – such as for cancer-related symptoms or certain anxiety and pain conditions – when it is prescribed, regulated, and monitored like other controlled substances. My position is about protecting public health: access when there is a medical benefit, and strong safeguards to prevent harm.

Q35

In this era of a rise in mass shootings using semi-automatic weapons, how would you support the reform of federal gun laws?

As a mother and a pediatric surgeon, I am appalled by the rise in mass shootings and gun violence in general. I will push for a full ban on automatic-weapons, which are typically only used in warfare. I would push for universal background checks, ensure our local law enforcement and federal law enforcement agencies are well funded to use innovative tools to remove illegal firearms from our streets, and stop the flow of illegal firearms from state to state. This includes the ghost guns that are present disproportionately in Philadelphia. We also need to prioritize and reform our Red Flag Laws, which temporarily remove guns from people deemed high-risk for harming themselves or others. These warning signs often go unchecked and result in mass shootings in our most vulnerable community spaces.

Q36

What legislative or other measures would you take to strengthen regulations to protect clean air and water, address climate change, and seek environmental justice?

As a member of Congress, my goal would be to create a legislative framework that ensures economic growth goes hand-in-hand with environmental stewardship, climate action, and justice for all communities. Clean air and water are fundamental rights, and it is our duty in Congress to safeguard them for current and future generations. I would do so by:

- Promoting incentives for renewable energy development, energy efficiency, and the electrification of transportation to reduce our carbon footprint and mitigate climate change.
 - Reinforcing and updating EPA regulations to reduce industrial emissions of greenhouse gases, particulate matter, and other toxic pollutants, ensuring air and water quality meet the highest scientific standards.
 - Establishing stricter environmental review processes in overburdened communities, ensuring that historically disadvantaged populations are not disproportionately exposed to pollution. I would also champion grant programs to support local clean energy, cleanup projects, and climate resilience initiatives in these communities.
-

Q37

Our immigration laws have not had a meaningful legislative revision in thirty years, and as currently operated the system relies much more heavily on arbitrary, punitive and violent enforcement than on adjudication. How would you make our immigration system more humane, more efficient, and more consistent with constitutional and international human rights law?

I do not believe any child should be torn from their family. I would not welcome ICE agents into schools or places of worship. They have no place there, and I would do my part to protect families. Our immigration policies need improvements, but not by using force that separates families and endangers lives. Most immigrants are fleeing persecution to come to a welcoming place. They shouldn't face the same trauma when they arrive. I would push for legislation that would create a pathway to citizenship for people who abide by our laws and improve our communities.

Q38

Would you support reform/restructuring options to limit ICE to follow due process and the rule of law, or does it need to be abolished?

Yes, I would support ICE to be reformed to better follow the rule of law, which requires a multi-pronged approach: clear legal mandates, robust oversight, protection of due process, institutional culture change, transparency, careful detention/enforcement practices, and stronger legislative and judicial safeguards.

Q39

What have you done in your previous positions to support voting rights for all Americans? If elected, how would you use the power of your office to protect voting rights for all Americans?

Throughout my career, I have supported voting rights through direct action, advocacy, and leadership rooted in community trust. I have helped register voters, ensured seniors – including my grandparents – had access to the polls, and made sure people who are often overlooked or face barriers were able to vote. Civic participation has always been part of how I show up in my community, not just during campaigns. Most personally, I recently registered my 17-year-old son, who will be eligible to vote when he turns 18 – in time to cast his first vote in an election that matters deeply to our family and our democracy. If elected, I will use the power of my office to expand and protect access to voting by supporting legislation that makes registration easier through automatic and online registration, protects early voting, secure mail-in ballots, and ensure polling places are accessible to all voters. I will also fight racial and language-based disenfranchisement and work to curb partisan gerrymandering by advancing national standards, enforcing voting rights protections, and holding states accountable. Voting is the foundation of our democracy, and protecting it is a responsibility I take personally and professionally.

Q40

How would you support ensuring that nationwide civil rights protections cover LGBTQIA+ Americans?

As a member of Congress, I would ensure LGBTQIA+ civil rights are protected nationwide by explicitly codifying protections in federal law, enforcing them through oversight, directing agencies, supporting legal remedies, and leveraging public influence to create accountability. I would advocate for bills that clearly include sexual orientation and gender identity as protected classes under federal civil rights laws, such as the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Q41

How would you protect Americans' data privacy from both private and public sector intrusions?

Protecting Americans' data privacy requires passing strong federal laws, enforcing them rigorously, limiting government overreach, setting high security standards, empowering individuals, and coordinating across states and internationally. I would push to mandate security standards: require encryption, secure storage, and cybersecurity measures for both public and private entities while supporting innovation and funding research into privacy-enhancing technologies, like differential privacy, anonymization, and secure data sharing methods.

Q42

What do you see as barriers to providing equal rights and access for persons with disabilities? Would you support increased federal funding to municipalities so they can make public spaces safe and accessible to people of all abilities?

People with disabilities face several barriers that limit their access to services, protections, and equal rights. These barriers are often systemic, legal, and cultural rather than purely physical. Yes, I would support an increase in federal funds to improve public spaces, ensuring safety and accessibility for people of all abilities.

Q43

What do you see as the major threat to the first amendment's freedom of speech and assembly? What measures would you take to protect free speech?

I see the polarizing and divisive rhetoric from the Trump administration and his close allies as a major threat to freedom of speech and lawful assembly. The right to freedom of speech and protest is a basic First Amendment principle, and without it, we risk our democracy. To protect free speech, I will defend constitutional rights, enact and review laws carefully, ensure government accountability, support access to information, educate the public, and balance safety with expression.

Q44

What legislative changes would you make to the federal tax structure?

As a member of Congress, I would support tax structure legislation that:

- promotes progressivity and fairness by eliminating deductions and offshore strategies that allow large corporations to avoid paying taxes.
 - Simplifying the tax code by introducing a standard, easy-to-use tax form for most taxpayers while keeping optional itemized deductions.
 - economic growth incentives like expanding tax incentives for startups, entrepreneurship, and job creation.
 - support for working families by increasing benefits for working families to reduce poverty and increase and make permanent the Child Tax Credit to ensure children in low- and middle-income families receive consistent support.
-

Q45

What are the three top issues in Project 2025 that you would build legislation to block?

The three Project 2025 proposals I would work to block are those that threaten public health, workers, and education. First, on public health, weakening the CDC's ability to issue evidence-based guidance and imposing work requirements or benefit caps on Medicaid would endanger children, seniors, people with disabilities, and those with chronic illnesses. I have seen firsthand what happens when politics overrides science — lives are lost. Second, on jobs, dismantling civil service protections to replace career public servants with political loyalists undermines effective government, weakens institutional knowledge, and threatens democracy itself. Our government should serve the people, not any ideology. Third, on education, eliminating the Department of Education, rolling back student loan relief programs, and censoring what students can learn would widen inequity, burden working families, and limit opportunity. I will fight to protect science, workers, and education because they are foundational to a healthy democracy and a fair economy.

Q46

How would you change the composition and/or jurisdiction of the Supreme Court?

I believe the Supreme Court should remain as it is, respecting the balance established by the Constitution.

Q47

What would you do to reassert Congress's Article I powers over spending, appropriations, tariffs, government oversight, and warmaking?

As a member of Congress, I would firmly reassert our constitutional responsibilities under Article I by using every legislative and oversight tool made available.

1. Spending and Appropriations: Congress must control the purse strings. I would insist that all federal spending be authorized and appropriated by Congress, and I would oppose any attempt by the executive branch to bypass these processes.
 2. Tariffs and Trade: I would work to ensure that the power to regulate commerce and set tariffs remains squarely with Congress, exercising oversight of trade deals and any executive actions that could affect the economy.
 3. Government Oversight: I would actively use hearings, subpoenas, and investigations to hold the executive accountable, ensuring transparency and adherence to the law. No administration should operate without Congressional review.
 4. War Powers: Congress alone has the power to declare war. I would uphold this authority, demanding that any military engagement receive legislative approval unless there is a direct, immediate threat requiring a limited response.
-

Q48

The Supreme Court has ruled that the Constitution gives the president the power, with only narrow exceptions, to fire at will the heads of independent agencies created by Congress such as the NLRB and MSPB. Do you agree with this reading of the Constitution? Why/why not?

No, I do not agree with that reading of the Constitution. Independent agencies are created by Congress to carry out important functions free from political interference, and allowing the president to fire their leaders at will undermines that independence. Congress has the authority to establish protections for these agency heads to ensure accountability, stability, and the proper functioning of government programs without undue executive influence.

Q49

Do you support legislation barring all federal officials of the legislative and executive branches of government from trading stocks and other securities? If so, why? If not, why not?

No, I do not support a full ban on stock trading by federal officials, but I do believe there must be strong guardrails in place. This includes requirements to disclose holdings, recuse oneself from decisions where there is a conflict of interest, and establish blind trusts or other measures to ensure that personal financial interests do not influence public policy.

Q50

What role should the federal government play in addressing the labor, environmental, and other issues surrounding the increased use of AI?

The federal government should play an active role in ensuring that the adoption of AI benefits society while protecting workers and children. This means creating policies that preserve and transition jobs, provide training and education for workers affected by automation, and enforce labor protections. At the same time, the government must set standards for the safe and responsible use of AI in education, media, and online platforms to protect children from harmful content, exploitation, or privacy risks. Federal oversight should balance innovation with safeguards that ensure AI strengthens communities rather than undermines them.

Q51

Do you support continued military aid to Israel? If so, what conditions if any would you put on that aid?

The United States should continue to support Israel's security, but that aid should come with clear conditions to ensure it aligns with American values and international law. Conditions could include:

1. Use of Military Aid for Defense Only: Ensure U.S. funding supports defensive operations, not attacks on civilians.
 2. Transparency and Accountability: Require reporting on how aid is spent and measures taken to prevent misuse.
 3. Human Rights Protections: Encourage policies that respect the rights of Palestinians and minimize civilian harm.
 4. Progress Toward Peace: Tie long-term support to efforts that advance negotiations, reduce violence, and promote regional stability.
-

Q52

How would you protect and improve public education as a Congressperson?

As a Congressperson, I would improve public education by investing in resources through direct federal funds to underserved schools to reduce disparities in facilities, technology, and learning materials. Ensure equitable opportunities with expanded access to quality pre-K programs to ensure all children start school ready to learn. Increase support for teachers by investing in competitive salaries, professional development, and recruitment programs, especially for high-need areas. By supporting innovation through the promotion of programs in science, technology, engineering, math, and vocational education to prepare students for the modern workforce, all while partnering with states and local districts with flexible grants, to provide federal funding that allows states to implement local solutions while meeting federal goals.
