

Washington State Republican Party

Official 2008 Precinct Caucus Questionnaire

Thank you for attending the 2008 Republican Precinct Caucus. Please spend some time today discussing and responding to the following questions.

This questionnaire is designed to begin the process of writing the 2008 WSRP Platform and developing position alternatives on important public policy issues. Thank you for your input.

Directions:

- (1) Each person at the caucus should complete their own questionnaire.
- (2) The caucus leader will tally the responses and submit a final tally sheet to the local County Party.
- (3) The County Party will tally all the precinct responses and then submit a county total sheet to the WSRP.

A) *General*

- 1) What issues do you believe are the most important for the Republican Party as we begin the 2008 election cycle? (Please select your top **three** by numbering them.)

- _____ Controlling government spending
- _____ Cutting taxes
- _____ Reducing traffic congestion
- _____ Improving education
- _____ Protecting private property rights
- _____ Defending traditional marriage
- _____ Making Washington State "business friendly"
- _____ Protecting human life
- _____ Securing our borders
- _____ Winning the War on Terror
- _____ Promoting energy self sufficiency

_____ Protecting second amendment rights

_____ Balancing the budget

_____ Improving our health care system

B) *Transportation*

- 1) The Puget Sound Region has some of the worst traffic congestion in the nation. Which of the following proposals would you support in order to reduce the level of traffic congestion? (please only choose one)

_____ Make reducing traffic congestion the top priority of the State Department of Transportation (after public safety)

_____ Institute tolls to discourage the use of roads

_____ Promote sensible transit solutions that are cost-effective and user-friendly

_____ Focus on providing more road capacity to reduce congestion

C) *Education*

- 1) Which of the following education reforms would you support? (Please only choose one)

_____ Providing schools with additional funding to pay teachers higher salaries, hire more teachers, and reduce class sizes

_____ Institute higher learning standards

_____ Allow for the creation of charter schools, which could apply for state funding

_____ Holding schools and administrators accountable for student achievement

_____ Funding education first before funding other programs

_____ Merit-based pay for teachers

_____ Focusing on the basics (e.g., emphasizing a traditional math curriculum)

- 2) State government is becoming more active in establishing local school curricula. Which of the following statements best reflects your view?

We should have one uniform curriculum in order to better measure progress and improve accountability

The state should set minimum graduation requirements, but leave curriculum decisions to local school boards

D) *Health Care*

- 1) Which of these statements best reflects your views on health care?

The government should allow businesses and individuals to invest in "Medical Savings Accounts" that allow them to put money, tax-free, into accounts they can use to pay for health care costs

Congress and the Legislature should pass more laws that require insurance companies to provide a minimum amount of health coverage to enrollees

The government should be in charge of our health care system, to ensure that every person has health coverage

Reduce mandates that drive up the cost of health care

Require all adults to purchase health care coverage in the private sector

E) *Taxes and Government Spending*

- 1) Should state government implement a clean version of the 1% property tax limit with no loopholes?

Yes

No

- 2) Do you support or oppose a federal balanced budget constitutional amendment?

Support

Oppose

3) Which one of the following statements is closest to your view about the state budget and funding of state government programs?

Spending can be cut because state government is not being run efficiently and there is too much waste in government spending

State government spending increases should be kept in line with inflation and population growth

A significant increase in state government spending is necessary to pay for schools and other important programs

F) *Marriage*

1) Should same sex marriage be legal in Washington state?

Yes

No

2) Should so-called "civil unions" be legal in Washington state?

Yes

No

G) *Protecting Life*

Would you support or oppose each of the following measures:

1) Mandatory 24-hour waiting period prior to having an abortion?

Yes

No

2) Parental notification for minors seeking an abortion?

_____ Yes

_____ No

3) Discontinue taxpayer-funded abortions?

_____ Yes

_____ No

H) *Business climate*

Washington state has been criticized for having a business-unfriendly climate. Several years ago, Boeing moved its corporate headquarters from Seattle to Chicago after years of warnings that regulations in the state were too heavy. When Boeing moved it also named traffic congestion and lack of adequate funding for education as reasons for its move. What do you believe is the main reason for Washington's business-unfriendly climate?

_____ Too many regulations and taxes

_____ Traffic congestion that prevents people and goods from moving efficiently

_____ An education system that fails to prepare our kids for the high-tech jobs of the future

I) *Rural/Agriculture/Property Rights*

1) Which of the following issues would you want the Washington State Legislature to address first?

_____ Reform the current one-size-fits-all mandatory Growth Management Act

_____ Ensure that water rights stay with landowners and other water users and are not confiscated by the state

_____ Prohibit government from condemning private land for the purpose of generating more revenue

_____ Require that all regulations follow legislative intent and that agencies are not given unfettered authority to issue new regulations

J) *Second Amendment Rights*

In general, do you feel that the laws covering the sale of firearms should be made more strict, less strict, or kept as they are now?

_____ More Strict

_____ Less Strict

_____ Kept as they are now

K) *Immigration*

Considering all you know about illegal immigration, what do you think, if anything, is the most effective measure in dealing with the issue of illegal immigration? (please choose only one)

Should the focus be on:

_____ Securing our borders

_____ More arrests and deportations

_____ Sanctions against employers who hire illegal immigrants

_____ Guest worker program for some businesses such as agriculture

_____ Pathway to citizenship with certain requirements