

IVI-IPO 2006 GENERAL ASSEMBLY QUESTIONNAIRE – Section 1

DATE: July 21st, 2006 DISTRICT: 103rd PARTY: Green

NAME: Tom Abram

VOTING ADDRESS: 711 Western Ave, Apt A, Urbana, IL 61801

HOME PHONE: 217-417-7118 BUSINESS PHONE: Same

CAMPAIGN ADDRESS: 711 Western Ave, Apt A, Urbana, IL 61801

CAMPAIGN PHONE: 217-417-7118 FAX: _____

EMAIL: tom@tomabram.org WEBSITE: <http://www.tomabram.org>

CAMPAIGN MANAGER: Susan Rodgers, 619-985-3553

NUMBER OF PETITION SIGNATURES FILED: 4,290 NUMBER REQUIRED: 2,260

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

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

Prairie Greens – Convener, Illinois Green Party – Alternate Delegate to the Green National Committee

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

C) What is your primary occupation?

Energy engineer at the University of Illinois, helping small businesses with energy efficiency and renewable energy

D) Briefly list your civic activities of the past ten years.

At the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: Committee for a Sustainable Campus Environment, Energy Subcommittee (allocating student fees to clean energy projects), and Students for Environmental Concerns. I have mentored a child in the Big Brother, Big Sister for nearly two years.

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

Energy, the environment, and education. My background in engineering and energy issues will be helpful in developing sustainable energy policy for Illinois, addressing global warming and the end of cheap oil. I am very concerned with the inequities inherent in how we fund our education system.

F) What candidates have you supported? Please be specific in describing your role in each campaign.

I supported the Green candidates running for Champaign County Board in 2004. I mostly volunteered for Susan Rodgers and Ken Urban, resulting in the establishment of the Green Party in these areas. I was a volunteer for the Carl Estabrook for Congress campaign in 2002.

G) Please list all endorsements you have received so far.

Prairie Greens

H) 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?

I am not part of the entrenched, corporate parties. I support an aggressive and sustainable energy policy, which will decrease our contribution to global warming while providing quality jobs across the state. I support real solutions addressing the inequities in our education system, instead of raiding our pensions and other short term fixes. I support a single-payer health care system.

I) What is your campaign budget? How much have you raised to date?

After completing an exhausting petition drive, this has not yet been established. I will take no corporate contributions and plan to rely on volunteers and grassroots efforts rather than money.

J) How many people are on your campaign staff? How many volunteers are on your list?

There were 15-20 petitioners and I expect the number of campaign volunteers to be significantly greater.

IVI-IPO 2006 GENERAL ASSEMBLY QUESTIONNAIRE – Section 2

	YES	NO	Elections & Ethics
			Do you support:
1.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	moving the primary election date?
	ESSAY		If so, to what month?
2.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	keeping voters' political party preferences in the primary elections secret?
3.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	reestablishing straight party voting in general elections?
4.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	any other changes in Illinois' election laws?
	ESSAY		Please explain.
I support lowering requirements of unestablished political parties to those of the established parties in order to increase the diversity of choices.			
5.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support restoration of cumulative voting for the Illinois House of Representatives?
	ESSAY		If so, please describe the plan you support.
I am open to suggestion, but something similar to what we had before the Cutback Amendment			
6.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Should Illinois institute instant run-off voting?
7.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support changes in the way judges are selected?
	ESSAY		If so, please give a brief description of the system you support.
Judges should be impartial and not focus on campaigning and fundraising. I support some sort of merit appointment system with the ability for the electorate to recall a judge. However, I am open to suggestion.			
8.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you believe that appointments to judicial vacancies should be based on nominations from local review panels?
	ESSAY		If not, would you recommend any changes in the current system? Please explain.
			Do you support:
9.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	public financing of election campaigns?
10.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	limits on campaign contributions and political committee transfers?
11.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	restricting campaign fundraising during legislative sessions?

12.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	limiting contributions to political campaigns by dollar amount or source?
			Do you support
13.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	legislation to prohibit incumbency and political affiliation as criteria in the mapping process for Congressional, Legislative and local government electoral districts?
14.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	creation of a non-partisan Commission to draw maps instead of the General Assembly?
15.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	Do you support permitting state employees to hold other public sector jobs concurrently?
16.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	Do you support patronage?
	ESSAY		Please explain your position.
State positions should be based on qualifications in order to run a clean, fair, and efficient government.			
Taxes and Economic Policy			
			Do you support:
17.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	instituting a graduated income tax?
18.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	increasing income taxes to relieve or replace local property taxes and increase state funding of education?
19.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	maintaining the current corporate/individual ratio in income taxes?
20.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support casino gambling in Cook County?
	YES	NO	
21.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you support legislation requiring citizen referenda at the state or local level before casino gambling is expanded?
	ESSAY		If so, at which level and why?
At a local level, since the effects of casino gambling will impact their community most.			
			Do you support legislation to
22.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	prohibit confession of judgment clauses in consumer contracts?
23.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	allow expanded private rights of action?
24.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	allow expanded rights of litigation?
25.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	mandate attorney fees to be awarded to successful plaintiffs?
26.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	provide for any other changes? Please specify.
I don't know enough of the specifics to make a well-informed decision.			
			Do you support legislation
27.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	banning Pay Day loans?
28.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	banning or restricting ATM fees?
29.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	capping credit card interest rates?
Education			
30.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you vote to increase state funding to at least 50% of public education costs?
31.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	Do you support vouchers or other means of public funding for private or parochial schools?
32.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support public funding of charter or contract schools?
	ESSAY		Please explain your position.
Illinois ranks 50 th in equality in education funding and 47 th in the state's contribution to education. I will focus on alleviating these issues, but am interested in exploring locally controlled charter schools.			

Civil Rights & Civil Liberties			
33.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support Affirmative Action?
34.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you vote to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment?
			Do you favor legislation
35.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	legalizing civil marriage between two people of the same gender?
36.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	providing legal recognition of domestic partnerships?
37.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	prohibiting discrimination in housing against unmarried individuals residing together?
38.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support mandatory AIDS testing for insurance or employment?
			Do you support mandatory drug testing
39.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	for public sector employees?
40.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	for private sector employees?
	ESSAY		Under what circumstances?
41.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Should state police be allowed to stop vehicle operators to test for DUI on grounds other than probable cause?
42.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Would you support legislation to include data on pedestrian, as well as motor vehicle, stops by police for the purpose of gathering statistics on racial profiling?
	YES	NO	
43.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Would you support amending current racial profiling legislation to add collection of data on persons of Middle Eastern origin?
44.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support repeal of legislation that permits employers to eavesdrop on the telephone conversations of their employees?
45.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you favor detention of suspects and material witnesses without charges and/or probable cause?
Labor			
46.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you favor restructuring the wage scale of state employees to correct disparities based on gender by instituting equal pay for jobs of comparable worth?
47.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support privatization of state services?
	ESSAY		If so, which services?
48.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Would you support contracting for outside services with companies located outside Illinois? Why or why not?
When possible, we should look to our own state first to keep jobs here and encourage local economic systems.			
49.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support the right of public employees to strike?
50.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support legislation banning the replacement of strikers in private employment?
51.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support family leave legislation for employees of private companies not currently

			covered by federal law?
			Do you support
52.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	raising the minimum wage to establish a living wage for Illinois workers?
53.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	establishing a lower minimum wage for minors?
54.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	including farm workers and household employees under existing labor laws?
Health & Human Services			
55.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you support a single-payer health plan for Illinois?
	ESSAY If so, how would Medicaid be incorporated into the program you support?		
It would be combined into one system.			
56.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you support sufficient funding to provide community based services for discharged mental health patients?
			Do you support:
57.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	legislation which would guarantee that abortion remains legal in Illinois, to the extent it is currently available, in the event of Roe v. Wade being overturned or diminished?
58.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Medicaid funding for abortions?
59.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	insurance coverage of abortions for state employees?
60.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	parental consent/notification for minors seeking abortions?
61.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	banning so-called partial-birth abortions?
62.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	any other restrictions on abortions? Please specify. I do support expanding counseling and adoption services.
	YES	NO	
63.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support increasing appropriations to the Department of Children and Family Services to increase the number of caseworkers?
64.	ESSAY 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?		
Our priority should be providing enough quality jobs for everyone in Illinois. For example, thousands of jobs can be created by investing in renewable energy projects.			
Housing			
65.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you favor legislation banning housing discrimination against holders of Section 8 vouchers?
			Would you support legislation
66.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	mandating that landlords give tenants notice prior to entering their units?
67.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	assessing penalties against landlords who engage in illegal or retaliatory evictions?
Energy & Environment			
68.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support an elected ICC?
69.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Should Illinois institute a Renewable Portfolio Standard requiring all energy providers in Illinois to sell minimum amounts of their energy from renewable sources?
We need an RPS with harsh fines for non-compliance. We should also consider removing a utility's right to			

build non-renewable capacity if they are far from compliance and not demonstrating an effort to comply.			
70.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Should Illinois adopt the International Energy Conservation Code for residential buildings?
71.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you support ratification of the Great Lakes Annex Compact if it restricts out-of-basin diversion of Great Lakes waters?
72.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Would you support legislation that would provide state technical assistance funds to local communities to help them prepare and implement comprehensive smart growth plans to avoid the costs of rapid unplanned growth and urban sprawl?
73.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Would you support legislation requiring registration and monitoring of confined feedlot waste treatment/disposal and licensing of third party waste haulers?
			Do you support
74.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	expansion of O'Hare airport?
75.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	expansion of other regional airports? If so, which?
76.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	building a new airport in Peotone?
			Do you support
77.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	inter-city high speed rail?
78.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	the current formula for allocation of funds to CTA, Metra and PACE?
			Criminal Justice
			Do you support state legislation to ban the manufacture, sale and possession of
79.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	handguns?
80.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	assault weapons?
	YES	NO	
			Do you support
81.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	legislation increasing penalties for illegal resale of weapons?
82.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	legislation permitting the licensing of concealed weapons?
83.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	legislation mandating background checks of purchasers of weapons at gun shows, through the internet and through print advertisements?
			Do you support:
84.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	capital punishment?
85.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	criminal prosecution of juveniles as adults?
86.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	mandatory sentencing?
87.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	work release, home monitoring, other alternative sentencing?
88.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	admissibility of illegally obtained evidence?
89.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	electronic eavesdropping?
90.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	roving wiretaps?
91.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you favor continuation of the current moratorium on capital punishment in Illinois? Though I favor abolishment.
	ESSAY		If not, how would you address the inequities enumerated in the report of the Commission on the Death Penalty?