

# 10th Hampden District

## Single-Payer Candidate Questionnaire

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**Candidate: Ivette Hernandez**

Question #1: Do you support a Single Payer healthcare system for Massachusetts?

**Yes.**

Question #2: If yes, why? If no, how would you propose making health care truly affordable for everyone in your district and the Commonwealth while also bringing down the rising cost of healthcare?

**As a social worker I have a great understanding of the need for everyone's abilities to have access to affordable and/or free medical care. Children and families are kept from accessing medical care due to the rise and cost of health insurance and medical care. Families are expected to ensure that their children are up to date medically and often hold families accountable for the behavioral and dental care of their family unit. Health care is a human right and we must ensure that every person has access to it. A healthy country is a country that will thrive.**

Question #3: Please write one sentence that best expresses your current position on establishing a Single Payer system in Massachusetts.

**As a Latina Social Worker and an activist in the labor movement, I am a strong supporter of the Single Payer System.**

Question #4: According to all research studies and the experience of other countries, a Single Payer system brings costs down while providing affordable health care for everyone. What is your biggest question or concern about establishing Single Payer in Massachusetts?

**How can we help those working in a health insurance agency to ensure that they secure employment by the time Single Payer is implemented.**

Question #5: If elected, what would you do inside the Statehouse to advance Single Payer legislation and how soon would you begin? Who would you work with in your district?

**I will seek information as to where single payer is and request to start working on it immediately after getting sworn into office. I will continue to work with the Western MA Medicare for All coalition to ensure that I get the information I need to move this forward as well as educate the public.**

Question #6: What do you see as the biggest obstacle(s) to passing legislation for Single Payer in the Commonwealth?

**Greedy capitalist insurance industry whom have made profit out of our health may continue to oppose this effort.**

**Limited information in the community of color regarding single payer hence the reason more efforts to educate the public must take place.**

Question #7: If elected, will you help initiate and actively participate in a legislative caucus to advance Single Payer legislation?

**Absolutely, and would like to see the happen in Spanish for the Latino audience.**