

Candidate: Yuh-Line Niou

Office: NYS Senate District 27

Question: Please provide a brief statement about why you are running for this office. What would be your #1 policy priority if elected? And please provide one accomplishment that you believe illustrates why you're the best candidate for the job.

Candidate Response:

Above all else, I have always been a community organizer who has dedicated my life to helping those in need. As the former representative for the 65th Assembly district, I stood up for working families, helped to enact progressive policies, and addressed issues that affect us all directly. My number one policy priority in the State Senate would be to increase taxes on the wealthiest individuals and corporations in our state so that we can deliver on Zohran's campaign promise of Universal Child Care. There are a number of bills outlined in the Invest in Our New York Package that I championed in the Assembly and will continue to fight for in the State Senate. As a new mother, I have firsthand experience with navigating parenthood in a city that isn't friendly to parents. I believe that the state has an obligation to provide universal child care, and we also have a responsibility to pay our educators a wage commensurate with the life-changing care that they are providing. I supported Zohran in his race for Mayor because he campaigned on supporting our families, and I am proud of the progress that has been made in the first few months of his term. However, our families deserve more from Albany, and we have the unique opportunity to lead on the affordability crisis plaguing our nation by uplifting children and ensuring that every family has access to quality child care.

While this is my number one priority, it is far from my only priority. During my 17 years working on state legislation, I've fought for economic justice through strengthening consumer protections; advocated for permanent and deeply affordable housing for all; insisted on safe, harassment-free workplaces, introduced policies to protect immigrant communities and small businesses, and passed bold reforms to our criminal legal and campaign finance systems. I am running to continue these fights in the State Senate, expanding on the work we accomplished with the historic tenant protections of 2019, addressing the affordability crisis in our state, and delivering on the funding our public schools are owed and deserve. I believe that a New York that we can truly afford is possible, and it starts with electing leaders like myself who are unbought and unbossed. We need representatives who are unapologetic and unafraid to stand up to the special interests and big real estate developers that prioritize people over profit.