



MTI VOTERS

2026 Fall Election Questionnaire

1. Why are you running for elected office?

I have spent more than 20 years as an advocate for women, children and working families. I have continued the work as a State Representative championing the urgent needs of children and working families. Prior to joining the State Assembly in 2025, I worked at the UW-School of Medicine and Public Health as the Program Advisor for Maternal and Child Health. I worked as a leader at the Children's Defense Fund, a non-profit founded by my boss and mentor Marian Wright Edelman, a civil rights hero, where I led a policy and advocacy agenda for children. I also worked at the United Way focused on early childhood education and student success. These experiences are what motivates me to fully fund our public schools, defend our reproductive freedom, and protect our climate. These priorities all tie back to ensuring that our next generation inherits a Wisconsin where they can thrive. Every investment we make into our children is an investment in our future.

2. If elected, what are the three priority policies will you work to advance?

I am a women's health and reproductive rights champion. Our rights, our daughters' rights, and rights of women and girls across our state and our county are under constant attack. We must take decisive action to protect the future of reproductive rights. We must 1) repeal the 1849 abortion law and 2) pass a comprehensive reproductive health and rights law and 3) enshrine the right to reproductive freedom in our state constitution and with a trifecta, I will start working on day one to make it happen. I campaigned in 2024 on the promise to see postpartum Medicaid coverage become law for new mothers and I delivered.

I will also fight to repeal Act 10 and strengthen workers rights. All workers deserve a living wage, fair working conditions, and the right to collectively bargain to protect their common interests. Act 10 has devastated workers in our state, and has hurt our ability to recruit talented individuals to public sector jobs. I will stand to reinstate collective bargaining rights. Public workers must be able to negotiate for the pay, benefits, and

their working conditions.

We also must fully-fund our public schools and build a comprehensive early childhood education system. Public education in Wisconsin is underfunded and underserved by our state government. Next session, we will raise the special education reimbursement rate for public schools, which will support all students. As a prior board member for the Wisconsin Early Childhood Association, I understand the importance of early childhood education. Wisconsin must support a public school system that begins with early childhood education through college/career training. Additionally, it is crucial that we fully fund the UW-System. It is the great innovator of our state, producing the brilliant minds and the vital research to move Wisconsin forward.

3. What are your three most important education issues?

We must fully fund our public schools, reforming the revenue limits placed on public school districts must be a priority and also fully funding the costs for special education for our students with special needs. We also need to take action on our academic achievement gaps in our schools, which disproportionately affect our students of color and students from households with limited resources. There are proactive steps leadership can take to better support teachers and students to begin to reduce these gaps. We also need to take active measures to support our students' mental and behavioral health needs in a holistic way.

4. How does your role relate to public school funding and what changes, if any, would you make to how public schools are funded?

I am currently a State Representative who is a strong advocate for our public schools. In fact, I am a parent of two children who attend schools in the Madison Metropolitan School District. As I noted in a prior question, we must fully fund our public schools and fix the inequities. In fact, 19 plaintiffs, led by the Wisconsin PTA, filed a recent lawsuit against the Legislature for an unconstitutional education system in Wisconsin, where students are not equally afforded a sound education. This is a long standing problem we must fix. I, along with most of my Democratic caucus, supported a proposal for the state's current surplus to be allocated to increase general school aid and raise the state reimbursement rate for special education costs to ease the pressure on local property taxpayers and give more financial resources to our school districts.

5. Would you oppose any efforts for the state to take over public school districts or school board?

Schools are places where the community comes together. Families, educators, staff, and students are part of a collective mission. While the state must act with urgency to provide the funding school districts deserve, it is good policy for school boards and school district leaders to be able to manage their day to day operations with their local decision making and expertise of student and community needs. If, however, there was criminal activity or failures that demanded oversight, then I would follow the respective law.

6. If applicable, will you support legislation to restore full collective bargaining rights to all municipal workers?

All public sector workers deserve a living wage, fair working conditions, and the right to collectively bargain to protect their common interests. All workers deserve the right to dignity and respect for the work they do. Unfortunately, with the passage of Act 10, public sector workers, outside of police and fire, were stripped of the right to collectively bargain. This has been devastating for workers in our state, and has hurt our ability to recruit talented individuals to vital public sector jobs. As a current Representative, I have been public about my support to restore full collective bargaining rights. I will continue to stand up to reinstate collective bargaining rights, so that all public workers are able to negotiate for the pay and benefits they deserve.

7. Do you accept funds from political action committees?

Yes

Candidate Name: Renuka Mayadev

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