

# 350 Action 2019/2020 Candidate Questionnaire

<https://350action.org/endorsements/>

**Your Name \***

Marie Newman

**What office are you running for, and in which party? \***

Democratic candidate for Congress,  
IL-03

## **Policy Positions**

**1. 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.**

I am fighting for the Green New Deal because we have no choice. We must create emergency level legislation that builds on the resolution, or we will begin to see dramatic changes in our health, environment and ability to live free. Honestly, I am motivated by fear but inspired by hope and innovation. A Green New Deal is what we need to ensure a safe environment for the future--without addressing this issue head-on, other progressive policies are meaningless.

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

Environmental racism is happening in IL03 as has persisted for years. We have to address these locations first and create a system by which to remediate the harm caused to communities. I think we need to not only reconstitute the EPA, but add a watchdog group that is responsible for monitoring manufacturing and other emissions based businesses at the state and county level. We need to bring displaced folks here

and provide green workforce training to place them in jobs to build entirely green infrastructure and transportation projects. We already have many of the assets and expertise here to develop a green workforce training center quickly.

**3. 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 plan to break up big industries and reduce dependency on fossil fuels by incentivizing renewables. Green infrastructure projects and businesses are the future, and through incentivizing them via tax credits and education systems, we can bring renewables into every community and eliminate the grip fossil fuels have on our economy.

Additionally, I strongly oppose pipelines such as Keystone XL and the Dakota Access. Rep. Dan Lipinski was the only Democrat from Illinois to support the Keystone Pipeline. He recently accepted \$40,000 from fossil fuel companies in 2019 alone, including \$5,000 from Trans-Canada.

**4. Do you support the 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?**

Yes, I do support investigations that examine the fossil fuel industry. I propose holding all the parties involved accountable for any deceptive information used over the years. Like the tobacco industry decades ago, we should be able to hold corporations accountable for their inaction on this crisis. I support the platform of the Green New Deal, using green infrastructure, and creating a model by which to investigate (and charge, if necessary) companies that willfully deceive the public through misinformation. We should be valuing the health and safety of our people over corporate profits.

**5. Do you pledge to reject any contributions from the fossil fuel industry, as defined by the "No Fossil Fuel Money Pledge"?**

Yes

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

Yes, I proudly support Dreamers, DACA recipients, restoring DAPA, and an efficient and expeditious path to citizenship.

**7. What are your specific plans for addressing the refugees and other migrants at the US borders? \***

We should welcome refugees and asylum seekers with open arms--they come to this country because they want a better life. With current humanitarian crises in Syria, Mexico, and many other countries around the world, we are facing a true emergency and we should provide a better life to those who want to come to our country. For starters, immigration brings entrepreneurs who start new businesses that hire American workers. Immigration brings young workers who help offset the large-scale retirement of baby boomers. Immigration brings diverse skill sets that keep our workforce flexible, help companies grow, and increase the productivity of American workers. And immigrants are far more likely to work in innovative, job-creating fields such as science, technology, engineering, and math that create life-improving products and drive economic growth. We should accept refugees and asylum seekers for moral reasons because they deserve basic rights--we are all sharing the same planet and should respect each other. Additionally, the economics of having more people in a country contributes to GDP. Through welcoming them and granting them permanent citizenship status, they can continue their lives here.

**8. 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?**

If current practices continue, we will continue to see people in certain areas migrate. The climate crisis requires an urgent response. With rising sea levels and changing

climate around the world, we have to prepare for more extreme events on a regular basis.

We should remain a country that willingly accepts immigrants and refugees. This is the morally right thing to do--people come here because they want a better life. In terms of the climate crisis, the United States has a responsibility to act quickly and efficiently to address it. We are simply running out of time to do so. As refugees and immigrants continue coming to our country, we should prepare them for success through job training programs, increasing access to government services, and transforming the immigration process so it is far more efficient and expedient. More on my immigration policy at

<https://www.marienewmanforcongress.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/MNFC-Immigration-policy.pdf>.

## **9. What are your plans for criminal justice reform?**

The first step, expanding voting rights: restoring the Voting Rights Act, passing automatic voter registration legislation, ending the practice of gerrymandering through establishing independent redistricting committees, and making Election Day a federal holiday.

I also plan to reform the broken criminal justice system by fighting for the federal legalization of marijuana and working to roll back mandatory minimum sentences for drug offenses. Also, I support banning private prisons and detention centers nationwide, ending cash bail, and banning the death penalty. Additionally, I plan to expand affordable housing options through tax credits and enforcing laws that require affordable units in every neighborhood and municipality. Similarly, we should reform our education system so every school has counselors, nurses, and kids in every school can thrive regardless of their zip code.

## **10. Do you support a worker's right to unionize?**

Yes

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

Yes

**12. 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?**

Cultural education in all schools, cultural training for staff in schools and employers, create state budgets that will provide community-level communications for town halls to discuss race and unity, creating an economy that works for all, healthcare for all, implement voting rights act, HR1 and transform access to community college and state college by creating free and service-based tuition programs.

**13. What are your plans to reduce gun violence and mass shootings?**

We have to start addressing gun violence as the public health crisis it is. As the former spokesperson for Moms Demand Action - Illinois, gun violence is a top priority of mine. I support H.R.8 and implementing universal background checks. I also support the Assault Weapons Ban--no one needs weapons of war on our streets. I support gun safety training and licensing, as well as red flag laws as well.

**14. 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?**

Yes. This is a major step toward addressing systemic racism.

**15. 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

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**16. Do you support Medicare for All?**

Absolutely, yes.

**17. Do you support a woman's right to choose?**

Yes

**Race**

White

**Gender**

Female