



I VOTE FOR WOMEN.org

Women's Economic Priorities Candidate Information

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Prepared By: Majda Sarkic Date: 8/22/14

Candidate Name: Lois Frankel

Office Sought: U.S. House District: FL-22

Campaign Address: PO Box 812421

City: Boca Raton State: FL Zip: 33481

Campaign Website: loisfrankelforcongress.com

CANDIDATE AUTHORIZATION & SIGNATURE:

I have read the attached 2014 Candidate Questionnaire and affirm the survey answers represent my position on the issues addressed.

Date: 8/22/14

Lois Frankel
Candidate Name (Printed)

Lois Frankel
Candidate Signature

Women's Economic Priorities Candidate Questionnaire:

1. If elected what steps would you take regarding fair pay programs?
 - a. Equal pay means that everyone, regardless of their gender, gets a fair shot to live their American dream. In 2014, women should be earning equal pay for equal work. Equal pay is about fairness and it's about survival.

In Florida, women take home 83 cents for every dollar a man – only slightly better than the 77 cents to the dollar earned nationally. As a result, women in Florida and throughout the country lose thousands of dollars in salary, income and retirement savings over the course of their lifetime. In South Florida, if the wage gap were eliminated a working woman would have enough money for 56 more weeks of food; five months of mortgage and utility payments; seven months of rent; or, more than 1,900 additional gallons of gas.

That why, I introduced the Equal Pay Day resolution in April 2013. I also a proud supporter of the Women's Economic Agenda, launched by House Democrats last summer. This initiative will make sure that all women can earn a living wage, receive equal pay for equal work, have access to paid family and medical leave, and secure affordable, quality child care.

Equality for women has to be more than a simple slogan. It's a promise that we must keep so that our daughters, our sisters, our mothers, and our friends can pursue their dreams; reach their full potential; and take care of their families.

2. If elected what specific actions would you take regarding the minimum wage?
 - a. I fully support raising the minimum wage to \$10.10, and am proud to co-sponsor the Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2013. A hard day's work should mean a decent day's pay. Increasing the minimum wage would help families put food on the table while enabling our small businesses to flourish.

In fact, according to the Economic Policy Institute, raising the minimum wage from \$7.25 to \$10.10 will allow nearly six million Americans to emerge out of poverty – and it would generate \$22 billion in increased economic activity and create 85,000 jobs.

By raising the minimum wage, we can help millions of families escape the endless cycle of poverty. We can make sure hard working Americans no longer live paycheck to paycheck, where one broken bone, or a car repair bill, could put their family on the street.

Joining House Democrats, I will continue to push for passing the bill to raise the raise the minimum wage to \$10.10, and the CEO/Employee Pay Fairness Act to deny CEOs the ability to claim tax deductions for pay over \$1 million unless they give their employees a raise.

3. If elected what specific actions would you take regarding mandatory coverage of birth control?

- a. Access to birth control opens the doors of economic success for women – it directly correlates to women having higher educational attainment, career attainment and wages.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, employer sponsored health insurance are required to include preventative care, including contraception, with no out-of-pocket costs to individuals. In fact, 30 million more women are now eligible for preventative care with no-pay. According to the IMS Institute, from 2012 to 2013, an additional 24.4 million prescriptions for birth control were dispensed without a copay, saving women \$483.3 million dollars in out-of-pocket costs for birth control.

I was deeply disappointed by the Supreme Court's Hobby Lobby decision. The ruling is a sad step backwards for women's health and individual rights over those of corporate bosses. Employers belong in the workplace, not in an employee's doctor's office. Personal decisions about contraception should be between a woman and her physician – not a woman and her supervisor. While the Hobby Lobby decision does not "strike down" the birth control benefit, it says that some employers will not have to comply with it.

In response, I joined my Pro-Choice Caucus colleagues in **introducing** The Not My Boss' Business Act – which prevents corporate employers from using their religious beliefs to deny employee coverage for contraception, or any other vital health service required by federal law.

4. Do you support the FAMILY Act? If elected, what steps would you take regarding family-friendly workplace?

I am proud to co-sponsor the FAMILY Act – and will continue to fight for its passage. A national paid family and medical leave program would help give workers economic security, improve health outcomes, improve bottom lines for businesses, and build a stronger national economy. That is why it's a critical component of the Women's Economic Agenda.

5. Do you support or oppose legislation HR 2451? If elected what actions would you take regarding access to capital for small businesses?

Yes, I support HR 2451.

Small businesses are the backbone of our nation's economy – which is why Congress must make sure they can compete on a level playing field and have the capital they need to invest in their own success. With greater access to capital, small business owners can hire more workers and make more purchases – driving economic growth on the local and national levels. I will continue to advocate for small business owners – and to bring small businesses, lenders, grant making agencies, businesses and local government together – in order move South Florida's economy forward and put more Americans back to work.

6. Do you support or oppose HR 2452? If elected what specific actions will you take regarding increasing access to federal contracts for women-owned and small business suppliers?

Yes, I support H.R.2452.

Women-owned enterprises are a growing force in the American economy. More than two decades ago, Congress set a goal of awarding 5 percent of federal contracts to women-owned small businesses. Unfortunately, the federal government continues to fall short. In fact, last year only 4.3 percent of contracts were awarded.

There's no question that equal opportunity for women entrepreneurs will grow our economy and help maintain small businesses. For this reason, I support H.R. 2452 and will continue looking for ways to ensure female entrepreneurs have the access and the opportunities they deserve.

7. Do you support or oppose applying payroll tax to income above \$250,000 which extends Social Security solvency for 75 years? If elected, what specific actions will you take regarding ensuring Social Security solvency?

I support applying payroll tax to income above \$250,000.

In South Florida, many of our neighbors and relatives rely on Social Security. Our seniors have spent their entire lives contributing to Social Security and it should be there for them when they retire. I will continue fight to protect the program for current and future generations and make Social Security solvent for the long term.

In order to root out fraud, this July, I introduced legislation to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to provide a criminal penalty for the illegal distribution of Medicare, Medicaid, or CHIP beneficiary identification or provider numbers, and for other purposes.