

2024 North Carolina State Office Candidate Questionnaire

Name: Tanya White-Anderson

District or Office: NC Senate District 12

Party Affiliation: Democrat

Current Occupation: Retired

Questions for 2024 Candidates for State Office in North Carolina

1. The most rapid period of brain development happens in the first five years of life, laying the foundation for all future learning, health, and success in school and life. What are your views on the needs of young children (prenatal to age 5) and what steps would you take to address these needs?

As a mother, the steps that I have taken in regards to my children through all the struggles as a single mom, I assured Proper health, Safety, and security the educational development and love. To ensure all available resources are available to assist the needs of our children.

2. Every county in North Carolina is considered a "child care desert" with not enough supply to meet the demand. When parents do find child care, the average cost is nearly \$10,000/year, which is higher than the cost of public college tuition. What steps would you take to ensure that families have access to high-quality and affordable early learning programs for their children?

Approve and extend to all qualified families the highly qualified and affordable early learning programs for all children not the selected few

3. Currently, child care teachers in North Carolina earn an average of \$14/hour, less than most retail or service workers. Since 2021, federally-funded Child Care Compensation Grants have provided higher wages and bonuses to more than 40,000 North Carolina early educators, but that funding has expired. This summer, the NC General Assembly appropriated funds to extend the grants for a short time, while also recognizing the need to explore long-term solutions to attract and retain a qualified early childhood workforce. What steps would you take to stabilize and sustain North Carolina's early education system and child care workforce as we approach the end of Compensation Grant funding?

To approve and extend the compensation, grant funding And the Be increased or more than \$14 an hour

4. Working parents depend on child care, and businesses in nearly every sector have identified child care as a critical factor in their workforce challenges. A new study from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation found that insufficient child care is costing North Carolina about \$5.65 billion each year. What are your views on how the issues facing our state's child care system impact the state's economy? What specific steps would you take to ensure that our child care system can keep up with the demand as more working families need child care?

To ensure that there's affordable childcare before and aftercare for working families; approve and not keep a cap on the Childcare system So that's the working class can keep more money in their pocket

5. North Carolina currently spends approximately 1% of the annual state budget on early childhood programs, including Smart Start, NC Pre-K, and Child Care Subsidy Assistance. Nearly all early childhood programs in every county of the state have waiting lists and only serve a fraction of eligible children and families. What are your goals for overall early childhood funding and/or what types of early childhood programs would you support making an investment in at the state level?

Approve our early childhood program that are currently in place And I believe that there should be programs for three-year-olds as well due to the The knowledge that are being instilled at an earlier age

6. If elected, what would be your top 5 priorities for 2025?

Education(Teachers pay, staff not police) affordable childcare programs, women protective rights (healthcare), economic development; rural areas(needs); veterans