



2018 Candidate Questionnaire - House

Candidate Name: Alan Grayson

Campaign Address: 9477 Westover Club Circle, Windermere, FL 34786

E-mail Address: brook@congressmanwithguts.com

Office for which you are running: Congress, Florida's District 9

Date of Election: August 28, 2018

Campaign Manager: Brook Hines

Phone: 321-400-3438 Fax:n/a

Progressive Democrats of America (PDA) was founded in 2004 to transform the Democratic Party and our country. We seek to build a party and government controlled by citizens, not corporate elites - with policies that serve the broad public interest, not just private interests. As a grassroots PAC, PDA operates inside the Democratic Party, and outside in movements for peace and justice.

The Congressional Progressive Caucus

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Do you pledge, if elected to this office, to immediately join the Congressional Progressive Caucus?

Yes No If not, why not?

Yes, I served as Vice-Chair of the Congressional Progressive Caucus.

Lobbyist

Do you pledge, if elected to this office, to NOT become a paid lobbyist for at least 5 years after you leave Congress?

Yes No If not, why not?

Yes.

PDA Issues

PDA focuses on fundamental issues of concern to voters. The questions are grouped, but all issues are equally important. Your answers to the questions below will be used to help determine whether to endorse you in the race for this office.

Notice to Candidate:

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The questions below refer to legislation introduced by bill number in the 115th Congress. By checking YES as your answer, you pledge that, if elected, you will immediately co-sponsor the reintroduced version of these bills in the 116th Congress.

Presidential Fitness

H.R. 1987 To establish the Oversight Commission on Presidential Capacity, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep. Jamie Raskin

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES

Healthcare:

Millions of Americans have no reliable access to health care and millions more have inadequate or overly expensive coverage. Despite spending twice as much as other developed nations on health care, our system performs poorly. Private U.S. insurance gatekeepers soak up one-third of expenditures. Pharmaceutical interests overcharge Americans by avoiding price competition.

H.R. 676 Expanded and Improved Medicare for All Act

Sponsor: Rep. John Conyers

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES

H.R. 771 Equal Access to Abortion Coverage in Health Insurance

Sponsor: Rep. Barbara Lee

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

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YES. I voted for this under Obamacare.

H.R. 242 Medicare Prescription Drug Price Negotiation Act of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. Peter Welch

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES

H.R. 1776 Improving Access to Affordable Prescription Drugs
Sponsor: Rep. Jan Schakowsky

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES

H.R. 947 Family and Medical Insurance Leave Act (The Family Act) of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. Rosa DeLauro

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES, I co-sponsored this in 2010.

H.R. 934 Personal Drug Importation Fairness Act of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. Keith Ellison

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES

War and Peace

Terrorism should be treated as a crime, not as a pretext for war and global military expansion. Nuclear weapons are too dangerous to serve the strategic interests of any country and must be abolished. Initiatives to

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promote peace, disarmament, and the rule of international law will allow the US military budget to return to the 1998 peacetime level. We must bring our troops home to their families and redirect wasteful military spending to reinvest in America.

H.R. 1111 Department of Peacebuilding Act of 2017

Sponsor: Rep. Barbara Lee

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES, I co-sponsored similar legislation.

H.R. 1229 Repeal of the Authorization for Use of Military Force

Sponsor: Rep. Barbara Lee

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES, co-sponsored and called for it publicly.

H.R. 608 Stop Arming Terrorists Act

Sponsor: Rep. Tulsi Gabbard

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES

H.R. 4867 No Unconstitutional Strike against North Korea Act

Sponsor: Rep. Ro Khana

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES

H.R. 669 Restricting First Use of Nuclear Weapons Act of 2017

Sponsor: Rep. Ted Lieu

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES, I co-sponsored a bill similar to this bill.

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Global Warming/The Environment

Environmental degradation and global warming threaten human civilization. Science conclusively demonstrates that global warming results from human activity. Greed and corporate power dominate US policy imposing a nearsighted focus on short term profits instead of serving the welfare of future generations of Americans

H.R. 3671 Off Fossil Fuels for a Better Future Act (OFF Act)
Sponsor: Rep. Tulsi Gabbard

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES

H.R. 3314 100 by '50 Act
Sponsor: Rep. Jared Polis

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES

H.R. 2242 Keep it in the Ground Act
Sponsor: Rep. Jared Huffman

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES

Election Integrity:

Big-money domination threatens our election system. Incumbents are unfairly insulated by district gerrymandering. Voters face political and racial obstacles to voting and getting their votes counted. Digital voting systems and internet voting are vulnerable to error and manipulation and defy verification. Only an auditable paper ballot can protect our right to vote.

HR 2840 Automatic Voter Registration Act
Sponsor: Rep. David Cicilline

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Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES, I introduced a Constitutional Amendment to establish this.

HJ Res. 74 Constitutional Right to Vote

Sponsor: Rep. Mark Pocan

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES, I wrote a similar amendment.

HR 1044 Same Day Registration Act of 2017

Sponsor: Rep. Keith Ellison

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES

HR 607 The Voter Access Protection Act of 2017

Sponsor: Rep. Keith Ellison

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES

H.R. 12 Voter Empowerment Act of 2017

Sponsor: Rep. John Lewis

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES

H.R. 787 Streamlined and Improved Methods at Polling Locations and Early
(SIMPLE) Voting Act of 2017

Sponsor: Rep. Steve Cohen

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

YES

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Economic and Social Justice:

The enormous wealth disparity between the top 1% and the rest of America is an unsustainable economic and social injustice. Will you work for an economic recovery that employs all those willing and able, that houses all those needing shelter, and that imposes the cost based on the ability to pay.

H.R. 1144 Inclusive Prosperity Act of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. Keith Ellison

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES

H.R. 15 Raise The Wage Act of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. Robert C. "Bobby" Scott

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES

H.R. 1000 Jobs For All Act
Sponsor: Rep. John Conyers

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES

H.R. 1902 Social Security Act of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. John Larson

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES, I wrote similar legislation.

H.R. 1114 Social Security Expansion Act
Sponsor: Rep. Peter DeFazio

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES, I wrote similar legislation.

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H.R. 40 Commission to Study Reparation Proposals for African Americans Act
Sponsor: Rep. John Conyers

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

YES

H.R. 4396 ME TOO Congress Act
Sponsor: Rep. Jackie Speier

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

YES, I wrote similar legislation.

H.R. 4152 Fair Employment Protection Act of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. Rosa DeLauro

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

YES

Do you support, and would you pledge to author and introduce legislation in the House of Representatives identical to current Senate bill as shown below:

S.2165 The Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands Equitable Rebuild Act
Sponsor: Sen. Bernie Sanders

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

YES

Do you support, and would you pledge to author and introduce legislation in the House of Representatives identical to current Senate bill as shown below:

S.2095 Assault Weapons Ban of 2017
Sponsor: Sen. Dianne Feinstein

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

YES, I also authored legislation for this.

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EMERGENCY AID FOR NATURAL DISASTERS

The climate change-intensified natural disasters of 2017 have laid bare the federal government's current response as both politicized and racist. How would you identify and legislatively fix underlying structural flaws in federal disaster relief and preparedness funding to ensure more timely, equitable, a effective federal responses to future events? (No more than 250 words)

Regarding the natural disaster in Puerto Rico and the racist governmental response, here is a short list of structural flaws that must be fought with effective legislation, advocacy and mobilization:

*(1) **Congress delayed hurricane relief to Puerto Rico.***

*(2) Congress gave Florida and Texas grants, and **gave Puerto Rico loans.***

*(3) **Congress said that Puerto Rico basically had to go broke** before it could get even the loans.*

<https://theintercept.com/2018/01/18/puerto-rico-trump-administration-tells-its-too-rich-for-aid-money/>

*(4) The Trump tax bill **raised taxes on every corporation in Puerto Rico**, and insults Puerto Ricans by **treating those corporations as foreign.***

In all these matters of legalized discrimination I would author legislation and take this fight to the floor, and to the public, to ensure that Puerto Rico received equitable treatment under the law, and avoid a situation where Puerto Ricans suffer more from discrimination than anyone else in the United States.

This institutionalized discrimination must be fought head-on to block and reverse efforts that discriminate against survivors of national disasters. In 2017 the disaster was personal for the diaspora of Puerto Ricans who call Central Florida's District 9 home. These people are still waiting for relief and desperately need a member of Congress who will fight for them.

Corporate Rule

Big corporations and banks dominant our political process, spending billions to lobby for programs against the public interest, and to privatize public services for profit. This erodes the middle class, destroys vital services, increases poverty, and undermines our nation. Congress must work to return our government to the people, improve services, stand up to corporate lobbyists, and stop the privatization of public services. We need a constitutional amendment to establish that corporations are not people and that money does not equal speech.

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H.R. 2585 21st Century Glass-Steagall Act of 2017

Sponsor: Rep. Michael Capuano

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES, I also authored legislation for this.

HJ Res 88 Constitutional Amendment to regulate corporations

Sponsor: Rep. Jim McGovern

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES, I co-sponsored a bill similar to this.

HJ Res 31 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections

Sponsor: Ted Deutch

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES

Mass Criminalization

The United States houses 25% of the world's inmates despite having only 5% of the world's population. The prison industrial complex has a vested interest in keeping people locked up. The growth of private, for-profit prisons has placed incarceration beyond public view. The administration of justice system is prejudiced against the poor and minorities.

H.R. 3227 Justice Is Not For Sale Act

Sponsor: Rep. Raul Grijalva

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES, and also introduced and passed such legislation through the House.

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H.R. 1498 End Racial Profiling Act of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. John Conyers

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES

H.R. 65 Youth Prison Reduction through Opportunities, Mentoring, Intervention,
Support and Education (RAISE Act)
Sponsor: Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES

Equality Issues

The belief in equality, including religious equality, is a part of the founding documents of our nation and an important part of our national identity. Equality still has not been achieved by most groups in this country. We hope and expect that our endorsed Candidates will sponsor, co-sponsor, and/or support legislation that furthers the reach of equality to any and all groups seeking equal status.

HJ Res 53 Removing the deadline for the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment
Sponsor: Rep. Jackie Speier

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES, I was a co-sponsor.

H.R. 1869 Paycheck Fairness
Sponsor: Rep. Rosa DeLauro

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES

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H.R. 489 No Religious Registry Act pf 2017
Sponsor: Rep. Suzan DelBene

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES

Immigration

We strongly support Comprehensive Immigration Reform that promotes fairness, equality, labor rights, family unification, integration, a program for legal residency and a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants.

H.R. 3440 Dream Act of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

Yes, I voted for the DREAM Act.

H.R. 1036 American Families United Act
Sponsor: Rep. Beto O'Rourke

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES

H.R. 1006 To clarify the rights of all persons who are held or detained at a port of entry or at any detention facility overseen by U.S. Customs and Border Protection or U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Sponsor: **Rep.** Pramila Jayapal

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES

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Education

Education in the USA is unaffordable for the majority of Americans. The securitization of student debt has placed our students at the mercy of corporate predators. Minorities are denied equal access to education. We work to make our education system accessible and affordable to all.

H.R. 1880 College For All Act
Sponsor: Rep. Pramila Jayapal

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES, I also introduced legislation to make public college tuition-free, and restructure student loans for students at public colleges and universities.

H.R. 3630 Student Loan Borrowers' Bill of Rights Act of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. Frederica Wilson

Yes **No** **If not, why not??** (50 word limit)

YES

General

Please provide us with information in the sections provided below, some information about your campaign:

- Your campaign plan with some *detail*

We will repeat our accomplishments of the previous two campaigns, when I was the only member of Congress elected primarily raising money from small donors.

We will reiterate our field campaign of 2014, which involved more than 70 paid staffers and not only resulted in our victory, but also the election of a Democratic majority on the Osceola County Commission, including the first openly gay commissioner.

- Your capacity to raise the necessary capital to fund the campaign,

We have already raised well over half a million dollars from more than 10,000 small donor contributions in this election cycle.

We are also reaching out to our donor base through regular call-time and fundraising events, coordinated by our finance director.

- grassroots support

Our support is predominately grassroots in nature, with more than 10,000 small donors contributing this cycle.

- your campaign staff in place

Campaign Manager, Brook Hines

Communications Director, Jonathan Beaton

Strategic Consultant/Field Director, Ben Weaver

Finance Director, James Banks

Alan Grayson
Signature of Candidate

May 15, 2018
Date

**Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.
We believe that an informed electorate is**

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