



Candidate Survey

The Jewish community of Nebraska values civic engagement, pluralism, democratic norms, and constructive dialogue. This questionnaire is intended to help Jewish voters better understand each candidate's positions and priorities. Responses may be shared publicly and should reflect the candidate's own views. Please limit type-written responses to *150 words per question* if possible.

For a deeper understanding of our values and public policy concerns, visit our [JCRC Omaha website](https://www.jcrc-omaha.org).

Antisemitism, Civil Rights, and Pluralism

1. How do you define antisemitism, and how would you distinguish it from legitimate political speech or criticism?

I define antisemitism as prejudice or hatred toward Jewish people. Legitimate political speech is focused on policy positions and the programs our government or other governments carry out. Political speech is not about the race, gender, faith, ethnicity, or identity of a person or group of people.

2. Do you support enforcement of federal civil rights laws, including Title VI? Please explain.

Yes. The federal government should ensure that discrimination does not occur when the program is funded with federal dollars. This is an important protection for so many vulnerable communities, and I absolutely support enforcing these laws.

3. How would you respond to acts of hate or bias affecting any community in NE-02?

No community should face acts of hate or be discriminated against, here in NE-02 or anywhere in this country. I will call out and stand against any such acts, and use the resources of a Congressional office to help make sure our communities feel safe and secure. Any such acts that break the law should be prosecuted fully.

Israel and Foreign Policy

4. What is your understanding of the U.S.–Israel relationship, and why do you believe it is (or is not) important to the United States?

Israel is a key ally to the United States, and our long history of working together closely is incredibly important. As the only democracy in the region, it is also a strategic ally for U.S. interests globally.

5. Do you support Israel's right to exist as a Jewish and democratic state? Why or why not?

I strongly support Israel's right to exist as a Jewish and democratic state. As the homeland and a refuge for the Jewish people, Israel's existence should not be questioned. It is also incredibly important for Americans and Israelis alike that Israel remains a democratic state. They are a key partner for spreading democracy and protecting U.S. security interests.

6. What principles guide your approach to U.S.-Israel relations and Middle East policy?

I am dedicated to protecting the U.S.-Israel relationship, the security of our country, and promoting democracy and freedom in the region. I also believe strongly that for there to be lasting peace in the region, we must be committed to a two-state solution. The first steps must be to ensure that humanitarian aid can flow into Gaza and that the ceasefire holds. But then the United States must use its influence to make progress toward a two-state solution that allows peace and stability for both the Israeli and Palestinian people.

Democracy and Civic Norms

7. What responsibilities do elected officials have in promoting civil discourse and protecting democratic institutions?

One of the primary responsibilities of an elected official is to protect, support, and defend our democracy. As Trump and MAGA Republicans in DC continue to attack our democracy, this is one of the most important jobs for our next Congressperson. We must strengthen our democracy and make sure Americans maintain the ability to participate in our democracy, from voting to protesting. It is also the responsibility of every leader in this country to act civilly and lead by example with their rhetoric and actions - an imperative too many today fail. That must change in order to strengthen our country and overcome our divides.

8. What steps would you take to ensure that misinformation and extremist rhetoric do not undermine public trust or target minority communities?

We should continue to call out misinformation and extremism when we see it. Bringing awareness to the issue is the first step. We also must ensure that victims of misinformation and extremism are fully protected.

9. How do you approach policymaking in a culturally and religiously diverse district?

I think as an elected official you should always listen twice as much as you speak. With a diverse district like ours, I will always seek to visit with members of various communities to hear what they need from their member of Congress. I believe it's important to get multiple perspectives on many issues, and I promise to always have an open-door policy so our community can voice their needs and concerns.

Healthcare and Well-Being

10. Access to affordable, high-quality healthcare remains a concern for many Nebraskans. What role should Congress play in improving healthcare access and affordability, including prevention, treatment, and access for children, families, and seniors?

Far too many families in this district find themselves forced to choose between seeing a doctor and paying their rent. Filling a prescription instead of filling the fridge. Many families are one health emergency away from financial ruin. In Congress, I will take on big pharmaceutical companies by requiring Medicare to negotiate prices for more prescription drugs and capping insulin costs at \$35 a month for everyone. I'll also take on insurance companies that unfairly deny people coverage for needed health care.

We also must work to create a Medicare-like public option that gives every American the choice of affordable coverage while protecting private insurance for those who want it. And no matter what, we should build on the Affordable Care Act to make sure that – no matter how they access their health insurance – families aren't forced to spend an unreasonable share of their income on premiums and deductibles.

Food Insecurity and Basic Needs

11. Food insecurity affects families, seniors, students, and working households across Nebraska. How should Congress address food insecurity, and what is your view of federal nutrition programs?

Donald Trump has cut funding for SNAP, and last year when the government was shut down, he refused to release funding for federal nutrition programs, allowing millions of families to miss meals. This is cruel, and Congress should fully fund these programs to help the most vulnerable families. I will always protect programs like SNAP and WIC - particularly for kids and seniors.

12. What is your perspective on federal nutrition programs, such as SNAP and school meal programs?

I absolutely support federal nutrition programs and programs to feed kids in school. This should not be controversial — it is simply the right thing to do. Investment in school lunches is also proven to increase academic performance and reduce behavioral issues. When kids aren't worrying about being hungry, they're better able to focus on learning.

13. How can federal policy better support community-based and faith-based organizations working to meet basic needs?

First, we need to end the politicized approach by the Trump administration where funding is determined or cut based upon an organization's perceived political beliefs. I'll be a strong advocate for robust funding for the community and faith-based organizations that strengthen our communities and provide a critical lifeline to tens of thousands, such as those fighting hunger, supporting domestic violence survivors, and so many more priorities.

Economy and Cost of Living

14. What are your top economic priorities for NE-02, particularly regarding cost-of-living pressures?

As a working mom and small business owner, I know how hard it can be to manage a family budget, especially when the cost of just about everything continues to skyrocket. From groceries to energy bills to healthcare, costs continue to rise, putting a major strain on families all across the district. In Congress, I'll stop Trump's illegal tariffs to help bring down the costs of items Nebraska families need every day. We also need to expand clean energy production to bring down costs in the short term while protecting our environment in the long run.

Housing costs are also a major contributor to folks' economic struggles. We need to build more high-quality, affordable housing that is attainable for first-time homebuyers and middle-class families.

Finally, we need to address healthcare and childcare costs. I'll fight to keep healthcare premiums down so that every family can afford to see a doctor when they need to. I will also address the need for more affordable, high-quality childcare, including investing in Head Start programs and childcare centers, so that working parents have the support they need to get ahead while knowing their children are well cared for.

Workforce and Nebraska's Future

15. Nebraska faces workforce shortages and brain drain. What federal policies would you support to attract and retain talent?

Our federal policies should focus on making Nebraska an affordable place to live with access to the resources and amenities that people, especially young people, need when looking to build a life and career. We should invest in housing and childcare to make sure that people can afford to buy a home and raise children if they choose to. We should invest in our rural communities, expanding broadband and offering targeted incentives like loan forgiveness for healthcare workers that live and work in rural areas. And as so many of our workforce shortages affect our agricultural and healthcare industries, we should focus on comprehensive immigration reform that benefits Nebraska, these vital industries, and workers.

16. What federal investments or policy changes would help make Nebraska more competitive and innovative over the next decade?

We need to invest in workforce development, partnering with community colleges, universities, and our local labor unions to ensure the next generation of Nebraskans have the skills they need to help our state grow. We should also continue to invest in our agricultural sector, helping farmers to adapt to a changing climate and market. Finally, in NE-02, we have a growing small-business and entrepreneurial community, and the federal government should invest in small business programs that help grow a community like ours.

Engagement and Accountability

17. How will you engage with faith-based and minority communities if elected?

As your Congressman, I will get out into the district and community as much as possible. I want to be present at community events in different faith-based and minority communities to hear about what people need from Congress. I'm also committed to ensuring my Congressional staff here and in DC is representative of our district; not simply checking boxes, but ensuring our team members are deeply ingrained and connected to the communities we'll be serving.

18. What does accountability to constituents mean to you in practice?

It means always being transparent with the community about what you are doing in Congress. Explaining why you voted the way you did, discussing why some things succeeded and why some failed. It means showing up to face your constituents and being honest with them. As your member of Congress, I want you to tell me what you need and want, and what concerns you most. I also want you to tell me when I get it right and when I get it wrong. We may not always agree, but I will always face you and have an honest, transparent conversation.

Optional

19. Is there anything else you would like voters in the Jewish community to know? (*Optional; 100 words*)

I know the past few years have been particularly challenging for the Jewish community here and across the country, and I've been heartened to see the way the JCRC has rallied to care for the physical and mental health of the community. It's an honor to have the chance to earn your support and partnership, and I will always work hard - every day - to earn your trust.



The Jewish Community Relations Council is dedicated to working in common cause to enhance cooperation with other religious, racial, ethnic, and civic groups to foster a just, democratic and pluralistic society as well as promote the security of Israel and Jews everywhere. Guided by Jewish values, the JCRC is a nonpartisan agency that advocates, educates, collaborates, and mobilizes action on issues important to the Jewish Community and the greater community. That work requires fostering and strengthening relationships across groups from different communities as well as our own, and often, communities with different beliefs, perspectives, and priorities.

Our policy priorities are driven by Jewish values and input from our Jewish community:

- Addressing and combating antisemitism
- Advocating and mobilizing to protect the Constitutional guarantee separating religion and government as well as freedom of religious expression
- Advocating on behalf of the democratic State of Israel
- Healthcare and Human Services and the advancement of access, innovations, and inclusion to care and services that honor the dignity and needs of all people, each according to their own needs and beliefs.
- Advocating for a democratic and pluralistic society through unfettered access to civic engagement
- Mobilizing and advocating with community partners and allies to address:
 - Food insecurity
 - Racial justice
 - Immigration and refugee resettlement
 - LGBTQ+ rights
 - Criminal justice reform
 - Disability discrimination
 - Environmental justice



Tikkun Olam

Repair the world. Making the world a better place for children, the aged, the sick and hungry, Jews and non-Jews.



B'Tselem Elohim

All created in G-d's image. Ensuring respect for individuals regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation or physical or mental disability.



Darchei Shalom

Paths of peace. Keeping peace through ongoing and effective inter-group relations, and continuing to promote mutual respect and foster understanding within our community.



Kol Yisrael Arevim Zeh La Zeh

All in the House of Israel are responsible for one another. Continuously working to support and aid Jews at home, in Israel and around the world.



Lo Ta'amod Al Dam Rey'echa

Do not stand idly by. Demonstrating our commitments through activism and mobilization to ensure that our voice is heard on issues of vital importance to the Jewish community.



Tzedek, Tzedek Tirdof

Justice, Justice You Shall Pursue. Actively advocating for Jewish community interests while working in concert with other faith and ethnic communities to simultaneously pursue issues of universal concern.



Shalom Bayit

Peace in the home. Committing to engaging in all our activities in a peaceful and respectful manner.



Elu v'Elu

(Both) these and those. Recognizing that there are multiple sides of an issue and being open to hearing views that are not your own.



Brit

Partnership. Meaningfully connecting ourselves to others by agreeing to shared commitments.



Hineini

We are present. Dedicating ourselves to act.



Ger Hayiti B'Eretz Nachriyah

I was a stranger in a strange land. Caring for the immigrant and the stranger and welcoming those who seek refuge in our community.



Torah

Teaching. Pursuing knowledge and lifelong learning.