

IVI-IPO 2006 GENERAL ASSEMBLY QUESTIONNAIRE – Section 1

DATE August 4, 2006 **DISTRICT:** 51st **PARTY:** Democratic

NAME: Amanda D. Howland

VOTING ADDRESS: 21707 W. Old Barn Lane, Lake Zurich, Illinois 60047

HOME PHONE: (847) 726-8724 **BUSINESS PHONE:** (312)543-2332

CAMPAIGN ADDRESS: 410 N. Seymour Ave., Mundelein, Illinois

CAMPAIGN PHONE: (847) 970-8096 **FAX:** (847) 438-9337

EMAIL: Amanda@amandahowland.com **WEBSITE:** amandahowland.com

CAMPAIGN MANAGER: Dustin Greenberg

NUMBER OF PETITION SIGNATURES FILED: 812 **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.

Appointed to Illinois State Bar Association Judicial Evaluations Committee 2003-present; Appointed to the Intellectual Property Section Council 1999, appointed Secretary 2003; Appointed Vice-Chair 2004, appointed Chair 2005; appointed to the Continuing Education Council 1999-2002; Elected Chicago Kent College of Law Student Bar Association President 1995-1996, Elected Student Bar Association Treasurer 1994-1995; Elected Student Bar Association Representative 1993-1994.

B) Other elective offices for which you have been a candidate. None

C) What is your primary occupation? Attorney. Former Elementary School administrator and former teacher of Emotionally Disturbed and Behavior Disordered students.

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

Special Olympics volunteer for gymnastics every year; Out of the Darkness Suicide Prevention Walk volunteer, life-time contributor to the ASPCA; contributor to the Civic Orchestra of Chicago to encourage young musicians; volunteer for United Way; Member of the Sierra Club, the Eighth District Democrats and Independent, the Illinois State Bar Association, the Chicago Bar Association; supporter of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Lyric Opera, Field Museum, Shedd Aquarium, Lincoln Park Zoo and Museum of Science and Industry; member and participant in the Hawthorn Woods Women's Club charitable organization.

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 have an undergraduate degree in special education, a Master's in Psychology, a Master's in Educational Administration and a Juris Doctor degree. I worked for more than four years in Federal District Court and gained significant political and legal experience while there. My background as an educator and attorney make me an effective speaker. My administrative background provided me with useful management and negotiation skills. I am used to working with a diverse community and am able to work well with people.

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

I worked full-time for the Kerry campaign in 2004. I was a "speaker" for the campaign and traveled to various venues to talk with people about the Kerry/Edwards platform, the importance of the election, policy issues, etc. I also spent the last three days of the

election cycle in Toledo Ohio working with PFAW and ACT to get out the vote. I did door to door and phone banking. On Election Day I was assigned to a poll as an “election protection” attorney.

I worked on Melissa Bean’s 2004 campaign doing letters to the editor, research, canvassing and providing whatever other help was requested.

I supported Christine Cegelis and talked to voters on her behalf. I participated in fundraising activities and helped to host two fundraisers for her.

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

Planned Parenthood; Personal PAC; Jesse White; AFL-CIO, Senator Terry Link; Senator Jeff Schoenberg; Senator Susan Garrett; Representative Kathy Ryg; Representative Karen May; Representative Elaine Nekritz; Congresswoman Melissa Bean; Lake County Democratic Women; Lake County Democracy for America; Warren Township Democrats; Eighth District Democrats and Independents. Additional endorsements are coming in on a regular basis and many more are expected within the next month.

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 believe that my experience as an educator, school administrator, and attorney give me the background necessary to be an effective legislator. My progressive and independent voting record and mindset make me an attractive candidate. I have never been one who blindly follows the “party line.” My campaign depends heavily on my independent/progressive volunteers. We are mobilizing a grassroots movement without financial help from state “powers.” We are raising money through word of mouth, labor groups, and independent/progressive people.

If elected, I want to work to ensure that all Illinois residents can afford health care. I would also like to see a program that provides “preventative” healthcare. We can greatly reduce cost if we find problems early. I also want to raise the bar on education and look for alternative sources of funding (take the burden off taxpayers) in addition to improving education quality throughout the state. Nothing is more important than producing well rounded students. These are our future CEO’s. Legislators, workers, judges, etc. This means we need to provide access to the basics as well as to art, music and physical education so that our students gain a variety of skills they can use throughout life.

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

We are in the process of refining our campaign budget. We estimate a need for \$150,000 to \$200,000. We have raised slightly over \$50,000 to date and have several fundraisers scheduled in the next three weeks.

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

I have two paid staff, two volunteer staff and a volunteer list of more than 150. The volunteer list is increasing weekly.

IVI-IPO 2006 GENERAL ASSEMBLY QUESTIONNAIRE – Section 2

	YES	NO	Elections & Ethics
			Do you support:
1.	X		moving the primary election date
	ESSAY		If so, to what month? ? Moving to May when the weather is better may get more people Out to vote.
2.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	keeping voters’ political party preferences in the primary elections secret?
3.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	reestablishing straight party voting in general elections?
4.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	any other changes in Illinois’ election laws?
	ESSAY		Please explain. I support an open Primary. I also support a single system of voter registration under the National Voter Registration Act.
5.	X	<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.
6.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Should Illinois institute instant run-off voting?
7.	X	<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. I strongly support a merit system of selection. I sit on the Judicial Evaluation Committee for the Illinois State Bar Association and am sometimes appalled with the lack of qualifications we encounter. Many judges are elected by a minority of votes. Most voters do not know whether a particular person is qualified for the position of Judge. In addition, many voters have no idea for whom they are voting.
8.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you believe that appointments to judicial vacancies should be based on nominations from local review panels? Absolutely! Again, as a member of the Judicial Evaluation Committee, I see many unqualified candidates recommended for appointment. Even if we find the candidate "not qualified" it is possible to gain an appointment.
	ESSAY		If not, would you recommend any changes in the current system? Please explain.
			Do you support:
9.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	public financing of election campaigns? Only if it levels the playing field and takes away the "buy your way" into office outcome.
10.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	limits on campaign contributions and political committee transfers?
11.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	restricting campaign fundraising during legislative sessions? I believe this is already the case.
12.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	limiting contributions to political campaigns by dollar amount or source? Unless we go to a public financing method. Campaigns are very expensive to run and unless a candidate has personal resources, contributions are vital.
			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? My opponent currently is a township tax assessor and a Representative. This appears to be an ethical conflict of interest.
16.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	Do you support patronage?
	ESSAY		Please explain your position.
Taxes and Economic Policy			
			Do you support:
17.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	instituting a graduated income tax? Possibly. Many 51 st District residents have indicated that they would favor 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? If the funds truly go to education and we look at other reforms in education funding in addition.
19.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	maintaining the current corporate/individual ratio in income taxes?

20.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	Do you support casino gambling in Cook County? I am not a Cook County Resident, however, I am concerned about the impact gambling has on those who can least afford it. I am also concerned that the revenue generated by gambling is not being used in the manner promised.
	YES	NO	
21.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	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? I probably would not support this because citizens elect officials to represent them. They can vote those people out of office if they feel their interests are not represented. Elected officials are more likely to be informed as to all of the factors involved in a proposed expansion of gambling. The average voter is not as informed.
			Do you support
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? It depends on what areas and what the goal was.
24.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	allow expanded rights of litigation? It depends. I do not have enough information to give an intelligent answer to this.
25.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	mandate attorney fees to be awarded to successful plaintiffs? In cases where the defendant has prolonged litigation or engaged in a frivolous defense.
26.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	provide for any other changes? Please specify.
			Do you support legislation
27.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	banning Pay Day loans? These tend to take advantage of those who can least afford it. I am in favor of some regulation or restriction.
28.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	banning or restricting ATM fees? Restricting fees to a reasonable limit is needed
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. I support funding of Charter Schools as long as the schools are closely monitored. Charter schools can serve as laboratories and allow educators to experiment with teaching techniques and materials that can lead to innovation useful for all public education.
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.	<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 type="checkbox"/>	for public sector employees? possibly
40.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	for private sector employees? possibly
	ESSAY		Under what circumstances? Random drug testing for persons who have direct control over the public (pilots, CTA drivers, train engineers, etc). Random drug testing discourages drug use and may help to promote public safety. However, testing can also turn up “false positives.” This is a slippery slope that needs further consideration and investigation.
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? This takes jobs and income from the state.
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? However, I am concerned that it may cause too great a burden on small businesses.
			Do you support
52.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	raising the minimum wage to establish a living wage for Illinois workers?
53.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	establishing a lower minimum wage for minors?

54.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	including farm workers and household employees under existing labor laws?
Health & Human Services			
55.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you support a single-payer health plan for Illinois? Perhaps
	ESSAY If so, how would Medicaid be incorporated into the program you support?		
Our goal should be finding a way to provide affordable health care to all Illinois Residents. We need to look at insurance reform in addition to other reforms. I am currently working with my uncle, Dr. Quentin Young, and my husband (who is also a physician) to research alternative methods to paying for health care.			
56.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will you support sufficient funding to provide community based services for discharged mental health patients?
			Do you support:
57.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<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.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Medicaid funding for abortions?
59.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	insurance coverage of abortions for state employees?
60.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	parental consent/notification for minors seeking abortions? Only if notification is widened to include other significant persons. In situation where there is an abusive parent, other relatives, clergy, doctors, etc. should be allowed to provide consent.
61.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	banning so-called partial-birth abortions? Medically, there is no such thing. This is a term devised by right wing, pro-life groups.
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? However, having dealt with this entity for eighteen years as an educator, I understand that having additional caseworkers is not the complete solution to the problems the Department faces.
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 believe that we need to support job training programs, half-way houses, incentives to return to the productive community, and as much practical education as possible.
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.	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.	<input 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? I do not know enough about this to provide an answer at this time.
			Do you support
74.	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	expansion of O'Hare airport? As long as it is not a "carte blanche" deal. We need to consider the impact on the environment and the surrounding communities.
75.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	expansion of other regional airports? If so, which? Only if the O'Hare project is impossible
76.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	building a new airport in Peotone? Probably not. Unless the citizens in Southern Illinois overwhelmingly support an airport, I do not see Peotone as a viable alternative.
			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.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	handguns?
80.	X	<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? After spending more than four years as a Law Clerk for a Federal District Judge, I know that mandatory sentencing does not work as it was intended. I could not support a State level mandatory sentencing provision.
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?