# 2022 General Election Voter's Guide League of Women Voters of Alaska

The League of Women Voters of Alaska invited candidates for the U.S. Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives, and the Alaska Governor/Lt. Governor races to participate in a Voter's Guide for the General Election in November. Given the time limit between the posting of the official list of candidates and the beginning of early voting (by-mail ballots 10/14 and early voting 10/24), we did not receive responses from all candidates, given their need to campaign. We have researched those candidates who did not respond and found examples of their thinking on the questions that they were asked. These examples include links to our sources.

All candidates were asked to briefly explain why they are running for office and give a short biography. This information is included for the candidates who responded to either one of the Voter's Guide invitations—the current General Election version or the special primary in June. The information is organized so that all candidates are grouped by the office for which they are running.

#### Questions for both Senate and House candidates follow:

- 1. Do you believe that the 2020 Presidential election was a fair election that resulted in the will of the majority of eligible voters? Explain your thinking on this.
- 2. Would you support the codification of a woman's right to complete healthcare including the right to abortion and contraception? Explain your thinking.
- 3. Should Congress pass additional restrictions on the sale of assault weapons? Explain briefly your answer.

# U.S. SENATE CANDIDATE RESPONSES

# \*\*\*Patricia Chesbro-Responded to Voter Guide questions

**BIO**: I am Patricia Chesbro, candidate for U.S. Senate. My husband and I arrived in Alaska in 1974, intending to stay for one year. We came from New York, where I attended Sherburne High School. I earned a degree in English Education from Syracuse University and a Master's degree in Reading from SUNY Albany. In Alaska, I worked at Palmer High School as a teacher and principal for 25 years. I was then Superintendent of the local school district. My leadership career ended as faculty and interim dean at the College of Education at University of Alaska Anchorage.

WHY I AM RUNNING: As a lifelong educator, I am focused on the future and am worried about the world we are leaving our young people. Rights are diminished, largely because of a Supreme Court that seems to have been chosen to overturn the protections of Roe v. Wade. The number one cause of death among our youth is gun violence, including suicide and homicide. School shootings are egregious and create lifelong scars on our children. Yet our efforts to curb such violence are somewhat shortsighted and long overdue. Climate change is relentless. It is leaving an earth with both drought and flooding. It threatens wildlife with warming waters. Melting icecaps are raising sea levels and endangering coastal communities. Yet, many of our

elected officials seem reluctant to address our overreliance on fossil fuels and the need to invest in renewable energies. I am running to help ensure our grandchildren's future.

#### **QUESTION RESPONSES:**

- 1. **2020 Election Fair?** I believe the 2020 Presidential election was fair and the results indicated that the majority of eligible voters supported Joe Biden. The many investigations into this election have found few, if any, discrepancies. Lawsuits around the country have been thrown out for lack of evidence. In my experience, most citizens who work in election offices and polling places are just trying to do a good job.
- 2. Codification of Row v. Wade: Quality reproductive healthcare is essential to women including contraception and abortion access. As this Supreme Court has ruled to overturn Roe v. Wade, the Congress must now codify these rights. After the decision, I spoke with four women who had legal abortions. Each had a different reason; each reason was her own. The current situation at Oberlin College emphasizes the importance of protecting women's reproductive rights, as the health care contractor has decided it will not deliver birth control services to students. This is a portent of future restrictions if we do not act.
- 3. **Gun Reform:** Assault weapons provide the opportunity to kill rapidly. We have seen them used in mass shootings throughout this country. We must find ways to limit their production, sale and use. Though these weapons are not the only tools for violence, they provide a horrendous result from which defense is difficult, if not impossible.

#### **Learn More Here:**

https://www.chesbroforalaska.com https://www.facebook.com/ChooseChesbro/ https://twitter.com/ChooseChesbro

\*\*\*Buzz Kelly-Did not respond to Voter Guide questions.

Buzz Kelley has suspended his campaign. However, his name will be on the ballot. Read more Kelly's campaign decision at this link:

https://alaskabeacon.com/briefs/fourth-place-finisher-buzz-kelley-suspends-campaign-for-u-s-se nate-backs-tshibaka/

Buzz Kelley's statement on gun regulations: "Literally, EVERYTHING that has been done to prevent the American people from keeping and bearing arms has been an infringement. What part of "... shall not be infringed" does our government not understand? Replace firearms with food. Would it not be an infringement for the government to say food cannot be grown or distributed or sold?"

Website: <a href="https://www.buzzforalaska.com">https://www.buzzforalaska.com</a>

# \*\*\*Senator Lisa Murkowski-Responded to Voter Guide Questions

**BIO**: I'm Lisa Murkowski, a third-generation Alaskan born and raised in Southeast. My husband and I live in Anchorage, where we raised our sons. I've served Alaska in the U.S. Senate since 2002. As an Appropriator, former Chairman (and longest-serving Republican) of the Energy and

Natural Resources Committee, and Vice Chairman of the Indian Affairs Committee, I've worked across the aisle – with all Presidents – ensuring victories for Alaskans. From writing the historic infrastructure law to delivering relief during COVID; basing America's F-35 fighter jets at Eielson AFB to supporting responsible resource development and renewable energy, my priority is Alaska, always.

WHY I AM RUNNING: I care deeply about Alaska, the land and its people. This is my home, where I was born and raised, and where my husband and I chose to raise our sons. I want to continue serving the state I love and to build an even better, more prosperous future for all who call Alaska home. I'm proud of my record of accomplishment for Alaskans, and my seniority in Congress is increasingly key to our ability to enact policies that benefit our state. Looking ahead, I want to boost responsible resource development to create jobs, to build roads and infrastructure that connect Alaskans and improve our quality of life, to sustain our world-class fisheries, to enhance our food security, to help ensure veterans receive the benefits they deserve, to honor our elders, to protect our children, and to safeguard our communities.

#### **QUESTION RESPONSES:**

- 1. 2020 Election Fair? Yes.
- 2. **Codification of Roe v. Wade:** I support a woman's right to make her own reproductive health decisions within reasonable limitations, in line with what a strong majority of Alaskans believe. Following the *Dobbs* decision, I worked with a bipartisan group of senators to introduce the *Reproductive Freedom for All Act*. Our bill protects a woman's right to choose and ensures access to contraception while also protecting religious freedoms and provider conscience protections. I oppose late-term abortions and taxpayer-funded abortions. I also believe that providers who do not wish to be involved in abortion should not be forced to perform them.
- 3. Additional Assault Weapons Restrictions: I voted for the Safer Communities Act, which provides historic investments for mental health and school safety. As a gun owner, I worked to ensure this new law would help address mass shootings while fully protecting the rights of law-abiding gun owners. The law allows us to better target illegal gun traffickers and enhances the review process for firearm purchases made by those under 21. This law provides unprecedented funding for mental health care and school safety resources to facilitate telehealth programs; crisis and trauma intervention; suicide prevention; and to access funds for school resources officers.

Learn More Here: <a href="https://lisamurkowski.com/">https://lisamurkowski.com/</a>

### \*\*\*Kelly Tshibaka—Did not respond to the Voter Guide questions.

There was no direct discussion on the Tshibaka campaign website about the questions on women's health issues and gun regulations. However, Kelly's website has a banner stating this: "Conservative Pro-Life Pro-Second Amendment."

While there was no direct mention of the 2022 election, there is a website section titled "Restore Election Integrity & Voting Rights" which states the following: "Free, fair, and secure elections are the basic building blocks of our republic. Without properly ensuring the integrity of our elections, we will continue to see confusion, allegations, delays, and mistrust in our election outcomes, and therefore in our government itself." The candidate goes on to advocate for "voter ID and signature matching, among others."

Learn more here: <a href="https://www.kellyforak.com/kellys-plan">https://www.kellyforak.com/kellys-plan</a>

The following candidates are certified **write-in candidates for the U. S. Senate**. They did not respond to the LWVAK Voter's Guide invitation. We are listing their names and websites for those who would like to learn more about these candidates.

- 1. Shoshana Gungurstein Website: <a href="https://www.gungurstein.com">https://www.gungurstein.com</a>
- 2. Gianoutsos, Ted Website: <a href="https://www.nusave.org/">https://www.nusave.org/</a>
- 3. **Sidney Hill:** No website listed on certified list from Div. of Elections
- 4. **Joe Stephens:** No website listed on the certified list from Div. of Elections

# U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVE CANDIDATES

\*\*\*Nick Begich—Did not respond to the Voter's Guide questions.

Information below found in other sources

1. **2020 Election: Fair?** According to NBC news: Pressed on whether President Joe Biden was legitimately elected, Begich said, "Absolutely."

https://www.nbcnews.com/meet-the-press/meetthepressblog/begich-says-will-accept-results-criticizes-alaskas-ranked-choice-confu-rcna 4338

2. **Gun Reform:** From the website of candidate Nick Begich: "The Second Amendment ensures one of the most critical freedoms for Americans: the right to keep and bear arms. Our nation's founders understood this right to be foundational to the creation of our Republic as without an armed citizenry, we would have had no ability to win the fight for self-determination. Numerous examples exist today wherein despotic governments have turned on their people, secure in the knowledge that their citizens would be able to mount little in the way of response. Whether it be for defense of tyrannical governance, national security, personal defense, or hunting, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed."

 $\frac{https://docs.google.com/document/d/1fyLoKkgTTDUTXpdIUEqKINOZJIIZbXRMxUvfkXv1v4}{o/edit}$ 

- 3. **Codification of Roe v Wade:** (a.) According to the *Alaska Beacon*, candidate Begich thinks states should have the responsibility to determine abortion rights and he opposes any congressional efforts to guarantee those rights. He also would vote to end Medicaid funding for abortion services in the case of rape, incest, or if a woman's life is endangered by a pregnancy.
  - $\frac{https://www.anchoragepress.com/news/here-s-where-alaska-s-u-s-house-candidates-stand-on-access-to-abortion/article\_b13a7e68-1830-11ed-a09b-f7d7dcc76301.html$
- (b.) Alaska Public Media quotes Begich here: "Under the 10th Amendment, any powers not specifically enumerated to the federal government are reserved for the states," he said. "We have a constitutional amendment process by which we may modify provisions related to this specific issue. But I think the court was correct in returning this issue to the states." <a href="https://alaskapublic.org/2022/06/27/to-us-house-candidates-begich-and-palin-abortion-is-a-state-issue-while-peltola-says-the-decision-is-personal/">https://alaskapublic.org/2022/06/27/to-us-house-candidates-begich-and-palin-abortion-is-a-state-issue-while-peltola-says-the-decision-is-personal/</a>

Learn more here: <a href="https://www.alaskansfornickbegich.com/">https://www.alaskansfornickbegich.com/</a>

\*\*\*Chris Bye—Did not respond to the Voter's Guide invitation for the General Election, but Mr. Bye did respond to the special June primary Voter's Guide. His biographical info comes from that earlier Guide.

BIO: I am Chris Bye. The United States Army brought my family and me to Alaska in 2003. Armed with a Biology degree and a Wilderness First Responder Certificate, I use these to pass on the wonders that wild Alaska affords visitors and locals as a fishing guide. You can find us volunteering around Fairbanks, recently as a soccer coach. Twenty years of military experience including numerous leadership courses, leading 634 Soldiers and contractors, handling \$11.5 million budgets, 1235 pieces of equipment, and countless hours interacting with Soldiers, bureaucrats, foreign national leadership and citizenry has provided me with a front row seat to foreign policy and military affairs. I found that respect, dignity, and applying listening skills gets more accomplished than throwing money at an issue. I desire to see Alaskans succeed. As a retired service member and a fishing guide, I am not polluted by the political denominations that infect many other candidates.

WHY I AM RUNNING: Have you gone to the voting booth and asked "Is this the best we've got?" or "do any of these people really represent me?"? This election cycle I am running: a wage-earning Alaskan, a neighbor, a coworker, a customer. I cannot sit idly by when professional politicians incur \$30T in debt, support endless wars, tacitly defend the Patriot Act, and ever expand their overreach. The two political parties have traded governance for activism and we are the bill payers. In 1959 we became a state and we are still waiting for DC bureaucrats to hand nearly 36m acres to us. What have our three politicians been doing besides spending money? We continue to educate young professionals and then export them because of limited opportunities here in Alaska-chiefly because of Federal restrictions and bureaucracy. I don't care how you voted in the past; I care how you vote for our future.

Information below found in other sources

- 1. **2020 Election Fair?** No reference found for this question.
- 2. Codification of Roe v Wade: From the *Alaska Beacon*: Libertarian candidate Chris Bye, also running in the primary, said he believes the Supreme Court ruling that overturned Roe v Wade is "good for governance. It places the decision on states, and therefore the voters, where it should have been all along." He did not answer a question asking whether he would vote in favor of a bill that codifies abortion rights in law but said that contraception and other medicines should be available for all people without a doctor's prescription.

 $\frac{https://www.anchoragepress.com/news/here-s-where-alaska-s-u-s-house-candidates-stand-on-access-to-abortion/article\_b13a7e68-1830-11ed-a09b-f7d7dcc76301.html$ 

3. **Gun Reform:** From candidate's website: "As an avid outdoorsman, fishing guide, former youth shooting coach, and Combat Veteran, Chris strongly supports an individual's right to own firearms. Chris strongly encourages every firearm enthusiast and hunter to take training and practice regularly. Chris will vigorously fight any attempt to restrict this basic right for self-defense, hunting, collecting or for mere pleasure."

Learn More Here: https://www.itstimealaska.com/issues/

\*\*\*Mary Peltola—Did not respond to the Voter's Guide for the general election but did respond to the Special Primary Guide. The biographical info comes from that earlier Guide.

**BIO:** I am a Yup'ik Eskimo and salmon advocate who represented the Bethel region in the Alaska House of Representatives for 10 years. During that time I helped rebuild the Bush Caucus, which improved the quality of life in rural Alaska while I was Chair. For the past five years I served as Executive Director of the Kuskokwim River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, where I helped bring together 118 Tribes and rural Alaskans to advocate for the protection of salmon runs in Western Alaska. I served on the Orutsararmiut Native Council Tribal Court and the Bethel City Council, and on the boards of the Nature Conservancy, the Alaska Humanities Forum, the Alaska Children's Trust, Foreaker and the Russian Orthodox Sacred Sites in Alaska. I spend summers with my husband Buzzy and our seven children and two grandchildren fishing on the Kuskokwim River, where I began fishing commercially with my father at age six.

WHY I AM RUNNING: Alaska's next representative will shoulder the heavy responsibilities of bringing federal money back home and championing the diverse interests of rural and urban Alaskans. In the face of environmental and economic challenges, we need the federal government to help stabilize and responsibly develop our state economy for the benefit of living and future generations. That means supporting critical infrastructure projects and working individuals and families, and providing high quality and affordable education and health care. Everyone in Alaska deserves to live in a safe community. I want to address the climate emergency and ensure responsible resource development so that future generations can remain connected to the land through our cultures and ways of life, including food and jobs. As our next representative, I'll pursue both the stability and progress that our state needs.

Information below found in other sources

- 1. **2020 Election Fair?:** From Alaska Public Media: "**Mary Peltola (D):** "There is no question that Joe Biden won the 2020 presidential election fair and square." <a href="https://alaskapublic.org/2022/07/07/just-answers-alaskas-us-house-candidates-on-the-election-of-president-biden/">https://alaskapublic.org/2022/07/07/just-answers-alaskas-us-house-candidates-on-the-election-of-president-biden/</a>
- 2. **Codifying Roe v Wade:** From the *Alaska Beacon:* Democratic candidate Mary Peltola, who is criss-crossing Southeast Alaska this weekend, says Congress should codify abortion rights in law and expand access to affordable birth control. <a href="https://www.anchoragepress.com/news/here-s-where-alaska-s-u-s-house-candidates-stand-on-access-to-abortion/article">https://www.anchoragepress.com/news/here-s-where-alaska-s-u-s-house-candidates-stand-on-access-to-abortion/article</a> b13a7e68-1830-11ed-a09b-f7d7dcc76301.html
  - 3. **Gun Reform:** From the Anchorage Daily News: "Guns are a part of Alaska's culture and a core tool of a subsistence lifestyle. I grew up hunting, my husband is a big game hunting advocate and I will continue to own guns and support the right of Alaskans to own guns. But it's past time our nation's leaders put forth more

than just words to address the grief we all share. We can take common sense action, and we must. Provisions like secure storage laws, reasonable waiting periods and universal background checks can make all of us safer while still preserving the rights guaranteed by the Second Amendment."

https://www.adn.com/politics/2022/05/28/qa-with-alaska-us-house-candidates-do-you-support-gun-control-legislation/

Learn More Here: Website: www.marypeltola.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/Peltola4Congress Twitter: http://twitter.com/MaryPeltola

\*\*\*Sarah Palin-Did not respond to the Voter's Guide questions.

- 1. **2020 Election Fair?** From Alaska Public Media: When asked if the 2020 Election was fair, Palin answered, "No. We need more information from various investigations of the voting processes used in that election." <a href="https://alaskapublic.org/2022/07/07/just-answers-alaskas-us-house-candidates-on-the-election-of-president-biden/">https://alaskapublic.org/2022/07/07/just-answers-alaskas-us-house-candidates-on-the-election-of-president-biden/</a>
- 2. **Codifying Roe v Wade:** From the Palin website: "Every life is a precious gift from God, and that includes the lives of the unborn. As the Supreme Court considers landmark challenges to Roe v Wade, it's more important than ever to ensure that abortion is never codified at the federal level."
- 3. **Gun Reform:** From the Palin website: "The Second Amendment is under attack. For decades, the far left has chipped away at our right to bear arms, making it harder for average Americans to defend themselves and their families. This nationwide assault on the Second Amendment is especially harmful to Alaska, where firearms play an essential role in the daily lives of countless Alaskan households, hunters, and sportsmen."

Learn more here: https://sarahforalaska.com/issues/

The following candidates are **certified write-in candidates for U. S. House of Representatives.** They did not respond to the LWVAK Voter's Guide invitation. We are listing their names and websites for those who would like to learn more about these candidates.

- 1. David Ambrose: Website: <a href="https://www.ambroseforak.com/">https://www.ambroseforak.com/</a>
- 2. Jay Armstrong: Website: https://jayarmstrongusa.com
- 3. Jay Bredar: Website: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/allinforjoe/">https://www.facebook.com/allinforjoe/</a>
- 4. Lady Donna Duchess: Website: https://www.ladydonna4congress.us/

#### ALASKA GOVERNOR/LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Here are the questions asked of these candidates.

- 1. Do you support the holding of a Constitutional Convention for the state of Alaska? Why or why not?
- 2. Should public funds (vouchers) be used to help parents pay for private or religious school tuition? Explain your thinking here.
- 3. Should Alaska pass laws to substantially reduce greenhouse gas emissions? Explain.

# \*\*\*Mike Dunleavy/Nancy Dahlstrom— Did not respond to Voter's Guide questions

- 1. **Constitutional Convention:** Dunleavy stated in Alaska's News Source when asked if he favored such a Convention: "There will be other folks that will decide on whether they will campaign for a constitutional convention or not. I'm going to be focused on running the state." However, Gov. Dunleavy has proposed a number of amendments to the Alaska Constitution. For example:
- a. Governor Michael J. Dunleavy introduced in 2019 three constitutional amendments the basis for a permanent fiscal plan. The three measures work to: 1) protect the PFD; 2) enact a spending limit and savings rule; 3) require a vote of the people for any new tax or tax increase.

 $\underline{https://gov.alaska.gov/wp\text{-}content/uploads/sites/2/01.29.19\text{-}Constitutional\text{-}Amendments\text{-}Informat}}\\ \underline{ion.pdf}$ 

b. In response to the 2022 SCOTUS ruling on Roe V Wade, Governor Dunleavy announced on the government news site, "I will therefore be introducing a resolution for a proposed constitutional amendment to the legislature in the next session to answer the question whether abortion shall, or not be a constitutionally protected right."

https://gov.alaska.gov/newsroom/2022/06/24/governor-dunleavy-reacts-to-the-u-s-supreme-court-decision-overturning-roe-v-wade/

2. **Public funds (vouchers) for private school tuition?** According to the *Juneau Empire*: "As a state senator in 2013, Dunleavy proposed a constitutional amendment to allow state funding for religious and private schools. . . At the same time, Dunleavy also supported a constitutional amendment calling for changes to the Alaska Judicial Council, which nominates prospective judges before the governor makes the final selection."

https://www.juneauempire.com/news/gov-dunleavys-agenda-includes-constitutional-reform/

**3. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions?** According to *ArcticToday*, when Dunleavy began his term as Governor, he "dismissed the state's climate team and scrapped its climate policy and plan."

https://www.arctictoday.com/alaskas-new-governor-has-dismissed-the-states-climate-team-and-scrapped-climate-policy-and-plan/

**Learn more here:** Website: <a href="https://www.dunleavygovernor.com/">https://www.dunleavygovernor.com/</a>

# \*\*\*Les Gara/Jessica Cook—Did respond to Voter's Guide invitation BIO—Les Gara

- Length of residency in Alaska and current location 34 years. Fairbanks 1988-1989, and Anchorage 1989-present.
- Education: high school, post-secondary training, college attendance, degrees/certificates, etc Freeport H.S., Boston University, B.A. with Honors, Harvard Law School, J.D., with Honors.
- Occupation(s): Focus on those that provide training for elected office. Alaska Ass't. Attorney General, Civil Prosecution of Exxon following 1989 Exxon Valdez Oil Spill; Legislator, 2003 2018.

**BIO–Jessica Cook:** Length of residency in Alaska: 52 years. Anchorage/Eagle River 1970 - 1988; 1999 - 2001, Fairbanks/North Pole 1988 - 1992 and Palmer 2001-present (1992-1999 military duty assignments)

- Education: Chugiak H.S., UAF (general studies & continuing education courses), Coastal Carolina Univ., B.A.Education, Grand Canyon Univ., M.A.Teaching, Wilkes Univ., M.S.Education, IBECCES, Student Mental Health & Advanced Autism Certifications
- Occupation(s): ASD: K-12 Substitute Teacher; Teacher, dropout prevention program; 3rd grade, Ptarmigan ES (Title I); 4th grade, Eagle Academy Charter School; K-6 EdTech Teacher Expert; 6th Grade, Alpenglow ES. VP & Board Member, NEA-Alaska; VP & Board Member, AEA

**Les Gara–WHY I AM RUNNING:** I believe everyone deserves the opportunity to succeed in this world, whether born rich or poor. That means the right to a good school, and job training or college if you choose, with financial aid if you cannot afford it. Money shouldn't be an obstacle to success. Today I don't believe this state is creating opportunity for people.

This Governor has neglected our schools, which can't adequately hire or retain teachers. For his first three years he left us with an austerity construction job and community project budget. That, and his cuts to basic services, cost us jobs, and caused 20,000 more people to leave this state while he's been Governor than have moved here. People don't see a commitment to good schools, or an economy that creates jobs, so they're leaving. I want to change that so Alaska is a place of opportunity, where people can succeed again.

**Jessica Cook–WHY I AM RUNNING:** I have a vested interest in Alaska's future. I want all Alaskans to have the opportunity to build a bright future in our state. My husband, Ed, a US Air Force veteran, and I have three daughters and five grandchildren living in Alaska.

I believe everyone deserves opportunities to jobs providing living wages, quality public education, and assured protection of our civil rights and right to privacy.

A quality public education is a foundational equalizer. Alaska's students should be successful in college or vocational-technological education. Students should be able to use their skills and knowledge in the workforce and contribute to the economy.

My advocacy and leadership experience, combined with working with legislators, offer change to status quo politics. It's time for a better, brighter future for Alaska and Alaskans. It's time we vote, not for a party, but for integrity and a commitment to Alaska's future.

#### **QUESTION RESPONSES (provided by Les Gara):**

- 1. Constitution Convention: No. Delegates will be funded with donations that Governor Dunleavy has made unlimited. There is no longer any limit on what Outsiders can give to the delegates. They will end up representing special interests, not Alaskans. And they will be able to take up any subject they want, which could threaten our fish, our basic rights, or our rights to privacy. A Convention threatens to give special interests what they want over what Alaskans deserve.
- 2. Public funds (vouchers) for private school tuition? No. Alaska's Constitution prohibits the use of public funds for private schools, and as Governor, I will take my duty to follow the Constitution seriously.
- **3.** Reducing greenhouse gas emissions? As Governor I'd make building renewable energy projects across the state, to create jobs, reduce energy costs, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions a priority. Over the long term smart renewable energy projects will save us money, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions at the same time.

Learn More Here: Website: https://lesgara.com

\*\*\*Charlie Pierce/Edie Grunwald—Did not respond to the Voter's Guide questions The AlaskaBeacon spoke with Mr. Pierce: You can find that discussion here: https://alaskabeacon.com/briefs/qa-with-2022-alaska-governor-candidate-charlie-pierce/

- 1. **Constitutional Convention?** Yes (from the *Alaska Beacon* source above) <a href="https://alaskabeacon.com/briefs/qa-with-2022-alaska-governor-candidate-charlie-pierce/">https://alaskabeacon.com/briefs/qa-with-2022-alaska-governor-candidate-charlie-pierce/</a>
- **2. Public Funds (vouchers) for private school tuition?** This is not mentioned on either the website or the *Alaska Beacon* interview, but when asked by the Beacon, "How much should a governor's faith or religion determine state law and policy?" Mr. Pierce said, "No."
- 3. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions? Topic not mentioned in either of these sources. Learn more here: <a href="https://www.charlie-2022.com/">https://www.charlie-2022.com/</a>

\*\*\*Bill Walker/Heidi Drygas—Did not respond to the Voter's Guide questions BIO: Bill Walker—attorney, 11th Governor of the State of Alaska from 2014-18. Heidi Drygas—Commissioner of the Department of Labor and Workforce Development 1. Constitutional Convention? When asked by the *Alaska Beacon* if a Constitutional Convention should be held for Alaska, Bill Walker responded, "No."

https://alaskabeacon.com/briefs/qa-with-2022-alaska-governor-candidate-bill-walker/

- **2. Public Funds (vouchers) for private school tuition?** Support for public education may be seen in this announcement: "Alaska's largest public education advocacy group, representing more than 12,000 members, has endorsed Bill Walker and Heidi Drygas for governor and lieutenant governor and selected the ticket as its first choice in this November's election." <a href="https://walkerdrygas.com/walker-drygas-picks-up-first-choice-endorsement-of-alaska-education-advocacy-group/">https://walkerdrygas.com/walker-drygas-picks-up-first-choice-endorsement-of-alaska-education-advocacy-group/</a>
- **3. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions?** (a.) According to *ArcticPolicy*, "Walker established the climate team in 2017. Last September, the group released a strategy and a series of recommendations for helping Alaska adapt to climate change which is occurring far faster in the Arctic than in the rest of the world and reduce its own greenhouse gas contributions. The recommendations included targets for transition to renewable energy sources, consideration of a carbon-pricing or carbon-tax system and a call for diversification into new businesses, including the selling of carbon offsets through preservation of Alaska forests and wetlands."

https://www.arctictoday.com/alaskas-new-governor-has-dismissed-the-states-climate-team-and-scrapped-climate-policy-and-plan/

(b.) Furthermore, from WalkerDrygas: "We will re-establish the **Climate Change Action Leadership Team**, whose work was halted by the current administration, and work to implement the action plan created by the team to combat climate change.

<a href="https://walkerdrygas.com/policy-platform/">https://walkerdrygas.com/policy-platform/</a>

Learn More Here: Website: <a href="https://walkerdrygas.com">https://walkerdrygas.com</a>