



2026 Candidate Survey

Candidate Name: Sophie Warren

Office Running For: State Senate

District: State Senate District 30 (Scarborough/Gorham)

Campaign Website: sophieforsenate.com

Please describe your personal and professional experience with nonprofit organizations

My experience with Maine's nonprofit sector has shaped both my personal commitment to public service and my approach to legislating.

Before serving in the Legislature, I worked with organizations including Seeds of Peace, land trusts, and local food pantries.

Over my six years in the Maine House, I've had the opportunity to work directly with nonprofit organizations across a wide range of policy areas. I've partnered with Community Action Agencies to develop affordability as a through line for our clean energy policies, youth-centered organizations on legislation addressing childhood hunger, worked with environmental and conservation organizations on environmental protection, and collaborated with advocates on energy affordability, civil rights, healthcare, and economic opportunity.

I've also visited Maine's civil legal aid organizations and seen firsthand the extraordinary services they provide, often with insufficient resources to meet growing demand.

These experiences have reinforced my belief that nonprofits are not simply service providers. They are essential policy partners whose frontline experience helps

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legislators understand where government is falling short and how we can develop solutions that actually work for Maine people.

Please describe your top three policy goals.

1. Lowering the cost of living and building economic security. My top priority is making Maine more affordable for working families, seniors, and people on fixed incomes. That means lowering electricity, housing and healthcare costs, addressing the property tax burden, expanding affordable transportation solutions, and empower Maine's workforce. I also want to ensure that state resources prioritize investments that directly invest in and create equity for Maine people and communities.

2. Protecting our environment and ensuring an equitable clean energy transition. Maine can achieve its climate goals while lowering costs, creating economic opportunities, and protecting our natural resources. I will continue working to hold utilities and large corporate interests accountable, expand access to energy efficiency and clean energy, and ensure that working families and vulnerable communities are not left bearing the costs of our energy transition or of climate change.

3. Protecting fundamental rights and strengthening our communities. I am committed to protecting reproductive freedom, LGBTQ+ rights, tribal sovereignty, and the dignity and civil rights of all Mainers. Equally important is ensuring that our communities have the resources they need to thrive, including accessible healthcare, education, housing, and essential social services. That requires a strong partnership between state government, municipalities, and Maine's nonprofit sector.

Please provide specific ways in which, if elected, you would partner with the nonprofit sector to achieve the goals of your campaign.

Throughout my legislative career, I've worked to bring nonprofit organizations directly into the policymaking process. If elected to the Senate, I would build on those partnerships in several concrete ways.

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First, I would prioritize sustainable funding for essential services. Maine's nonprofits are often the most effective and efficient providers of essential services for Maine people. With the failure of leadership and gridlock in Washington stalling and cutting investments in Maine people, we see more and more being asked of our nonprofit sector to address challenges in housing, healthcare, food insecurity, and economic stability. I would work with service providers to organize around critical funding gaps, identify sources of revenue to protect state investments, and develop more predictable funding mechanisms so organizations can focus on delivering services rather than constantly navigating funding uncertainty.

Second, I would partner with nonprofits to lower costs and expand economic opportunity. That includes working with legal aid providers to protect vulnerable Mainers, and workforce development organizations to expand apprenticeships and career pathways. I would also continue collaborating with organizations serving low-income households and older Mainers to ensure that energy efficiency programs and clean energy investments deliver meaningful savings to those who need them most.

Third, I would give nonprofits a stronger voice in developing and evaluating legislation. Organizations working directly with our communities often understand problems long before they reach the Legislature. I would convene nonprofit leaders, service providers, and the people they serve early in the legislative process, rather than seeking their input only after proposals have been developed.

Finally, I believe government must recognize the nonprofit sector as a partner, not simply a substitute for adequately funded public services. My goal is to strengthen collaboration while ensuring that the state fulfills its own responsibilities.

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I have spent six years building relationships and passing legislation across party lines. I would bring that same collaborative, results-oriented approach to working with Maine's nonprofit community in the Senate.

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