



Congressional District 5 Candidate Questionnaire

Deadline for submission: 5:00PM PDT, October 4, 2024

The City of Bend has a vibrant business community, comprised of small, medium and large businesses. As a Congresswoman from CD-5, you will play a crucial role in supporting and fostering its growth through the policies you adopt in Washington DC.

To help Chamber members understand your stance on business-related issues and Chamber priorities, we kindly request your responses to the following questions. **Please limit your answers to 250 words per question.**

Completed questionnaires will be posted on the Bend Chamber website in PDF format for both Chamber members and the general public to view.

Bend Chamber Priorities and Policy Principles

Whether reviewing local city and county ordinances or weighing in on legislative proposals in Salem, the Chamber has an active and effective advocacy program.

We are a 501(c6) organization and engage in direct advocacy at all levels of government. Our guiding policy principles, set by the Chamber Board of Directors, include:

- Re-build a state where businesses thrive in our community and ensure sustainable funding sources absent additional impacts on businesses
 - Increase the supply of attainable housing, prioritizing workforce housing at 80-120 percent AMI
 - Promote economic vitality, workforce development and innovation for a vibrant business community
 - Support for transportation and infrastructure projects to alleviate traffic congestion and plan for future growth
 - Increase access to affordable, high-quality childcare; and ensure adequate funding for K-12 public education
 - Advocate for a thoughtful balance between environmental sustainability and economic health
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Please provide your name and answer the questions under each of the categories.

First / Last name*

Janelle|

Bynum

Supporting Oregon's Workforce

What specific policies do you propose to accelerate housing development for growing communities in Central Oregon?*

The economic crisis of housing affordability is a top issue for Central Oregonians. We don't have enough housing, and we need a spectrum of help here. Whether you are a senior, a college student, or a young family, it's nearly impossible to afford a home. As a State Representative, I've worked on efforts to lower the cost of housing, protect tenants, and ensure low-income earners could pay their utility bills. I've helped pass measures to prevent homelessness, increase shelter capacity, and expand mental health services. But there is obviously so much work to be done.

It will continue to be one of my top priorities in Congress. We have land available, but we don't have the money to build the infrastructure we need. We need to aggressively invest in high-quality, affordable housing options, so bringing home funding for infrastructure projects is vitally important.

But we know it's not all just about housing. It's also about investing in social services that help people stay off the streets in the first place. In Congress, I will push to invest in expanding mental health services, drug treatment programs, food assistance programs such as SNAP and WIC, and job training programs. If we invest in our communities and help people who are struggling, we can help solve our debilitating homeless crisis.

Investing in Growth

What are your transportation and infrastructure funding priorities for Central Oregon?*

As a mom and small business owner, I know our state doesn't thrive unless our local economies thrive. We need a holistic, long-term approach to infrastructure investment that considers multiple modes of transportation and integrative neighborhoods that connect people more closely to their work, health services, and schools. Investments are long overdue to update our roads, broadband, power grid, medical facilities and providers. In the State Assembly, I cosponsored legislation that aimed to understand how we can approach this issue from a more integrative, holistic perspective and mitigate impacts to working families, seniors, and low-income communities.

Investing in our communities also means creating good-paying jobs here in Oregon and building up the infrastructure needed to maintain a strong economy. I've championed these issues during my time in the legislature and in my role as Chair of the House Committee on Economic Development. I led the passage of the critical Oregon CHIPS Act, which provides funds for semiconductor companies' expansion and creates a process to designate land for industrial development including in Central Oregon. The package was the most pro-business, pro-worker, pro-Oregon collaboration in history, and I'll bring the same vision to Congress.

Healthcare Access and Affordability

What policies would you support to reduce the cost shift burden from under-funded Medicare and Medicaid systems to private insurance?*

I believe health care is a human right, and I'm proud of the progress our state has made in ensuring that Oregonians have an opportunity to receive care. In the state legislature, I worked to expand access to health care so everyday Oregonians don't have to choose between putting food on the table or a trip to the hospital. On the federal level, I will continue to be a voice of reason for ensuring that everyone in this country has access to affordable health care when they need it. I will proudly fight to protect Medicare, expand Medicaid, and work to lower prescription drug prices, as I have done in my work to expand access to healthcare and mental health services at the state level.

We also need to take serious action to increase the accessibility of mental health care. This issue is personal to me, as my family has had consistent battles trying to access mental health services. That's why I've worked to secure millions of dollars to support mental health providers across the state, get folks the care they need, and prioritize access to the services our families are relying on – but we need more, and I'm committed to delivering that help for Oregonians in Congress.
