

350 Action 2019 Candidate Questionnaire

Doyle Canning

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About You

Your Name: Doyle Canning (OR-04)

What office are you running for, and as which party?: *Democratic Candidate for Congress, OR-04*

Policy Positions

Do you support a Green New Deal that ends fossil fuels and provides an immediate and just transition to 100% renewable energy? Explain what that means to you. *

Yes. I have been fighting with the front lines of the climate justice movement for over 15 years and I'm running for Congress because it's time to fight even harder. We are truly on the edge of irreversible climate tipping points and we need immediate and bold transition off of fossil fuels now, as well as massive ecological drawdown efforts. We must fight for 100% renewable energy and not accept energy plans that rely on pollution that largely lands in communities of color (e.g. biomass, incinerators, nuclear). We must confront the fossil fuel industry for knowingly destabilizing the climate and hold them liable and accountable -- not collaborate on their plans for carbon capture technology that will allow the FF industry to continue to expand. Future generations will live or die by the decisions our political leaders make today, and I will fight for my kids and all future generations' right to live. It's time to take a stand: no Jordan Cove, no new fossil fuel infrastructure, and a Green New Deal that cools the planet, invests in our communities, and creates millions of jobs.

How will you center racial, economic and social justice in your climate policies?

The GND must directly confront and redress environmental racism. My vision is that the GND will not only zero out emissions, but begin to repair the historic disenfranchisement and oppression of communities of color by investing in the most polluted communities (which are communities of color) to restore the land, clean the water, desmog the skies and uplift the people with jobs, education, and opportunity. The climate crisis is an outgrowth of a system that is built on racism and greed, prioritizing profit over poor and working class peoples' lives, and over-polluting communities of color. I will look to the environmental and climate justice movements for leadership and guidance, and work in partnership to advance climate justice priorities. In particular, I will build ongoing and accountable relationships with the constituencies in my district that are on the front lines of the crisis: tribal communities, farmworker communities, and rural communities directly impacted by industrial forestry, air pollution, and the Jordan Cove project.

Do you support a moratorium on all new fossil fuel infrastructure, including pipelines, fracked gas and oil, compressor stations and coal power plants? Please tell us with specifics what you'd do, if elected to stop the expansion of the fossil fuel industry and keep fossil fuels in the ground? *

Yes. I will do everything in my power to stop the Jordan Cove project in my district, and other pipeline and infrastructure build outs nationwide. I will work to end the extraction of fossil fuels, such as supporting a ban on fracking, an end to fossil fuel development on public lands, and a managed decline of the industry using quantitative easing at the federal reserve, for example. When elected, I will work to abolish subsidies to the fossil fuel industry entirely. I will follow the lead of the climate movement to keep attention in Congress on issues like fossil fuel financing, insurance, risk bonds and other instruments that can affect the industry's access to capital. I will also aggressively pursue liability for the industry for climate damages, and explore criminal sanctions for corporations that knowingly destabilized the climate.

Do you support investigation of the fossil fuel industry's role in causing climate change, blocking climate action, and misleading the public? If so, do you have plans for a process to hold the industry financially accountable for that role and related harms? * (For more context: InsideClimate News has done detailed investigative reporting showing that Exxon and other companies understood the risks of climate change 50+ years ago and suppressed the research instead of taking action. Investigations into Exxon have launched in New York, Massachusetts, and more.)

Yes. This was what I studied in law school and have extensive thoughts on this subject from a litigation and legislative standpoint (see e.g. this working paper with Mary Christina Wood https://law.uoregon.edu/images/uploads/entries/Atmospheric_Recovery_Concept_Paper_FINAL11.10.17.pdf). My vision is to amend our CERCLA statute to create strict liability for legacy emissions for the carbon majors, which creates a Superfund for the Sky, which will be used to manage transition to a carbon negative emissions scenario in line with what science and justice demands. When elected, I will lead a Congressional probe into what fossil fuel companies knew and when they knew it, along the lines of a special Commission. The world's major producers of oil, coal, and gas have known about the implications of burning their product for the wellbeing of the entire world since at least the 1970s. They lied about it, sowed disinformation, and kept pushing their product and making trillions in profit. In 2021, that ends. It's time for fossil fuel companies to answer to the American people for what they knew, and when they knew it, and pay for what they've knowingly done to our climate in order to finance transition. A well documented, decades-long, tobacco-style campaign to sow doubt and spread disinformation about climate science -- all the while expanding fossil fuel use and pocketing trillions of dollars -- has led to the current crisis that leaves a perilously short time to transition to renewables. I will fight for a Green New Deal that holds fossil fuel companies accountable and makes polluters -- not everyday people -- pay for the transition to cleaner forms of energy.

Do you pledge to reject any contributions from the fossil fuel industry, as defined by the

"No Fossil Fuel Money Pledge"? * More information about the No Fossil Fuel Money Pledge: <http://nofossilfuelmoney.org/>

Yes

Do you support plans to create an immigration policy that allows a path to citizenship for undocumented people? *

Yes! As an organizer supporting immigrant communities, I have long been an ally in the fight against wage theft and abuses of farmworkers, day laborers, and domestic workers - workforces that are overwhelmingly immigrant and often excluded from even the most basic labor protections. I have taken a stand against "show me your papers" laws, and the escalation of ICE's collaboration with local law enforcement that encourages racial profiling of Latinx people. These policies rip families apart, encourage racial profiling, and undermine due process. I will support immigration reform that truly treats immigrants as human beings that contribute to our communities, such as the Blue Card Bill and DREAM Act. I will also work with immigrant communities in Oregon (and nationwide) to advance a transformative agenda in Congress that naturalizes undocumented people in the U.S.

What are your specific plans on addressing the refugees and other migrants at the US borders? *

I am running to close the camps and free the families immediately. ICE and CBP have proven they cannot operate in good faith, and both agencies have lost public trust because of their heightened cruelty under Trump. Caging children and snatching people off the street is wrong. Spending law enforcement resources to criminalize immigration wastes money, makes us less safe, and harms people simply seeking a better life. In Congress, I will do all I can to defund and hold accountable those responsible for abuse and mistreatment of immigrants and asylum seekers at the border. I will fight for funding for trauma-informed care for children and parents who were forcibly separated and to prosecute kidnappers and abusers working under color of law in our federal agencies. I will work to expand the scope of asylum and increase the number of refugees resettled in the United States.

How do you see climate change impacting mass migrations and what are your plans to address the increase in refugees as a result of the climate crisis. For background on climate impacts on human migrations: <https://www.unhcr.org/en-us/climate-change-and-disasters.html>

I will fight for the human rights of climate refugees in the US and around the world. As a historic polluter, the United States must lead and build international cooperation to finance solutions to the refugee crisis created by our decades of fossil fuel expansion and subsidies. This begins with major investments in adaptation, where possible, for Southern nations bearing the brunt of displacement. Those investments must uplift people and communities with opportunities to make lasting livelihoods in those countries. Where adaptation is simply not possible at this late stage, for example in many low lying island nations and Bangladesh, the United States must lead multilateral processes, creating new international law as needed, to address refugee resettlement before it becomes a full-blown crisis. I support the efforts to create a climate-refugee category in US asylum law, and efforts to create new global frameworks to protect the rights of climate refugees everywhere.

What are your plans for criminal justice reform?

It is time to transform our criminal justice system and take down the prison industry that has ballooned since the passage of the 1992 Crime Bill. Congress can do more to ensure justice is done for victims and their families, while ensuring fairness, accountability, and evidence-based practices are the foundation of our criminal justice system. As a law clerk, I worked on cases where private prison contractors were trying to avoid responsibility for the harm they created, and it is clear that private prisons are immoral, and private prison contractors must get more scrutiny because self-dealing is incentivized. Doyle also observed innovative programs like Eugene's Reentry Court, which provides a holistic set of supports - from housing to healthcare to counseling and addiction treatment - to keep incarcerated people from reentering the system, with a lot of success. This could be a model for the nation: Mass incarceration and over-criminalization is a policy choice - it is not the only way. Together we can begin to heal and change this system by decriminalizing marijuana nationwide, expunging records, and restoring justice to individuals and communities that have been devastated by the war on drugs. We can build new systems to help people successfully reintegrate into society and tear down the barriers that hold people back.

Do you support a worker's right to unionize?

Yes

Do you support a \$15/hour minimum wage?

Yes

How do you plan to address the resurgence of white supremacy in the public discourse? Please tell us your plan to respond to white nationalist terrorist acts in this country?

White nationalism is a real threat to our safety and political futures here in Oregon. We have 9 white nationalist groups in the state who regularly organize in our community. That another reason I'm running for Congress - because we need leadership that is willing to unequivocally denounce this ideology and use every tool available to secure the safety of targeted people and populations such as people of color, GLBTQ people, women, Muslims, Jews, and immigrants. I will fight to fully fund investigation of white nationalist threats in the United States as domestic terrorists, to create 'red flag' triggers for white nationalist ties that create cause for limiting access to deadly weapons, and use every platform I have to denounce white supremacy and end white nationalist violence.

What is your plan to reduce gun violence and mass shootings?

Gun violence is a public health epidemic. Most Americans want change, but a powerful corporate gun lobby stands in the way. We must pass common sense gun laws that keep our children safe at school,

survivors of domestic violence safe in our homes, and communities of color safe from dangerously emboldened white nationalists. The NRA and gun manufacturers have dominated debates in Washington for decades, and it's time to take a stand: public safety measures protect people from gun violence and are overwhelmingly supported by everyday people. Congress must investigate the NRA, ban assault weapons, and pass "red flag" laws so that law enforcement and family members can act on warning signs of violence and temporarily prevent access to firearms. Congress can also raise the age to purchase semi automatic firearms to 21 to prevent minors from easily getting their hands on guns; and require background checks on all gun sales so people exhibiting warning signs, minors, and people with dangerous histories can't easily access deadly weapons.

Do you support the payment of reparations and/or related structural adjustment to remunerate the descendants of enslaved African Americans to addressing America's history of codified and systemic racism? For more background on reparations:

<https://sites.duke.edu/lit90sresearchprojectlauramarty/introduction/>

Yes. I wrote an extensive paper on the topic as relates to the GND in that I would be happy to share if you are interested.

Do you support the return of unceded lands and territory or related royalties to Indigenous Populations as a form of redress for America's history of codified and systemic racism?

Yes.

Do you support Medicare for All?

Yes. Every day, Oregonians are rationing life-saving medicines, drowning in medical debt, and putting off necessary health care because of our corporate healthcare system. That's why Oregonians overwhelmingly support a Medicare for All system, which is what I will fight for in Washington. Weak leadership and a failure to stand up to the health insurance industry and big pharma has created a healthcare crisis for American families.

We all deserve quality health care and shouldn't live in fear that a medical emergency will bankrupt us. We need a solution to ensure that everyone can afford the care they need, no matter where they live, their immigration status, or their income. A so-called "public option" in our overly complex and expensive for-profit system - that relies on employer based insurance - won't solve this crisis. A public option for insurance isn't enough. It's time to take a stand: Medicare for All. Because healthcare is a human right.

Do you support a woman's right to choose?

Yes

Race

White

Gender

Cis-Woman