

## **2018 ELECTION QUESTIONS – ATTORNEY GENERAL | Keith Ellison**

Why are you running for office? What are your personal priorities/initiatives?

- I am running for Attorney General because working families in Minnesota need a fighter on their side. It is the Attorney General's job to hold those in power accountable and protect and defend the rights of all Minnesotans.

As Attorney General, I will fight to make health care more affordable and accessible; to protect the rights of workers and ensure a fair economy for all; and will fight back against attacks on women's equal pay and reproductive rights. I will take on the big drug companies, exploitative student loan services, and any company that tries to rip off every-day Minnesotans.

How will you ensure that partisan politics does not affect your decisions?

- As Attorney General, my work will be focused on improving the lives of all Minnesotans, regardless of party affiliation, race, religion, or zip code. I will work to make sure that we have a Minnesota that is fairer for everyone, a state where the interests of the people are put ahead of massive corporations and well-funded special interests. I want to bring our state together around issues that affect all Minnesotans, from wage theft, to the opioid crisis, student loans, and a fair economy for small businesses and working families.

Briefly summarize your personal background and qualifications.

- For the last twelve years, I have represented Minnesotans in Congress, where I have championed consumer, worker, and civil rights protections to defend the rights of Minnesotans against the interests of the powerful. I also served in the Minnesota House of Representatives. Before entering politics, I spent 16 years as an attorney specializing in civil rights and defense law, including five years as the Executive Director of the Legal Rights Center. As the leader of this public interest law firm, I oversaw a team of attorneys focused on delivering justice for Minnesotans who had nowhere else to turn.