

Bird-Dogging & Candidate Question Guide
Spring 2019

Engaging with candidates is as important as holding elected officials accountable once they are elected. Help us get them on record in the coming months. Town halls and local events are an opportunity to lift our concerns for members of Congress and within our communities.

For an overview of “How to Bird-Dog” visit: www.afsc.org/birddogging

Also feel free to craft your own questions using examples from your own life or community, or from information about the candidate. For example:

- “Here in our community, Immigration and Customs Enforcement has... Would you support protecting our community by abolishing ICE?”
- “In the past, you’ve stated... Will you now support abolishing ICE?”

Let us know how it went! Contact us at afscdesm@afsc.org or at 515-274-4851 to file your report back!
Don’t forget to report on how it goes using #DefundHate and #AbolishICE

1. Updating U.S. Immigration Law

Question: Immigrant communities have seen increased targeting under the Trump administration through the ending of DACA and various Temporary Protected Status (TPS) programs and increased surveillance of immigrant neighborhoods, detention and deportation. The majority of Iowans support a path to citizenship. Will you support immigration reform that provides a road to citizenship, protects workers and keeps families together?

2. Protecting DACA and TPS beneficiaries

Question: The Trump Administration has created a crisis of uncertainty for recipients of DACA and TPS by arbitrarily canceling the programs. Iowa values and needs these members of our communities. Will you support legislation that provides permanent protections for DACA and TPS recipients?

3. Defund ICE

Question: Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is a relatively new federal agency with an egregious track record of abuse and lack of accountability and oversight. Its bloated budget supports racial profiling, family separation and harsh detention methods. Its enforcement operations have destroyed local economies in Iowa. Will you support defunding ICE?

4. Defund ICE

Question: Since the creation of the Department of Homeland Security in 2003, the amount the US spends on immigration enforcement has more than doubled to almost \$20 billion per year. This spending funds racial profiling, an inhumane detention system, and family separation while failing to keep us safe. It could instead be spent on things that actually benefit our communities like education and jobs. Will you vote to defund ICE and Border Patrol?

Join us! Together we can build a more welcoming state and country! AFSC is a non-partisan, issues-based organization. We work to educate candidates and communities across the political spectrum in order to change the systems and narratives that oppress communities. We believe that together we can organize to make real, lasting change.

Support AFSC Iowa and help make this change possible.

Donate online: <https://secure.everyaction.com/i7ph2Um1GkmHE0agtaL3Q2>

Send checks to: AFSC, 4211 Grand Ave. Des Moines, IA 50312