

Independent Voters of Illinois- Independent Precinct Organization 2004 CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATE INSTRUCTIONS

In order to be favorably considered for an IVI-IPO endorsement, you should follow these instructions carefully.

IVI-IPO is widely recognized as having one of the most comprehensive issue questionnaires. We often receive requests from reporters who use candidate responses as background material for their stories. All or part of your questionnaire also may be posted to our web page. We hope you will consider this in completing your questionnaire and provide us with thoughtful, thorough responses.

Please be sure to complete the contact information and the 10 background questions in Section 1, as well as the numbered questions specific to the office you seek in Section 2.

MOST QUESTIONS CAN BE ANSWERED SIMPLY YES OR NO. Feel free to explain your answers in greater detail if you wish. **Your responses should include both the questions and the answers; otherwise, the reader will be confused.** If you would like to receive the questionnaire electronically, please call our office at 312-939-5105 and we will email it to you.

You will be asked to bring 20 copies of your completed questionnaire to the interviewing session. **You must provide hard copies of your questionnaire.** IVI-IPO will not make copies of your questionnaire for you.

Prior to the final endorsement, completed questionnaires will be available for review only by IVI-IPO members. Candidates, even if they are members, will not be able to view their opponents' responses until after the interviewing session. After an endorsement has been made, completed questionnaires will be available for review by members, candidates, the press or the public.

THE INTERVIEW

Candidates for each office are interviewed separately and consecutively by IVI-IPO members residing in the affected electoral district. Each candidate will make a brief presentation, followed by questions from our members. The allowed time in your race will be determined by the chair of your endorsement session.

Interviews for Congress will be held January 17-24. Although every effort will be made to accommodate your personal schedule, the dates for the sessions are fixed, and it is not always possible to give each candidate the time slot of his or her choice. If you are unable to attend, you may send a surrogate to make a presentation and answer questions on your behalf. **If you have not been scheduled for an appointment by January 9, please call the IVI-IPO office at 312-939-5105.**

Candidates may not be present for their opponents' interview, nor for the deliberations of members. With those exceptions, the entire interviewing process is open to the public and the press.

After candidates for an office have been heard, the members will evaluate each candidate on the basis of agreement with IVI-IPO positions, past record (for incumbents), political independence, and campaign viability. A vote will be taken to endorse one or more candidates or to make no endorsement. A 3/5 vote of a quorum of eligible members present is required to make a final endorsement of a candidate. If either the quorum or the 3/5 majority requirement is not met, the vote is a recommendation to the IVI-IPO Board.

REVIEW BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The IVI-IPO Board will meet January 28 to consider recommendations from the interview sessions. Candidates do not make additional presentations at this time. Board members will receive reports from the interview sessions, review the questionnaires, and vote to accept or reject the membership recommendation.

AFTER THE ENDORSEMENT

All candidates who appeared for an interview will be notified by mail or email of the endorsement decision. IVI-IPO will arrange a press conference to announce our endorsements. The Independent Campaign Committee (ICC) will work with IVI-IPO supported candidates to distribute literature, get press coverage and mobilize volunteers.

If you have any further questions, please contact our office at 312-939-5105. We wish you good luck in your endorsement application and in your campaign.

IVI-IPO 2004 CONGRESSIONAL QUESTIONNAIRE – Section 1

DATE _____ **DISTRICT:** _____ **PARTY:** _____

NAME: _____

VOTING ADDRESS: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ **BUSINESS PHONE:** _____

CAMPAIGN ADDRESS: _____

CAMPAIGN PHONE: _____ **FAX:** _____

EMAIL: _____ **WEBSITE:** _____

CAMPAIGN MANAGER: _____

NUMBER OF PETITION SIGNATURES FILED: _____ **NUMBER REQUIRED:** _____

Please use an additional sheet to complete the following background information:

- A) Elective or appointive public or party offices previously held including dates.
- B) Other elective offices for which you have been a candidate.
- C) Principal business, education, professional and civic activities of the past ten years.
- D) What subjects have you studied and what experience have you had which will be most helpful to you in the office you seek?
- E) Activities for other candidates. Please be specific.
- F) Please list all endorsements you have received so far.
- G) As concisely as possible, please state why you feel you should be endorsed over the other candidate(s). What goals for the office you seek are most important to you personally?
- H) Please outline the place of patronage, personnel codes, race, gender, and sexual orientation in establishing criteria for hiring and promoting public employees.
- I) What is your campaign budget? How much have you raised to date?
- J) How many people are on your campaign staff? How many volunteers are on your list?

IVI-IPO 2004 CONGRESSIONAL QUESTIONNAIRE – Section 2

Foreign and Military

1.
 - a. What should be the US role in multi-national alliances such as the UN, NATO and the International Criminal Court?
 - b. What should be the policy of the IMF and World Bank toward countries that are essentially bankrupt?
2. What should be Congress' role in formulating foreign policy?
3. Should the US wage war without a declaration from Congress?
4.
 - a. Do you support funding to assist conversion of the defense industry to civilian applications?
 - b. Do you agree with the current proposed level of funding for the military? If you agree, explain. If you disagree, how would you distribute the funds?
5. Do you support
 - a. continued funding for WHISC (the re-named Army School of the Americas)?
 - b. fast-track authority?
6. Do you support the way the drug war is being carried on, both abroad and at home? What would you change?
7. Do you support
 - a. normalization of relations with Cuba?
 - b. the Helms-Burton Act?

Environment

8. Do you support the environmental policies of the current administration?
9. How do we balance the need to protect the environment with our need for economic development? Your comments should include water resources, air quality, wetlands, coastline development, deforestation, use of public lands, and pesticides and herbicides.
10. Do you support oil drilling in Alaska and other protected wilderness?
11. So you support pollution credit schemes?

Transportation

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?

Taxes and Economic Policy

13. Do you favor
 - a. a more progressive income tax?
 - b. a flat tax?
 - c. a national sales tax?
 - d. reduction of 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? Please explain.
14. Do you favor a roll-back of the Bush tax cuts?
15. Do you support total or partial privatization of the Social Security fund? Please explain.
16. What is your position on federal deficit spending vs. balanced budget?
17. Do you support unfunded mandates to local government?

Consumer Rights

18. Do you support
 - a. granting consumers the right to an annual free copy of their consolidated credit report, including credit score?
 - b. banning the use of Social Security numbers as identification in consumer transactions?
 - c. federal legislation to cap interest rates on consumer loans?
 - d. federal legislation to regulate ATM fees and service charges on credit cards and other consumer loans?
 - e. federal legislation to give banks and finance companies priority over other unsecured lenders in bankruptcy proceedings?
 - f. allowing states to enact consumer laws which go beyond the protection of federal legislation?

Government and Ethics

19. Do you support term limits? Describe briefly.
20. Do you support
 - a. public financing of Congressional campaigns?
 - b. spending limits?
 - c. abolition of PACs?
21. Would you support increased Congressional oversight of federal contracting? Why or why not?

Health & Human Services

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?

23. Do you favor funding changes for the following:
- supplemental food programs for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)?
 - food stamp allowances?
 - Head Start?
 - school lunch programs?
24. Do you support
- increased funding to develop affordable housing?
 - restrictions to ensure development of low-income rather than market rate housing?
 - a National Affordable Housing Trust Fund to build, rehabilitate and preserve at least 1.5 million units of primarily rental, primarily deeply targeted housing?
 - Protection against housing discrimination based on source of income?
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?
26. Do you favor
- increased federal aid to public education?
 - vouchers, tuition tax-credits or other any direct public support for parochial or private schools?
27. Are the provisions of the No Child Left Behind Act the appropriate way to advance student achievement?
28. Do you support
- the Human Life Amendment?
 - parental or spousal notification or consent to obtain an abortion?
 - restoration of Medicaid coverage of abortion?
 - a ban on so-called partial birth abortions?
 - insurance coverage for abortions for federal and military employees and their dependents?
29. Do you support increased funding for HIV/AIDS research, education, prevention, and services? Please discuss compulsory licensing of essential drugs where needed, in the US, Africa, Asia and elsewhere.
30. Do you support
- federal funding for stem cell research?
 - legislation prohibiting stem cell research?

Law, Justice, and Correctional System

31. Do you support:
- admissibility of illegally obtained evidence?
 - electronic eavesdropping?
 - roving wiretaps?
 - capital punishment?
 - criminal prosecution of juveniles as adults?
 - mandatory sentencing?
 - criminalization of hate crimes?
32. Do you support legislation prohibiting racial profiling in law enforcement?
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?

34. Would you support legislation authorizing or prohibiting secret military tribunals? Please explain your position.
35. Do you support legislation to ban the manufacture, sale and possession of
- handguns?
 - assault weapons?
 - ammunition for handguns and assault weapons?
36. Do you support legislation
- mandating background checks of purchasers of weapons at gun shows, through the internet and through print advertisements?
 - increasing 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?

Civil Liberties and Civil Rights

- 38.
- Do you favor repeal of the Patriot Act or any of its provisions?
 - Would you vote for Patriot Act II?
39. Do you support
- federal legislation to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation in housing, employment and education?
 - repeal of the Defense of Marriage Act?
 - a Constitutional amendment prohibiting states from recognizing gay civil unions or same sex unions?
40. What is your position on gays and lesbians in the military?
- 41.
- Do you support prior government restraint of the press?
 - Do you support State censorship of the arts?
 - What should be the guidelines in determining government support for the arts?
 - Should funding for the NEA be increased, decreased or stay the same?
42. Do you support
- prayer in public schools?
 - moment of silence?
43. Do you support mandatory drug testing in private and public employment? Briefly state the reasons for your answers.
44. Do you support mandatory AIDS testing for insurance or employment?
45. Do you support legislation to redress inequities in pension benefits for women?
46. Would you support the acceptance of completed ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment?

Labor

47. What changes, if any, in the Taft-Hartley Act would you work for?
48. Do you support a prohibition on permanent replacement of strikers?
49. Do you favor giving federal employees the right to strike?
50. What is your position on Affirmative Action with specific goals, targets and timetables for federal employment, grants and contracts and as a requirement for federal contractors and grantees?
51.
 - a. Do you support comparable worth legislation?
 - b. What steps, if any, should the government take to monitor pay equity between men and women?
52. Do you support a federal living wage law? Please explain why or why not.