



2016 Minnesota State House and Senate Candidate Questionnaire

ARRM

Section #1: About Yourself

Your Name: MIKE LINE  
District you are running in: 11A

Question #1: Please provide a short background about yourself.

I AM A PRIVATE BUSINESS MAN WHO BECAME POLITICALLY  
ACTIVE 7 YEARS AGO. MY FATHER WAS A MULTI TERM  
MAYOR. I HAVE BEEN A SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER FOR  
35 YEARS,

Question #2: What do you hope to accomplish by running for office? What will your main priorities be at the Capitol if you are elected?

WORK TO MAKE OUR EDUCATION SYSTEM #1 IN THE WORLD  
JOB'S 11A HAS A TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT OVER 25%  
ELIMINATE STATE INCOME TAX ON SENIORS  
MAKE SURE WE TAKE CARE OF VETERANS

Question #3: What experience or connections, if any, do you have to the disability community?

MY SON HAS MILD CEREBRAL PALSY

## Section #2: Our Workforce Crisis

**Question #1:** Our industry is facing a workforce crisis. There are simply not enough people to provide the direct care needed for people with disabilities to lead independent lives. Given that the overwhelming majority of funding for disability services comes from the government, and low wages are a driving force behind high rates of staff turnover, what ideas would you offer for helping to create a livable wage for our direct support professionals and caregivers?

THE ANSWER TO THIS IS COMPLEX AND CAN'T BE ANSWERED  
IN THIS FORMAT

**Question #2:** As technology continues to become a bigger part of everyone's lives, there are numerous products that can be used by individuals with disabilities which offer them increased independence, including things as simple as apps on cell phones and tablets. Some technology can supplement staff while others can substitute for staff. Would you support the use of public dollars to increase the availability and use of technology?

IT DEPENDS ON THE DISABILITY AND THE PRODUCT

### Section #3: The Sustainability of our System

**Question #1:** Minnesota's Olmstead Plan includes a broad series of key activities our state must accomplish to ensure people with disabilities are living, learning, working and enjoying life in the most integrated setting appropriate for their needs. In 2015, a set of very ambitious goals and benchmarks were finalized and approved by the Minnesota courts to help ensure that the intent of the Olmstead Plan is realized. What is your role as a legislator to oversee and ensure that those goals are met?

MY FIRST GOAL WOULD BE TO LEARN A LOT MORE ABOUT  
IT BEFORE MAKING ANY DECISIONS

**Question #2:** Affordable housing is an issue for many people in Minnesota. A cornerstone of Minnesota's Olmstead Plan is the opportunity for individuals with disabilities to live as independently as they choose. As a legislator how would you strategically expand availability of affordable housing with accessibility features for Minnesotans with disabilities?

I WOULD WORK TO CHANGE LAWS THAT  
WOULD ENCOURAGE PRIVATE INDUSTRY TO  
BUILD HOUSING

**Question #3:** Our industry has seen an influx of "unfunded mandates" - items that cost providers additional money without subsequent compensation, such as the increase in minimum wage, the Affordable Care Act, increased regulatory fees and the new Department of Labor Overtime Rule to name a few. When the government adds a new mandate what is its responsibility in supporting government funded businesses to pay for those mandates?

I DO NOT BELIEVE WE SHOULD PASS ANY UNFUNDED

MANDATES