Will you defend the Affordable Care Act from any and all threats, whether in the form of Medicaid block grants, direct funding cuts, outright repeal, and/or other tactics that seek to hamper the ACA and cause loss of coverage or increased costs?

I will do everything in my power to protect ACA and the millions of people it currently serves. Healthcare is a human right, and when it is prioritized over profit, we create the 'City on A Hill' we are continually striving for in the USA.

Will you support policies that ensure no-cost access to preventive services for U.S. residents is protected and expanded?

Preventative services are generally more cost effective than services that are required later, both in terms of our wallets and our livelihoods. When preventative tools are readily available, we save time, money and energy that ultimately benefits everyone in our society.

Section I. Question III. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Enhanced Tax Credits Expiration: Do you support ARPA tax credit extensions to ensure families across the country are not priced out of health insurance coverage in 2026?

I do support the tax credit extensions. Nearly <u>20 million people</u> rely on these credits to keep healthcare affordable.

I do want to find a way so the need for these credits becomes obsolete. According to the CBO, quoted in the attached article, these ARPA tax credits will cost taxpayers \$335 billion through 2034. I am eager to work with you to avert this tax credit cliff in the near term, as well as create permanent solutions under \$335 billion for the next decade of American healthcare.

Section I. Question IV. Reject Medicaid Block Grants: Will you reject any and all legislative efforts to transition Medicaid funding to state-by-state block grants that threaten funding and negatively impact health outcomes for millions, and support policies that protect Medicaid funding and access?

Yes. Under our current system, funding is adjustable and on an as-needed basis. Most importantly, coverage is guaranteed to all eligible individuals. I intend to help legislate incentives for states to maintain or increase their funding levels for Medicaid. If there are any solutions that you see, please let me know.

Section II. Question I. Protect Medicare Drug Price Negotiations: Will you stand up to the relentless lobbying efforts by the pharmaceutical industry and protect the Inflation

Reduction Act against Congressional meddling, and ensure that senior citizens receive this long overdue relief for their high prescription drug costs?

I have no plans to accept money, favors, or any form of incentives from those in the pharmaceutical industry. The idea of such a thing makes my skin crawl. One of the primary goals I have for Congress is to decrease costs for the most essential items Americans need. So, I not only intend on fighting for competitive pricing of prescription drugs for seniors, but for all Americans. For our nation to live out its ideals, people must be able to easily and affordably access long, healthy lives.

Section II. Question II. Medicare Insulin Price Cap: Do you support, and will you fight to protect, policies that cap insulin costs at \$35 for seniors?

It is fantastic that the Inflation Reduction Act capped insulin prices at \$35 for all Medicare plans. Our current healthcare system is littered with needless expenses which ultimately fall to the patient's responsibility. I am eager to not only cap insulin prices for seniors or those on Medicare, but for all Americans. Caps, whether at a set dollar amount or a percentage of the drug's production cost, belong on all prescription drugs so that our ultimate goal of American advancement can be achieved.

Section II. Question III. Medicare Out-of-Pocket Caps: Do you support, and will you fight to protect, policies that cap out-of-pocket costs for prescription drugs through Medicare?

Yes. I believe my prior comment also answers this question.

Section III. Question I. Site Neutral Payment Reform Legislation: Do you support policies that advance site-neutral payments and establish price transparency measures to lower costs for patients, such as the bipartisan 'Lower Costs, More Transparency Act' and the 'Site-based Invoicing and Transparency Enhancement (SITE) Act'?

I would support such policies. Hopefully, the Lower Costs, More Transparency Act will be through the Senate before I arrive at Capitol Hill!

Section III. Question II. 'Same Service, Same Price' Initiative: Do you support further legislation to ensure site neutral payments so patients are not charged more for the same service just because of where they receive it?

We are the United States of America for a reason. United, we can use our collective strength to lower costs. This would be something I support.

Section IV. Question I. Reproductive Freedom and Medical Decisions: Do you believe that decisions as personal as reproductive health care should be made between a person and their physician or health care provider, not politicians?

Wholeheartedly, yes. I voted for Issue 1 in Ohio, which enshrined reproductive rights and access into Ohio's state constitution.

I was raised in a Pro-Life household, and many of the people I know from my parent's generation are Pro-Life as well – not for the purpose of denying a woman her rights, but purely for not wanting babies to die. Misinformation has warped people on the Pro-Life side to think abortion rates are rising and that women will conduct the procedure at any point, even at the end of the pregnancy. You and I both know those two statements are categorically false. Abortion rates in the U.S. have been dropping steadily over the last 40 years, and it is a rarity for a woman to decide to terminate her pregnancy in the third trimester. These situations tend to only arise when there is a critical complication. A politician has no place in those rooms, when a health care provider and an expectant mother need to make a life altering decision. Pregnancy, and the thought of abortion, is hard enough: on the mother, the father, their families and the people around them.

Unfortunately, instead of our leaders helping us come together for solutions, they have worked with large media outlets to politicize these deeply personal stories. It has not worked to either side's advantage over the last 50 years, made evident by the fact that we are at the same place in the dialogue as we were 50 years ago.

We have lost sight of the big picture, where we can all agree: We want those we care about to thrive, to be healthy and happy. We must protect our mothers, and our children, while giving them the space to make the decision that best serves them. That is every American's right in this land.

I hope, in office, to continue to bridge the gap between those who consider themselves Pro-Choice and Pro-Life, and create opportunities for better education, especially for men, on the ways in which to protect yourself and your partner so that fewer accidental pregnancies occur. Additionally, I hope that with the funds available to me, we can help expectant mothers and their families with supplies, lessons, or access to the resources they need in my district and across this country. Scientists and psychologists have studied how crucial the first 3 years of a child's life are. My job as a politician should be to make it as simple as possible for parents to give their best to their children over that time, so that we have stronger families and happier, better people tomorrow, and for generations to come.

Section IV. Question II. Women's Health Protection Act (2023): Will you introduce, co-sponsor, or support legislation to restore the right to abortion nationwide?

Yes, I would.

Section IV. Question III. Reject a National Abortion Ban: Do you oppose a national abortion ban or related legislation that imposes federal restrictions on reproductive health care?

Of course. We cannot step backwards. We must continue to grow and adapt a path forward. Banning abortions will only make a challenging situation worse, and that is not how I intend to use my Congressional authority.

Section IV. Question IV. Right to Contraception Act (2024): Do you support a bill to establish the right to contraception to protect against state legislative restrictions on access to birth control?

Yes, I do.