

(Organization name)

Federal Candidate Questionnaire

Directions: The (organization goes here) is a 501(c)4 non-partisan political organization. We do not endorse or contribute to campaigns, but do inform our members of candidates' responses and encourage them to inform others. We also consider candidates' prior legislative record. We may praise a candidates' stance or set of stances on a subject below.

For each question, circle an answer. If a detailed explanation is needed, you may attach typed pages elaborating your answer (be sure to reference the question by its number.)

Return completed petitions to: (organization information goes here)

Constitution

1. At the time of the adoption of the Constitution, the jury's role as defense against political oppression was not questioned in American jurisprudence. As first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, John Jay noted for the jury the "good old rule, that on questions of fact, it is the province of the jury, on questions of law, it is the province of the court to decide," but this amounted to no more than a presumption that the judges were correct about the law. Ultimately, "both objects [the law and the facts] are lawfully within your [the jury's] power of decision."

This notion survived until the 1850's, when prosecutions under the Fugitive Slave Act were largely unsuccessful because juries refused to convict. Then judges began to erode the institution of free juries, leading to the absurd compromise that is the current state of the law. While our courts uniformly state juries have the power to return a verdict of not guilty whatever the facts, they routinely tell jurors the opposite.

As originally conceived, juries were to be a kind a safety valve, a way to soften the bureaucratic rigidity of the judicial system by introducing the common sense of the community. To function as the "common sense of the community," jurors must be told that they have the power and the right to say "no" to a prosecution in order to achieve a greater good. To cut off jurors from this information is to undermine one of our most important institutions.

As Congressman, would you support an act *mandating* that all judges advise all juries in criminal cases that they have the right to find a defendant "not guilty" for any reason?

Circle one: I would introduce such legislation I would cosponsor such legislation
 I would vote for such legislation I would not support such legislation

4. The US Constitution guarantees the right to a prompt trial and protection from cruel and unusual punishment. However, "prompt" and "cruel and unusual" were not defined, left open to the sometimes whimsical interpretations of the courts. Many people die in prison from inadequate medical care, and medicines may be confiscated for any reason.

As Congressman, would you support legislation to prohibit federal prisons from denying inmates medical care if they can use their own resources to bring in a doctor, and prohibit federal prisons from confiscating or denying access to medicine?

Circle one: I would introduce such legislation I would cosponsor such legislation
 I would vote for such legislation I would not support such legislation

5. "Eminent domain" allows the government to take one's land in exchange for "just compensation." Not only may the government coerce the sale, but *they* decide what the property is worth, and it is virtually *always* less than fair market value (furthermore, the cost of moving is not included.)

As Congressman, would you support a law or amendment to eliminate eminent domain seizures?

Circle one: I would introduce such legislation I would cosponsor such legislation
 I would vote for such legislation I would not support such legislation

6. The United States Postal Service service is a licensed monopoly. It has never been solvent since its creation, and is therefore yet another tax burden on the American people. The income from stamp sales is partially diverted to other government agencies, effectively a hidden tax on the American people.

As Congressman, would you support a Constitutional amendment to strike "post offices" from Article I and open up the letter carrying industry to the free market?

Circle one: I would introduce this amendment I would cosponsor this amendment
 I would vote for this amendment I would not support this amendment

7. When federal judges ruled a law prohibiting the hunting of migratory birds was unconstitutional and violated the 10th Amendment, the Senate passed the Migratory Birds Treaty with Britain and Canada, thus circumventing the 10th Amendment through the supremacy of treaties clause. Hemp was outlawed in a similar manner.

(US Senate candidates only) **As Senator**, would you vote against any treaty that would regulate commerce in such a manner as the 10th Amendment would forbid being federal law?

Circle one: In all possible cases In all reasonable cases
 Depends on the issue The 10th Amendment is not a consideration

As Congressman, would you support a Constitutional amendment to prohibit and render void treaties that infringe on the rights of the states and the people, and place treaties on equal and identical legal status as US law?

Circle one: I would introduce this amendment I would cosponsor this amendment
 I would vote for this amendment I would not support this amendment

As Congressman, would you support a Constitutional amendment to subjugate treaties to participatory state sanction?

Circle one: I would introduce this amendment I would cosponsor this amendment
 I would vote for this amendment I would not support this amendment

As Congressman, would you support a Constitutional amendment to require treaties be ratified by 2/3 the Senate **and** 2/3 of the House of Representatives?

Circle one: I would introduce this amendment I would cosponsor this amendment
 I would vote for this amendment I would not support this amendment

10. Many votes are made by voice vote, and unless a sufficient number of congressmen ask to make a vote recorded, they are not. The voice vote exists because at the time of the procedure's creation, obtaining and tabulating roll-call votes was a tedious process. Now that all roll-call votes can be obtained, tabulated, and recorded by a computer and push-button devices at each seat, there is no practical reason for not recording *all* votes. Doing so would allow citizens to better understand how their representatives voted at each step of a bill's path to passage or defeat.

As Congressman, would you support legislation requiring that all Congressional votes be made on record?

Circle one: I would introduce such legislation I would cosponsor such legislation
 I would vote for such legislation I would not support such legislation

11. The Supreme Court sometimes, but seldom, rules legislation unconstitutional. There is no penalty for legislators passing unconstitutional legislation other than political opposition, which is typically concerned whether a bill is good or bad, rather than constitutional or not. Therefore there is no incentive for prior restraint on the constitutionality of legislation, no reason to err on the side of caution.

As Congressman, would you support amending Article I, section 6 to allow criminal trials and penalties for treasonous or unconstitutional legislation?

Circle one: I would introduce this amendment I would cosponsor this amendment
 I would vote for this amendment I would not support this amendment

12. The 16th Amendment settled the question of whether the federal income tax was legal by expressly permitting an un-apportioned income tax. However, there were mixed rulings prior to the 16th Amendment on existing income taxation. Fundamentally, the federal income tax grants the government supreme control over one's wealth. At *any* rate, that the government may take what share it chooses means the citizen may own only what the government allows him to keep.

Do you support an amendment to repeal the 16th Amendment and explicitly *forbid* the federal income tax?

Circle one: I would introduce this amendment I would cosponsor this amendment
 I would vote for this amendment I would not support this amendment

13. The 17th Amendment changed the election of Senators from the province of state governments to direct election by the people. However, while the people were already represented in the House of Representatives, the states no longer have any representatives in federal government.

Do you support an amendment to repeal the 17th Amendment?

Circle one: I would introduce this amendment
 I would vote for this amendment

I would cosponsor this amendment
I would not support this amendment

19. In the name of protecting us from ourselves, most drugs are available only by prescription from a licensed physician. Predictably, this has created a black market for prescription drugs, encouraged some people to seek “drug-friendly” doctors, and driven up cost of treatment for routine ailments (for example, one must pay for a doctor visit to obtain antibiotics). Overall, it inhibits access to medicine and denies the individual his right to treat his body as he sees fit.

As Congressman, would you support legislation to remove the prescription restriction?

Circle one: I would introduce such legislation I would cosponsor such legislation
 I would vote for such legislation I would not support such legislation

20. Searching for medicine at lower cost, many Americans are crossing into Canada and Mexico or ordering from foreign countries where the price is lower. Although quality regulations in foreign countries are lower, many people accept this risk. These sales are also illegal—but many Americans bear that risk as well, a testament to the desperation many have in obtaining medicine.

As Congressman, would you support legislation to allow the sale of pharmaceuticals across international borders for Americans?

Circle one: I would introduce such legislation I would cosponsor such legislation
 I would vote for such legislation I would not support such legislation

21. Literally millions of Americans have been imprisoned by the “War on Drugs.” As with Prohibition, the “War on Drugs” has created an enormous black market and attendant organized criminal activity. Frequently, law enforcement agencies are corrupted as well. In addition to being one of the most egregious infringements on individual liberty and principal cause of organized crime, it has also exacerbated the racism of the justice system, with a disproportionate number of black and Hispanic people arrested, convicted, and given longer sentences.

As Congressman, would you support legislation to legalize presently illegal drugs and end the “War on Drugs” completely?

Circle one: I would introduce such legislation I would cosponsor such legislation
 I would vote for such legislation I would not support such legislation

Foreign Policy

22. The United States spends more on its military than the next 25 nations combined, and has conducted over 50 interventions in foreign countries since World War II. Altogether, the U.S. government and military have directly killed literally millions of civilian people in the Philippines, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Mexico, Cuba, Haiti, Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, Russia (invasion during the civil war of 1918-1920), Japan, Germany, Korea, Thailand, Panama, Grenada, Iran, Libya, Lebanon, Iraq, Sudan, Somalia, Bosnia, Yugoslavia and Afghanistan.

Like the Bush Administration, the Obama administration has no cohesive terms of victory in Iraq or Afghanistan and by all indications the occupations will continue indefinitely.

As Congressman, will you/have you voted against all Defense Spending Authorization Acts until our troops are brought home from Iraq?

Circle one: Yes No

As Congressman, will you/have you voted against all Defense Spending Authorization Acts until our troops are brought home from Afghanistan?

Circle one: Yes No

As Congressman, will you/have you voted against all Defense Spending Authorization Acts until our troops are brought home from all foreign nations at which we are not at war by Congressional declaration?

Circle one: Yes No

23. The United States has rattled sabers toward Iran, and is engaging in covert operations to destabilize the Iranian regime. Israel is lobbying aggressively for a full-scale U.S. invasion. However, Iran's nuclear ambition are within their legal right under the Non-Proliferation Treaty, and no hard evidence exists to establish that Iran is building a nuclear weapon or has any intention of using one. Even if Iran does create a nuclear weapon, its major adversaries, Israel and the United States, possess and overwhelming military superiority that would deter any usage.

As Congressman, should no evidence emerge that Iran is develop a nuclear weapon with intention of using against the U.S., will you vote against any authorization of force against Iran?

Circle one: Yes No

Education

24. American schooling doesn't teach the way children learn and it isn't supposed to. Mass schooling of the young by force was a creation of the four great coal powers of the nineteenth century. Nearly one hundred years later, on April 11, 1933, Max Mason, president of the Rockefeller Foundation, announced to insiders that a comprehensive national program was underway to allow, in Mason's words, "the control of human behavior."

Today, Americans are less literate and less educated than at any point in the past, yet public schools have never been as expensive. The Hoover Institute reported in 2002 that U.S. taxpayers spent an average of \$107,000 to produce a proficient fourth-grade reader in 1998.

As Congressman, will you support legislation to eliminate the Department of Education?

Circle one: I would introduce such legislation I would cosponsor such legislation
 I would vote for such legislation I would not support such legislation

As Congressman, will you support the repeal of No Child Left Behind?

Circle one: I would introduce such legislation I would cosponsor such legislation
 I would vote for such legislation I would not support such legislation

Budget, Monetary Policy, and Taxes

25. The national debt as increased at an accelerating rate, with few periods of exception, for the past several decades. It is putting in insurmountable financial burden on the next generation (i.e. it will lead to national bankruptcy and depression at some point, the worse the later it gets).

As Congressman, will you support legislation that would implement a moratorium on new, and ceiling on total, public debt?

Circle one: I would introduce such legislation I would cosponsor such legislation
 I would vote for such legislation I would not support such legislation

26. The Constitution authorized the government to coin gold and silver currency, and did not authorize it to issue credit, knowing that issuing un-backed credit leads to insolvency. Unfortunately, the government is able to sell credit that it creates, effectively permitting it to spend without restraint, as the value of the credit is taken against the value of the currency as a whole (inflation).

As Congressman, will you support monetary policy reform to recognize on gold and silver coin as legal tender, and prohibiting government from selling credit?

Circle one: I would introduce such legislation I would cosponsor such legislation
 I would vote for such legislation I would not support such legislation

27. Income tax aside, other taxes exist to supplement costs of federal programs in a manner less easily perceived by the taxpayers.

As Congressman, will you support a ceiling on overall federal taxation as a percentage of GNP?

Circle one: I would introduce such legislation I would cosponsor such legislation
 I would vote for such legislation I would not support such legislation

28. Federal bureaucracies are created amidst political clamor and, once created, assumed as a fact of life. No major federal bureaucracy has been eliminated in decades. If federal bureaucracies are indeed serving a wanted purpose, they should have no trouble being periodically re-authorized. Now, however, all bureaucracies exist indefinitely, and are therefore politically unaccountable.

As Congressman, will you support “sunshine law” (expiration) for federal bureaucracies?

Circle one: I would introduce such legislation I would cosponsor such legislation
 I would vote for such legislation I would not support such legislation

For which? _____

29. Many people support a flat sales tax to replace the income tax. Assuming equal revenue, such a tax would shift the tax burden from the wealthy (who pay the highest proportion of the income tax) to the middle and poor class. It would also change the nature of non-compliance from people not filing income tax to people purchasing more goods on the black market (thus stimulating organized crime). While few people dare not to file income tax, purchasing on the black market is something many people can and will get away with.

As Congressman, will you oppose replacing an income tax with a sales tax? Yes No

30. The Social Security system is insolvent. Young people who never had any say in the creation of the social security system are paying taxes into a system whose benefits they will likely never receive. That is grossly immoral.

As Congressman, will you support a change in law to allow individuals to opt out of Social Security with no strings attached?

Circle one: I would introduce such legislation I would cosponsor such legislation
 I would vote for such legislation I would not support such legislation

31. The Federal Reserve, the unelected central bank of the U.S., enjoys a monopoly over the flow of our nation's money and credit but has never been completely transparent and accountable to Congress since its creation in 1913.

Over its nearly 100 year history, the Federal Reserve has presided over the near-complete destruction of the United States dollar while Congress has kept its hands off and its eyes closed. Since 1913, the dollar has lost over 95% of its purchasing power, aided and abetted by the Federal Reserve's loose monetary policy.

During the current economic crisis, Congress, the Treasury, and the Fed have put us on the hook for over \$12 trillion in bailouts and loans. This is in addition to our almost \$12 trillion national debt. When testifying before Congress, Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke has refused to disclose which institutions have received trillions of dollars in these bailouts and loans or to give our representatives details about what deals are being made with foreign banks.

Although the Fed is currently audited by outside agencies, these audits are not thorough and do not include monetary policy decisions or agreements with foreign central banks and governments.

The crucial issue of Federal Reserve transparency requires an analysis of 31 USC 714, the section of US Code which establishes that the Federal Reserve may be audited by the Government Accountability Office (GAO), but which simultaneously severely restricts what the GAO may in fact audit. Essentially, the GAO is only allowed to audit check-processing, currency storage and shipments, and some regulatory and bank examination functions, etc. The most important matters, which directly affect the strength of the dollar and the health of the financial system, are immune from oversight.

Currently, the GAO is prohibited from auditing:

1. transactions for or with a foreign central bank, government of a foreign country, or nonprivate international financing organization;
2. deliberations, decisions, or actions on monetary policy matters, including discount window operations, reserves of member banks, securities credit, interest on deposits, and open market operations
3. transactions made under the direction of the Federal Open Market Committee; or
4. a part of a discussion or communication among or between members of the Board of Governors and officers and employees of the Federal Reserve System related to clauses (1)-(3) of this subsection of US Code.

The GAO is also prevented from conducting on-site examinations of banks or bank holding companies without the written consent of the appropriate regulatory agency.

[HR 1207](#), The Federal Reserve Transparency Act, and [S 604](#), The Federal Reserve Sunshine Act, would eliminate these restrictions and mandate a GAO audit of the Fed to be completed by the

end of 2010, finally delivering answers to the American people about how our money is being spent.

Many politicians like to constantly laud the benefits of transparency but fail to turn their campaign rhetoric into results. With trillions of dollars and our nation's monetary system at stake, the time to take action is now.

In less than six months since its introduction, every Republican and nearly one hundred Democrats in the House of Representatives have cosponsored HR 1207, and a growing bipartisan coalition in the Senate for S 604 illustrates that momentum for both bills shows no signs of slowing down.

By opening all Fed operations to a GAO audit and calling for such an audit to be completed by the end of 2010, HR 1207 and S 604 would result in an historic level of transparency and accountability from the Federal Reserve.

As Congressman, will you support HR 1207, the Audit the Federal Reserve Act, in its current form?

Circle one: I would introduce such legislation I would cosponsor such legislation
 I would vote for such legislation I would not support such legislation

Firearms

Do you support a repeal of the 1993 Brady instant check?

Circle one: I would introduce such legislation I would cosponsor such legislation
 I would vote for such legislation I would not support such legislation

(get the others from GOA)

Judicial Reform

Do you support limiting federal judges to four-year terms?

Do you support making federal judges elected by voters in their federal districts after their appointments?

Misc: Will you support an end to the federal ban on raw milk? Yes No