

IVI-IPO 2006 GENERAL ASSEMBLY QUESTIONNAIRE – Section 1

DATE 1/9/06 DISTRICT: 33rd PARTY: Democrat

NAME: Marlow H. Colvin

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CAMPAIGN MANAGER: Marcus Austin

NUMBER OF PETITION SIGNATURES FILED: 2150 NUMBER REQUIRED: 500

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

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

This is the first elective position I held.

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

No other office.

C) What is your primary occupation?

Industrial/Commercial Real Estate Appraiser

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

Civic/Volunteer Activities

Chairman of the Young Democrats of Illinois; Member of the Southeast Kiwanis Club, Member of the South Chicago Chamber of Commerce, Member of the Chatham Business Association, Head Coach of the Southeast Chicago Negro League Little League Association (5yrs), Charter Member of the Reading is Fundamental Project at Copernicus Grammar School in affiliation with the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity (1yr), Volunteer reader through the WITS Program (Working In The Schools) (3yrs)

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

I graduated from Chicago State University with honors from the School of History and Political Science. I am also a graduate of the Ralph Bunche Summer Institute at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Virginia. These educational opportunities have helped certainly given me classical insight into the legislative process, but my own studies beyond the classroom has helped me with the practical application of my legislative duties and responsibilities.

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

Over the years I have supported a wide array of candidates. I am currently working with Alexander Giannoulis campaign for State Treasurer. I am serving on the campaign strategy committee.

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

It is still very early on the endorsement season, but thus far I have received the endorsement of: The Illinois Federation of Teachers (IFT); The American Federation of Teachers (AFT); AFL-CIO; Amalgamated Transit Union; Service Employees International Union (SEIU)

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?

In my four years in the legislature, I have established a solid record on consumer protection issues in the state, senior citizen issues, mass transit and public transportation issues and affordable energy issues. Let me tell you how and why they are important to me.

On the subject of senior citizens my priority has been the protection of their financial resources in light of the fact that many persons of advancing age are living longer and healthier lives and staying in their homes longer. In fact, in my district more than 40% of the homeowners in my district are 55 years of age or older. Many of these families are living on fixed incomes and will never see any increase in their household income. As a result I have made it a priority to help hold the line on property tax increases by supporting the 7% tax cap solution, and expanding the Senior Freeze Exemption by raising the maximum income requirement for participation in the program. Expanding the Illinois Cares Rx and Circuit Breaker programs to keep prescription drugs and over the counter medications more affordable.

As chairman of the House Committee on Consumer Protection, I have taken the mantle on a number of important issues regarding protectionisms from unscrupulous business practices and criminal activity in Illinois financial marketplace. Last spring I was the chief sponsor of HB1058, known as the "Credit Freeze Act," which gives consumers the ability to request that their credit information be taken offline at the major credit reporting agencies in the event they have been the victim of identity theft. By doing this it assures that no one else can gain access to their credit information and give them the comfort and peace of mind that no further damage can be done to their credit while they work to restore their credit files. The bill passed out of both chamber unanimously and was signed into law by the governor on June 24, of last year. Please note that I have filed a new bill last week that amends the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act. It provides that a consumer (instead of a consumer who is the victim of identity theft) may place a security freeze on his or her credit account. This amendment is particularly helpful to senior citizens who are most often targeted as identity theft victims. Such an option would allow persons to do something proactive and protect themselves, not just in the event of identity theft (HB4687). I am also working on a bill with State Senator Jeffrey Schoenberg, in concert with the Attorney General Lisa Madigan in regulating the loan people take to get their tax refunds instantly, typically called Refund Anticipation Loans (or RALs). We are working to draft a bill that will limit the interest and fees associated with such loans and also provide certain disclosures regarding such loans like interest rates charges and fees assessed, as well as making consumer aware of their other options for faster returns. We anticipate filing a bill before the January 27 deadline. As you may already aware (the Tribune wrote about it a couple years ago), I have been negotiating an agreed bill with the Attorney General's Office and the Automobile industry in Illinois regarding the mark-up of finance rates auto dealers routinely do when financing cars. As a result of numerous lawsuits all across the country regarding this practice, the auto sales industry have felt the pressure and have been more willing to talk about placing a cap of somewhere between 1 and 3 percent over the bank or finance company offered rate. We are hopeful we can announce an agreement during the 2006 calendar year.

In the area of mass transportation, making sure the CTA needs are met to continue to provide an above adequate level of transportation in every corner of the city remains high on my list of priorities. When Frank Kruesi and his financial team came to Springfield during the 2004 legislative veto session and made his initial pitch for \$54 million dollars to prevent CTA from making massive cuts in service and personnel better known as the "Doomsday Budget," I had no greater purpose in the spring of 2005 than to help them meet their needs. And while I was greatly disappointed in how the CTA lobbied for the dollars by making threats of deep service cuts by way of the local newspapers and media outlets, I was and still remain dedicated to helping the CTA meet their funding needs to insure no service cuts. In a city of more than 3 million people, in a region of 8 million people, Chicago deserves a world-class transportation system that operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. We live in a city where public transportation provides the only link to school, church, the hospital, or doctor's office, to a suburban shopping center, or a trip downtown to see a movie. It is imperative that we have a transportation system, in and outside the city's borders, which reflects these needs. There are tens of thousands of city residents that work in the loop between the hours of 5pm and 8am, in hotels, restaurants, security personnel and janitorial and maid personnel that need transportation in the overnight hours. Therefore, the member of the General Assembly will have to come to grips with the flawed funding formula that currently distributes transportation dollars between the CTA, Pace, and Metra Rail lines, and

make the necessary adjustments to ensure that our public transportation needs reflect the contemporary and sophisticated style our city and northeast Illinois so rightfully deserves.

Lastly, on the subject of affordable energy, I introduced a bill last year that would abate the gas revenue tax from the heating bills of persons whose heating bill are paid for through the Low Income Heating Assistance Program (LIHEAP). These abated dollars (estimated at \$5.2 million), will be put into the LIHEAP fund to help extend the program to allow the state of Illinois to help an additional 10 to 12 thousand households pay their heating bills. Currently, there are more than 35,000 households in Illinois that are LIHEAP eligible, but only 18,000 of these households are being helped because of a lack of funding. Senator Dick Durbin’s recent report on the state of federal funding for LIHEAP indicates that LIHEAP funds will run out by mid-February of this year, well short of the end of the heating season, in large part due to recent spikes in the cost of natural gas. I was able to pass this legislation out of the House in the spring (HB466), and it stalled in the Senate as a result of a number of unpopular amendments that were added to the bill. I have managed to get a commitment from the legislative leaders to run this bill with no amendments, and the governor has indicated he will sign it immediately if we send it to him (please note the bill number will probably change next week to HB1744). As a result, we will be able to help more families keep their heat on through the oftentimes brutal Midwest winter season.

In closing I would also like to point out that I have chaired the Illinois House Legislative Black Caucus the last two terms and do so with tremendous pride. The IHLBC is the one vehicle that allows the African American legislators to collectively address issues that impact people of color across the state. I serve at the Caucus members pleasure and look forward to continuing in that role if reelected.

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

\$32,000; to date I have raised a little over \$26,000.

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

Currently there is one paid person on my campaign staff and 23 volunteers. I have approximately 55 people on my volunteer list.

IVI-IPO 2006 GENERAL ASSEMBLY QUESTIONNAIRE – Section 2

	YES	NO	Elections & Ethics
			Do you support:
1.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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>The only change I would like to see is judicial candidates aren’t slated by either political party, nor be placed on the palm cards of no political organizations, or perhaps elect judges in a completely separate non-partisan election.</i>
5.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support restoration of cumulative voting for the Illinois House of Representatives?
	ESSAY		If so, please describe the plan you support.
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.
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	restricting campaign fundraising during legislative sessions?
12.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	limiting contributions to political campaigns by dollar amount or source?
			Do you support
13.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<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.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	creation of a non-partisan Commission to draw maps instead of the General Assembly?
15.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support permitting state employees to hold other public sector jobs concurrently?
16.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support patronage?
	ESSAY		Please explain your position. <i>I believe that it would be impossible to do away with what is considered patronage. While the goal in government should always be the practice of hiring the best people available for the job, other criteria like loyalty, trustworthiness, and even familiarity will be part of the process employed to select certain employees. So to answer your question I would continue to support a certain number of "Shakman-exempt" employees who serve at the pleasure of governmental chief executive. But mainline employees who are hired using objective civil service methodology would be satisfactory.</i>
Taxes and Economic Policy			
			Do you support:
17.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	instituting a graduated income tax?
18.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	increasing income taxes to relieve or replace local property taxes and increase state funding of education?
19.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	maintaining the current corporate/individual ratio in income taxes?
20.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support casino gambling in Cook County?
	YES	NO	
21.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<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?
			Do you support legislation to
22.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	prohibit confession of judgment clauses in consumer contracts?
23.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	allow expanded private rights of action?
24.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	allow expanded rights of litigation?
25.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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.
			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.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	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. <i>It is my strongest belief that the greatest equalizer of our time is public education. Having the ability to improve ones social and economic status in the country by taking advantage of an educational system that rivals the best in the world and for many of us cost is not, and should be a barrier. Unfortunately, the state of public education could not be any worse, and as a result, I believe it is time we allow more options in education to compete for the chance of doing a better job of educating our children. The world is changing around us all the time. It is time that we model education to reflect a changing world, and one of the ways to accomplish that is through more educational opportunities and choices.</i>
Civil Rights & Civil Liberties			
33.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support Affirmative Action?
34.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you vote to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment?
			Do you favor legislation
35.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	legalizing civil marriage between two people of the same gender?
36.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	providing legal recognition of domestic partnerships?
37.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	prohibiting discrimination in housing against unmarried individuals residing together?
38.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	Do you support mandatory AIDS testing for insurance or employment?
			Do you support mandatory drug testing
39.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	for public sector employees?
40.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	for private sector employees?
	ESSAY		Under what circumstances?
41.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	Should state police be allowed to stop vehicle operators to test for DUI on grounds other than probable cause?
42.	X	<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.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Would you support amending current racial profiling legislation to add collection of data on

			persons of Middle Eastern origin?
44.	X	<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"/>	X	Do you favor detention of suspects and material witnesses without charges and/or probable cause?
Labor			
46.	X	<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"/>	X	Do you support privatization of state services?
	ESSAY		If so, which services?
48.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Would you support contracting for outside services with companies located outside Illinois? Why or why not?
49.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support the right of public employees to strike?
50.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you support legislation banning the replacement of strikers in private employment?
51.	X	<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? <i>Obviously, the cost of supporting such a program is the one true obstacle. A cost estimate prepared by the Department of Public Aid concluded that there could be substantial and prohibitive costs when a final report is released on the cost of such a plan. And to date there is no real estimate of the future costs of comprehensive health care in Illinois. The estimated cost of this proposal could be between \$2.6 billion and \$4 billion annually. It is doubtful the Department could finance a comprehensive health care program without federal participation, especially given the current state of the State's fiscal condition.</i>
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.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	insurance coverage of abortions for state employees?
60.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	parental consent/notification for minors seeking abortions?
61.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	banning so-called partial-birth abortions?
62.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	any other restrictions on abortions? Please specify.
	YES	NO	
63.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<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? <i>While welfare reform's overall goal is to move people from direct government assistance, to the working world, it has not always worked in every instance. Indeed there are thousands of Illinois families that still rely on this type of support. The goal for those families should be to continue to provide the safety net of critical needs for any family, food shelter and healthcare, while maintaining a mandate of personal productivity by providing the necessary job skills and development of the necessary acumens to secure steady, gainful employment. We can accomplish some of these foals through better utilization of our city colleges and the many job skills programs they offer but underutilize. More state funding for such programs will produce a more employable population.</i>
Housing			
65.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you favor legislation banning housing discrimination against holders of Section 8 vouchers?
			Would you support legislation
66.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	mandating that landlords give tenants notice prior to entering their units?
67.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	assessing penalties against landlords who engage in illegal or retaliatory evictions?
Energy & Environment			
68.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you support an elected ICC?
69.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<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?
70.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Should Illinois adopt the International Energy Conservation Code for residential buildings?
71.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<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.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<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.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	expansion of O'Hare airport?

75.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	expansion of other regional airports? If so, which?
76.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	building a new airport in Peotone?
			Do you support
77.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	inter-city high speed rail?
78.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	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.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	handguns?
80.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	assault weapons?
	YES	NO	
			Do you support
81.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	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?
	ESSAY		If not, how would you address the inequities enumerated in the report of the Commission on the Death Penalty?