Legislative Interview Questions with Background for League Members

Fiscal Policy:
1. Specifically what revenue sources will you vote yes on: sales tax on services, financial transaction tax, GRIT, amortization of pension debt, tax on retirement income, marijuana tax, Other:

2. Where will you increase funding in the discretionary budget: higher ed, social services (give specifics), health care (give specifics). Infrastructure, economic development, transportation, election support to counties, etc.

Affordable Housing:
1. Do you think every municipality should be obligated to ensure that affordable housing exists within their municipal boundaries? Why or why not?

2. Would you favor amending Illinois' Affordable Housing Planning and Appeal Act to require that communities demonstrate to the Illinois Housing Development Authority their efforts to maintain existing affordable housing and encourage the development of new mixed income housing?

Campaign Finance Reform:
1. Would you support legislation limiting the amount of money political party committees can donate to other candidates?

2. Would you support legislation to establish a voluntary, publicly-funded small donor matching campaign finance system for state representatives and senators who voluntarily agree to lower contribution limits?

3. Would you support a shorter time period between Primaries and General Elections?

Criminal Justice:
Do you believe there is more to be done for criminal justice reform? If so, what measures specifically will you work to see adopted?

Educational Funding
1. How do you intend to help Illinois keep its promise to improve school funding continually under the 2017 Evidence-Based Funding Law which is intended to end years of inequitable funding in Illinois?

2. Should the Charter School Commission continue to have the power to override local school district decisions about creating or renewing charter schools, wherein local districts pay for them under state supervision? Why or why not?

3. Should the minimum salary for teachers be increased?
4. Do you support expanding access to publicly funded preschool to help all children start kindergarten ready for school?

**Election Policy:**
Would you support legislation establishing eSign (a mobile application that enables candidates to gather signatures in person, digitally, with real time feedback on whether the voter is registered or lives in the political district)?

**Environment:**
1. Illinois is being cited as one of the states that has the potential to lead the nation in cutting greenhouse gas emissions and developing new green jobs in the next few years. What do you see as the next steps for the Illinois General Assembly to make this a reality?

2. Do you support or oppose a tax on carbon?
   - If yes, - whom would you tax? And do you favor returning the money collected to individual taxpayers, investing it in infrastructure, or putting it to some other use?
   - If you do not support a tax on carbon, why not?

**Government Consolidation:**
1. Have you been following the discussions on consolidation and shared services?
2. Do you have a plan to increase government efficiency while maintaining quality services and infrastructure through consolidation and shared services?
3. Would you support legislation that would allow citizens to directly place on the ballot referendum questions to dissolve a specific unit of government?
4. Are there any specific units of government that you believe would be consolidated, or services share with another entity in your area? Why or why not?
5. What's your vision for modernizing state, county, local and special purpose governments to be more accountable, transparent and fiscally sustainable?

**Gun Violence Prevention**
1. Will you support universal background checks in IL if the federal law is not adopted? Why or why Not?
2. Do you support or oppose the arming of teachers. Please explain your position.
3. Will you support a ban on the distribution, possession and manufacture of bump stocks and trigger cranks in IL?
4. Are there any other pieces of legislation that should be proposed and enacted to keep our communities safer from gun violence?

**Healthcare**
Is the opioid crisis a problem in your area? If so which of these programs do you believe will be helpful?
Immigration
1. Would you support legislation to further protect immigrant families from federal immigration enforcement by empowering schools, medical facilities, and courthouses to turn away ICE agents and restricting police cooperation with ICE?
2. Would you support increased state funding for immigrant services programs such as citizenship, language access, and support for families facing separation?

Minimum Wage
Would you support increasing the minimum wage to $15.00 per hour?

Redistricting: What redistricting reform would you support?
1. Do you believe we need to end gerrymandering and change the way Illinois draws its legislative maps?
2. Do you support an amendment to the IL Constitution initiated by the IL General Assembly to end gerrymandering by changing the redistricting process to create a nonpartisan commission tasked with drawing Illinois legislative maps?
3. Do you support legislative changes to the current redistricting process to create rules that make the process more transparent and accountable; such as providing resources for citizens to analyze proposed legislative maps and opportunities for citizens to provide feedback on proposed legislative maps?
4. Do you support prison gerrymandering reform, which requires the Secretary of State to prepare redistricting data to reflect the incarcerated persons at their residential address rather than the address of the facility in which the person is incarcerated?

Other:

What other good government reforms do you support?

What are your priorities as a legislator? What legislation are you sponsoring?