

Independent Voters of Illinois- Independent Precinct Organization 2004 LEGISLATIVE 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 the General Assembly 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 GENERAL ASSEMBLY 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 GENERAL ASSEMBLY QUESTIONNAIRE – Section 2

Elections & Ethics

1. Do you support:
 - a. moving the primary election date? If so, to what month?
 - b. keeping voters' political party preferences in the primary elections secret?
 - c. reestablishing straight party voting in general elections?
 - d. any other changes in Illinois' election laws?
2.
 - a. Do you support restoration of cumulative voting for the Illinois House of Representatives? If so, please describe the plan you support.
 - b. Should Illinois institute instant run-off voting?
3. Do you support changes in the way judges are selected? If so, please give a brief description of the system you support.
4. Do you believe that appointments to judicial vacancies should be based on nominations from local review panels? If not, would you recommend any changes in the current system?
5. Do you favor legislation mandating uniform voting procedures and equipment throughout Illinois?
6. Do you support:
 - a. public financing of election campaigns?
 - b. limits on campaign contributions and political committee transfers?
 - c. restricting campaign fundraising during legislative sessions?
 - d. limiting contributions to political campaigns by dollar amount or source?
 - e. extending the same campaign disclosure requirements for ward and township committeemen throughout the state rather than just in Cook County?
7. Do you support legislation to prohibit incumbency and political affiliation as criteria in the mapping process for Congressional, Legislative and local government electoral districts? Would you support the creation of a non-partisan Commission to draw maps instead of the General Assembly?
8. Do you support permitting state employees to hold other public sector jobs concurrently?

Taxes and Economic Policy

9. Do you support:
 - a. instituting a graduated income tax?
 - b. maintaining the current corporate/individual ratio?
 - c. increasing income taxes to relieve or replace local property taxes?
10. Do you support amending the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act to
 - a. prohibit confession of judgment clauses in consumer contracts?
 - b. allow expanded private rights of action?
 - c. allow expanded rights of litigation?
 - d. mandate attorney fees to be awarded to successful plaintiffs?
 - e. provide for any other changes? Please specify.

11. Do you support
 - a. casino gambling in Cook County?
 - b. placement of slot machines at racetracks in Illinois?
12. Will you support legislation requiring citizen referenda at the state or local level before casino gambling is expanded? If so, at which level and why?
13. Do you support legislation
 - a. banning Pay Day loans?
 - b. banning or restricting ATM fees?
 - c. capping credit card interest rates?

Education

14. Will you vote to increase state funding to at least 50% of public education costs?
15. Do you support the proposed Taxpayer Action Amendment?
16. Do you support vouchers or other means of public funding for private or parochial schools?
17. Do you support increased training and testing for teacher certification?
18. Should certification be required for a teacher to have sole responsibility in the classroom?

Civil Rights & Civil Liberties

19. Will you vote to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment?
20. Do you favor
 - a. adding sexual orientation to the Human Rights Act?
 - b. legislation providing legal recognition of domestic partnerships?
 - c. legislation prohibiting discrimination in housing against unmarried individuals residing together?
21. Do you support mandatory AIDS testing for insurance or employment?
22. Do you support mandatory drug testing for public or private sector employees? Under what circumstances?
23. Should state police be allowed to stop vehicle operators to test for DUI on grounds other than probable cause?
24. Do you support legislation prohibiting racial profiling in law enforcement?
25. Do you support repeal of legislation that permits employers to eavesdrop on the telephone conversations of their employees?
26. Do you support
 - a. prior government restraint of the press?
 - b. State censorship of the arts?
27. Do you favor detention of suspects and material witnesses without charges and/or probable cause?

28. Should states enact anti-terrorism legislation? If so, do you support the provisions outlined in the Illinois Comprehensive Anti-Terrorism Act of 2001?

Labor

29. Do you favor restructuring the wage scale of state employees to institute gender-equal pay for jobs of comparable worth?

30. Do you support privatization of state services? If so, which services?

31. Do you support the right of public employees to strike?

32. Do you support legislation banning the replacement of strikers in private employment?

33. Do you support family leave legislation for private employment? If so, for which employers?

34. Do you support

- a. raising the minimum wage to establish a living wage for Illinois workers?
- b. establishing a lower minimum wage for minors?
- c. including farm workers and household employees under existing labor laws?

Health & Human Services

35. Will you support a single-payer health plan for Illinois? If so, how would Medicaid be incorporated into the program you support?

36. Will you support sufficient funding to provide community based services for discharged mental health patients?

37. Do you support:

- a. Medicaid funding for abortions?
- b. insurance coverage of abortions for state employees?
- c. parental consent/notification for minors seeking abortions?
- d. banning so-called partial-birth abortions?
- e. any other restrictions on abortions? Please specify.

38. Do you support increasing appropriations to the Department of Children and Family Services to increase the number of caseworkers?

39. What services, if any, would you offer to those whose time on Welfare has run out and do not have adequate income to support themselves and their families?

Housing

40. Do you favor legislation banning discrimination in housing based on source of income?

41. Would you support

- a. "repair and deduct" legislation, which would allow tenants to withhold rent to make repairs to correct substandard housing conditions?
- b. legislation mandating that landlords give tenants notice prior to entering their units?
- c. legislation assessing penalties against landlords who engage in illegal or retaliatory evictions?

Energy & Environment

42. Please assess the benefits and drawbacks of deregulation of utilities in Illinois.
43. Do you support an elected ICC?
44. How do we balance our need to protect our environment with our need for economic development? Your comments should include: enforcement of pollution statutes, recycling and waste management, state purchasing practices and economic development zones.

Transportation

45. Do you support
- expansion of O'Hare airport? If so, how?
 - expansion of other regional airports? If so, which?
 - building a new airport in Peotone?
46. Do you support
- inter-city high speed rail?
 - the current formula for allocation of funds to CTA, Metra and PACE?

Criminal Justice

47. Do you support:
- capital punishment?
 - criminal prosecution of juveniles as adults?
 - mandatory sentencing?
 - work release, home monitoring, other alternative sentencing?
 - admissibility of illegally obtained evidence?
 - electronic eavesdropping?
 - roving wiretaps?
48. Do you support state legislation to ban the manufacture, sale and possession of
- handguns?
 - assault weapons?
 - ammunition for handguns and assault weapons?
49. Do you support
- legislation increasing penalties for illegal resale of weapons?
 - legislation permitting the licensing of concealed weapons?
 - legislation mandating background checks of purchasers of weapons at gun shows, through the internet and through print advertisements?
50. Do you favor continuation of the current moratorium on capital punishment in Illinois? If not, how would you address the inequities enumerated in the report of the Commission on the Death Penalty?