

## **RISE Delaware™ Update: Gubernatorial Candidate Questionnaire August 2024**

Many thanks to Karen Peterson and Mary Graham for developing the questionnaire below that was sent to all candidates for Governor. We requested answers to five questions. The responses from each candidate are recorded below the questions. Some candidates responded with more information than requested and, in the interest of fairness, only the responses requested by RISE are included. One respondent did not return the form and this is listed as "No response."

The candidates are listed in alphabetical order by last name. I think that the responses reflect the efforts of so many of you over the past two years to educate our public officials about the need to retain the Medicare Supplemental Plan (Medicfill) for retirees.

Thank you again for your efforts!

All the best,  
Lisa Diller, President

### **RISE Delaware GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE AUGUST 2024: Candidate Responses**

RISE Delaware acts as a sentinel on healthcare benefits provided for State of Delaware employees in retirement. In September 2022, RISE Delaware successfully sued to stop the Carney administration from switching 30,000 retirees from an excellent Medicare Supplement plan ("Medicfill") to a harmful "Medicare Advantage" plan.

***1. RISE Delaware believes that having strong retirement healthcare benefits for State employees helps maintain a high quality and dedicated workforce. If elected, would you:***

- (a) maintain such benefits?
- (b) maintain such benefits only if extra money is available?
- (c) not worry about maintaining those benefits?

#### **Responses from Candidates:**

- Hall-Long: A
- Meyer: A
- O'Mara: A
- Price: A
- Ramone: No response
- Williams: A

***2. Delaware law requires that certain appropriations be made in the governor's proposed budget every year to fund retiree healthcare costs. If elected, would you:***

- (a) absolutely comply with the required appropriations set forth in the law?
- (b) comply with the appropriations requirements if extra money is available?
- (c) not worry about appropriating these funds?

#### **Responses from Candidates:**

- Hall-Long: A
- Meyer: A
- O'Mara: A

## **RISE Delaware™ Update: Gubernatorial Candidate Questionnaire August 2024**

- Price: A
- Ramone: No response
- Williams: A

**3. *The current administration and State Employee Benefits Committee (SEBC) have been charging Medicare retirees premiums that far exceed the actual costs of retiree healthcare. If elected, would you:***

- (a) prohibit the SEBC from overcharging Medicare retirees?
- (b) let the SEBC set the premiums however they want?

### **Responses from Candidates:**

- Hall-Long: A
- Meyer: A
- O'Mara: A
- Price: A
- Ramone: No response
- Williams: Response not applicable to question

**4. *Other states (like Montana) have hired specialists or outside consultants with fiduciary responsibility to the State (who do not profit from the insurance or drug industries) to rein in the costs of retiree healthcare, including hospital prices and prescription costs, with great success. If elected, would you:***

- (a) definitely hire a specialist or outside consultant to rein in the State's healthcare costs
- (a) based on the Montana (or a similar) model?
- (b) consider hiring a specialist or outside consultant if extra money is available?
- (c) let the SEBC make this decision?

### **Responses from Candidates:**

- Hall-Long: A
- Meyer: A
- O'Mara: A
- Price: A
- Ramone: No response
- Williams: Response not applicable to question

**5. *The State has consistently failed to fund the "Post Retirement Fund," as required by law. As a result, retirees have received only four small pension increases in the past nineteen years. If elected, would you:***

- (a) absolutely fund the "Post Retirement Fund" every year as required by law?
- (b) fund it to the extent that extra money is available?
- (c) not worry about funding it?

### **Responses from Candidates:**

- Hall-Long: A
- Meyer: A
- O'Mara: A
- Price: A

## RISE Delaware™ Update: Gubernatorial Candidate Questionnaire August 2024

- Ramone: No response
- Williams: A

*RISE Delaware does not endorse candidates but will publish their questionnaire responses to help State employees and retirees make informed decisions in the upcoming elections.*

=====

### **RISE Delaware: Retirees Investing in Social Equity Delaware**

Elisa Diller, President

*You received this email because you signed up for our messages.*

Please do not respond to this email message. Email: [risedelaware@gmail.com](mailto:risedelaware@gmail.com)

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/rise-delaware-round-2-legal-and-other-costs>

**Our Facebook page:** <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61557317635829>

**Our Web site:** [www.risede.com](http://www.risede.com)

**Checks may be made payable to: RISE Delaware**

**Address: RISE Delaware, P.O. Box 7262, Newark, DE 19714**

Public Meeting Calendar: State of Delaware

<https://publicmeetings.delaware.gov/#/>

[Unsubscribe](#)

