

IVI-IPO 2004 Congressional Questionnaire

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District: 8th

Party: Democrat

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Petition Signatures Filed: Approx. 1,500/ Number Required: 482

A.) Elective or appointive public or party offices previously held.

I have not previously held elective office

B.) Other elective offices for which you have been a candidate.

Candidate, 2002, U.S. Congress, 8th District

C.) Principal business, education and civic activities of the past ten years

I am the president of a consulting firm serving high-tech Fortune 1000 clients internationally. Before founding Sales Resources Inc. (SRI) in 1995, I helped build revenues in management positions at area technology companies including, Arrow Electronics, Motorola, SynOptics (now Nortel) and Dataflex. I have been involved in activities ranging from Girls Scouts to music lessons, to sports. In addition to engaging my neighbors in community issues such as educational funding and transportation issues, I have served as president of Deer Lake Homeowners Association and on the boards of the Barrington Children's Choir and the Lines Elementary Parent Teacher Organization.

D.) What subjects have you studied and what experience have you had which will be most helpful to you in the office you seek?

I have a bachelor's degree in Political Science, which will be helpful in oversight of the federal government and in developing federal legislation; however, the experience that will be most helpful to me in Congress is my background as a small business owner and business consultant. I am goal-oriented person; and, my success in both management positions and as a consultant working with leaders of high-tech companies has confirmed my belief that success in any endeavor depends on the ability to set achievable goals and to accept responsibility for results. In Congress, I will adhere to a higher level of accountability, and will work to raise that level for all members of Congress.

E.) Activities for other candidates

a. I worked as volunteer on Lance Pressl's campaign for U.S. Congress in the eighth district in the 2000 election cycle.

F.) To date, I have been endorsed by the AFL-CIO; the Women's Campaign Fund; Association of Federal, State, County and Municipal Employees; International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers; International Association of Firefighters; International Longshoreman's Association; International Union of Operating Engineers; International Association of Ironworkers; Sheet Metal Workers International; United Auto Workers; and, United Food and Commercial Workers.

G.) As concisely as possible, please state why you should be endorsed over other candidates? What goals for the office are most important?

a. While I cannot speak to the qualifications or positions of other candidates, I will say that I believe I possess the commitment and capacity to provide the people of the eighth Congressional district with the responsive, active representation they deserve. My management experience well prepares me for the challenge of overcoming partisan politics and finding common-sense solutions to the complex problems facing our nation. I have a strong, results-oriented work ethic that will drive my commitment to meet the needs of my constituents and that inspires my determination to hold our leaders in both government and corporate America to a higher standard of accountability. My primary goal for the office I seek is to raise that level of accountability – through legislative initiatives and in my own personal performance – so all Americans get the type of honest representation to which they are entitled. In Congress, my top priority will be increasing voter input to ensure mainstream representation in Washington. I will immediately focus on the unique needs of my district, especially economic development and the creation of quality jobs. I will work hard to improve schools and education, as well as access to quality health care for all Americans, while never abandoning my commitment to fiscal responsibility and holding the line on taxes.

H.) What is the place of patronage, personnel codes, race, gender and sexual orientation in establishing criteria for hiring and promoting public employees?

a. I support efforts to increase diversity in federal workplaces and would work to achieve that level of diversity among my own Congressional employees. I would like to examine more closely those federal rules that

deal with patronage and public employees to ensure as much as possible is being done to eliminate wasteful patronage positions and that employees are hired on merit.

- I.) What is your campaign budget? How much have you raised to date?
 - a. We have raised approximately \$155,000 to date.
- J.) How many people are on your campaign staff? How many volunteers are on your list?
 - a. I currently have three full-time staff members and a volunteer list of approximately 250 people.

Section 2

- 1. a. What should be the U.S. role in multinational alliances such as the UN, NATO and the International Criminal Court?
 - i. Generally, I believe that the U.S. should take a more active role in multinational alliances. We should make a greater effort to work with our allies in the UN and NATO. Strengthening these alliances is especially important in our global war on terror, especially in joint intelligence operations that target terrorist organizations. We should work toward some compromise that will result in the U.S. entering the International Criminal Court, but I am concerned about any structure of that court that denies American citizens any of the rights they are guaranteed under our Constitution.
 - b. What should be the policy of the IMF and World Bank toward countries that are essentially bankrupt?
 - i. The IMF and World Bank should establish a more active program that provides debt relief to third-world countries, to help them escape the cycle of poverty in which many are trapped.
- 2. What should be Congress' role in formulating foreign policy?
 - a. While the President is the face of the United States and our country's leader in its relations with foreign nations, Congress has a responsibility to examine those policies using its role in overseeing the executive branch through budget and investigative processes.
- 3. Should the U.S. wage war without a declaration from Congress?
 - a. The President should seek Congress' authorization before waging war, unless there is an immediate threat to the security of the United States or the safety of its people or interests.
- 4. Do you support funding to assist conversion of the defense industry to civilian applications? Do you agree with the current proposed level of funding for the military?
 - a. I support modernization of the military that moves from rigid, Cold War organization to a lighter, more mobile force; and, I support modifications in funding and conversion to civilian applications where appropriate to meet these objectives.
- 5. Do you support [a] continued funding for the WHISC (the renamed Army School of the Americas)? [b] fast track authority?

- a. I am inclined to oppose further funding of the Army School of the Americas, until completion of a comprehensive Congressional inquiry that re-examines its mission and investigates its conduct.
 - b. I oppose fast track authority that expedites the implementation of trade agreements that undermine or ignore labor and environmental protections.
6. Do you support the way the drug war is being carried on, both abroad and at home? What would you change?
 - a. The drug war should place a greater emphasis on prevention and treatment, because reducing the demand for illegal drugs is the best long-term strategy.
7. Do you support [a] normalization of relations with Cuba, [b] the Helms-Burton Act?
 - a. I believe we should move toward normalization of relations with Cuba, but must keep improvement of its human rights as an objective of that normalization process.
 - b. I believe the Helms-Burton Act is legally and practically flawed and I am inclined to oppose it.
8. Do you support the environmental policies of the current administration?
 - a. I do not, because the administration has pursued several environmental policies that I oppose, including raising the permissible arsenic level in drinking water, the "Clear Skies" initiative that actually relaxes air pollution standards, the "Healthy Forests" plan that will allow greater destruction of our national forests, and the failure to support reauthorization of the Superfund.
9. How do we balance the need to protect environment with our need for economic development?
 - a. The balance between environmental protection and economic development must be made in concert with local and national environmental priorities. Each project must be evaluated individually by weighing the damage (or protection) to the environment with the potential economic benefit (or detriment) and the value each has to state and local governments. A minimum threshold must be kept at the federal level to prevent gross environmental damage and to help defend local communities from more powerful special interests.
10. Do you support oil drilling in Alaska and other protected wilderness?
 - a. I oppose oil drilling in ANWR and other protected wilderness areas.
11. Do you support pollution credit schemes?
 - a. I oppose pollution credit schemes that do not have as a goal (or will not reasonably achieve) significant reduction of air pollution and the emission of greenhouse gasses.
12. What transportation policy do you favor regarding [a] infrastructure improvements, [b] highways, [c] mass transit, [d] high-speed rail, [e] Amtrak, [f] air transportation, particularly the proposed O'Hare expansion and third airport.
I support better federal spending to increase the resources available to:
 - a. Improve transportation infrastructure

- b. Increase funding for highways and other traffic improvements in my district
 - c. Invest in mass transit projects, and
 - d. Develop high-speed rail.
 - e. While I support Amtrak, I believe better cost controls and fiscal accountability must be integrated into its management structure.
 - f. I support the expansion of O'Hare and, if a market and financially viable plan can be presented, a third airport.
13. Do you favor [a] a more progressive income tax, [b] a flat tax, [c] a national sales tax, [d] a reduction in the capital gains tax, [e] reduction or elimination of the estate tax, [f] elimination of the corporate alternative tax, [g] tax cuts on stock dividends, [h] any other changes in our tax structure; and,
14. Do you favor a rollback of the Bush tax cuts?
- a. Any change to the Bush tax cuts and our current tax system must be made in the context of the goal of balancing the federal budget. Stimulating the economy is a legitimate objective of tax cuts, and tax cuts that are proposed for that purpose, must reasonably be expected to do that. Tax cuts that clearly will not do that (or have demonstrably not done that), particularly those for narrow special interests, are not acceptable and not something I support maintaining.
15. Do you support total or partial privatization of the Social Security trust fund? Please explain.
- a. I oppose any privatization of Social Security that diverts money from the trust fund, because it undermines the financial viability and the very purpose of the Social Security system. Such a system is not "secure" and will lead to even greater financial problems.
16. What is your position on federal deficit spending vs. balanced budget?
- a. I strongly believe the federal government must operate with a balanced budget. While we can't expect that to happen immediately, we must take steps that will move us toward that objective. I support efforts to do that, including eliminating unfair tax loopholes and wasteful government spending.
17. Do you support unfunded mandates to local government?
- a. Generally, I oppose unfunded mandates on local government; and, I strongly oppose the massive unfunded mandates placed on local school systems by recent federal education bills and by the failure of Congress to adequately fund special needs programs.
18. Do you support:
- a. Granting consumers the right to an annual free copy of their consolidated credit report, including credit score?
 - i. I would likely support such a proposal.
 - b. Banning the use of Social Security numbers as identification in consumer transactions?
 - i. I need more information on the actual proposal and suggested alternatives before providing an informed position.
 - c. Federal legislation to cap interest rates on consumer loans?

- i. I need more information on the actual cap being proposed before providing an informed position, but I am inclined to oppose such legislation.
 - d. Federal legislation to regulate ATM fees and service charges on credit cards and other consumer loans?
 - i. I support some regulations of that type, but would need to know the specifics of any legislation that imposes additional regulations than already exist, before I could provide a definitive position.
 - e. Federal legislation to give banks and finance companies priority over other unsecured lenders in bankruptcy proceedings?
 - i. I would likely oppose such a proposal.
 - f. Allowing states to enact consumer laws which go beyond the protection of federal legislation?
 - i. I would likely support allowing states to enact laws that provide greater protection for consumers than provided by federal legislation.
- 19. Do you support term limits?
 - a. I oppose term limits. The best way to limit the terms of poorly performing public officials is with elections by informed voters.
- 20. Do you support:
 - a. Public financing of Congressional campaigns?
 - i. Yes.
 - b. Spending limits?
 - i. I would likely support spending limits, depending on what those limits are and how they would be enforced.
 - c. Abolition of PACs?
 - i. I would like to see the influence of PACs reduced, but I need to examine any proposal that does that, in order to ensure that the result is not an even worse system than we have now.
- 21. Would you support increased Congressional oversight of federal contracting? Why or why not?
 - a. I would like to see increased Congressional oversight of federal contracting, if that oversight reduced waste and inefficiency and exposed the process to greater public scrutiny.
- 22. Do you support comprehensive, universal, single-payer health care? If not, how would you address the need for healthcare for the uninsured and underinsured?
 - a. I would start to address the need for healthcare for the uninsured and underinsured by building on the current system in such ways as creating insurance purchasing pools, expanding the Children's Health Insurance Program, and creating tax incentives for businesses to offer health insurance to employees. I would also like to continue to explore broader, more comprehensive steps to improve access to health care, which might take some time, but will ultimately result in a program that can actually pass both houses of Congress and survive the attacks it will face by special interests satisfied with the status quo.
- 23. Do you favor funding changes for the following:

- a. Supplemental food programs for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)?
 - i. Yes
 - b. Food stamp allowances?
 - i. Yes
 - c. Head Start
 - i. Yes
 - d. School Lunch Programs
 - i. Yes
24. Do you support:
- a. Increased funding to develop affordable housing?
 - i. Yes
 - b. Restrictions to ensure development of low-income rather than market-rate housing?
 - i. I am inclined to oppose such restrictions.
 - c. A National Affordable Housing Trust Fund to build, rehabilitate and preserve at least 1.5 million units of primarily rental, primarily deeply targeted housing?
 - i. I am inclined to support such a trust fund, depending on the details of the proposal.
 - d. Protection against housing discrimination based on source of income?
 - i. Yes.
25. What services, if any, should be offered to those whose time on Welfare has run out and do not have adequate income to support themselves and their families?
- a. States have the responsibility of determining which services should be provided for those whose welfare benefits have expired. States have the best understanding of which services to provide and how to best do so in a way that best benefits individuals in a state and the community at large.
26. Do you favor
- a. Increased federal aid to public education?
 - i. Yes
 - b. Vouchers, tuition tax credits or any other direct public support for parochial or private schools?
 - i. No.
27. Are the provisions of the No Child Left Behind Act the appropriate way to advance student achievement?
- a. While I support some elements of the bill, unreasonable testing elements attached to inadequate funding levels are not an appropriate way to advance student achievement.
28. Do you support
- a. The Human Life Amendment?
 - i. I support a woman's right to choose in accordance with the Roe v. Wade decision, and I oppose any legislation that weakens that right, including the "Human Life Amendment"
 - b. Parental notification or consent to obtain an abortion?
 - i. I oppose laws that require all minors to obtain parental consent in order to obtain an abortion.

- c. Restoration of Medicaid coverage of abortions?
 - i. I support the right to choose for all women, including those who receive Medicaid for their health care.
 - d. A ban on so-called partial birth abortions
 - i. I oppose a ban on any abortion procedure that does not allow an exception to protect the health of the woman.
29. Do you support increased funding for HIV/AIDS research, education, prevention and services?
- a. I support such funding increases and would work in Congress to reach a compromise that would reduce the prices of HIV/AIDS treatment drugs for patients in the U.S. and in other countries, especially developing nations where the AIDS epidemic is especially prevalent.
30. Do you support [a] Federal funding for stem cell research or [b] legislation prohibiting stem cell research?
- a. I support federal funding of stem cell research and oppose prohibition of that research as long as it is conducting within openness and comprehensive ethical guidelines.
31. Do support
- a. admissibility of illegally obtained evidence?
 - i. I oppose the use of illegally obtained evidence
 - b. electronic eavesdropping,
 - c. roving wiretaps
 - i. I oppose electronic eavesdropping and roving wiretaps except in extraordinary circumstances and only with probable cause and an appropriately obtained warrant.
 - d. capital punishment
 - i. I support the death penalty.
 - e. Criminal prosecution of juveniles as adults
 - i. I support prosecuting juveniles as adults in exceptionally heinous situations and under rigid criteria.
 - f. Mandatory sentencing
 - i. Generally, I support mandatory sentencing, but Congress has passed many mandatory sentencing laws that several judges consider too restrictive, and I would like to review those laws and would consider changing some of them to allow judges more discretion.
 - g. Criminalization of hate crimes
 - i. I support laws that criminalize hate crimes.
32. Do you support legislation prohibiting racial profiling in law enforcement?
- a. I support laws to prohibit racial profiling.
33. Do you favor detention of suspects and material witnesses without charges and/or probable cause? Do you favor giving such detainees access to counsel?
- a. I oppose such detentions, and believe such detainees should have access to counsel.
34. Would you support authorizing or prohibiting secret military tribunals?

- a. I do not support the use of military tribunals for the sole purpose of circumventing the U.S. court system and denying American citizens their right to a fair trial.
35. Do you support legislation to ban the manufacture, sale and possession of handguns, assault weapons, and ammunition for handguns and assault weapons?
- a. I oppose a federal ban on manufacturing, selling or possessing handguns or ammunition; however, I support the assault weapons ban passed by Congress ten years ago.
36. Do you support legislation [a] mandating background checks of purchasers of weapons at gun shows, through the internet and through print advertisements; and [b] increasing penalties for illegal resale of weapons?
- a. I support background checks in such situations and strong penalties for illegal resale of weapons.
37. Should funding for the Legal Services Corporation be increased? What restrictions, if any should Congress enact or repeal regarding the scope of federally funded legal services for the poor?
- a. I support increased funding for the LSC, but I need to examine the current restrictions before commenting on changing them.
38. Do favor repeal of the Patriot Act or any of its provisions? Would you vote for Patriot Act II?
- a. I support some provisions in the PATRIOT ACT, such as those that allow information sharing between federal intelligence agencies and those that make it easier to track and freeze the assets of suspected terrorist groups. However, the PATRIOT ACT must be fully re-examined when it comes up for reauthorization. The primary focus of that re-examination must be a full reconsideration of the amount of discretion given to the Justice Department and eliminations those provisions in the act that infringe upon our civil liberties. I would not support Patriot Act II or any of its provisions until that re-examination takes place.
39. Do you support federal legislation to prohibit discrimination based on sexual sexual orientation in housing, employment and education; repeal of defense of marriage act; and a Constitutional amendment prohibiting states from recognizing gay civil unions or same sex unions?
- a. I support federal legislation to prohibit discrimination based on sexual sexual orientation; and I believe that the issue of marriage is the province of state government and that the federal government has no place in interfering with such issues.
40. What is your position on gays in the military?
- a. I support re-examining the current policy to determine how effective it has been in achieving its goals.
41. Do you support
- a. prior government restraint of the press?
 - i. I oppose creating a government policy permitting such prior restraint.

