



South Carolina GOP Chairman Questionnaire

(Take as much room as needed on the back to explain in detail your positions on any question asked. While we realize it is not normally the job of the Party Chair to take specific positions, we feel it is important to get to know all candidates better to see where they stand on a variety of issues. The Campaign for Liberty reserves the right to distribute your answers publicly.)

Section 1: GOP Party Operations

- 1) Do you support a "big tent" party, open to newcomers such as the Tea Party and the resurgence of the Goldwater wing of the GOP?
- 2) Do you support open or closed primaries? Why?
- 3) If in the above questions, you chose closed primaries and support a big tent party, how do you rectify these two positions, given that a closed primary creates additional hurdles for participation by newcomers, independents, and those previously disillusioned with both parties?
- 4) Should the GOP be officially neutral in every way in all GOP primary contests, including ones involving incumbent GOP elected officials?
- 5) Should the GOP mandate debates in contested primaries at any or all levels of office?
- 6) Should the party be operated like any other business in terms of operating in a solvent matter and refusing to operate in debt?
- 7) What is the proper role of consultants in the party?

Section 2: Philosophy of Government

Rank how you agree or disagree with the following statements on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being strongly disagree, 2 being somewhat disagree, 3 being neutral, 4 being somewhat agree, 5 being strongly agree.

- 8) The Constitution is a legitimate contract between the government and the governed, which demonstrates that the government gets its power only through the consent of the governed.
- 9) The Constitution should be interpreted strictly and literally. A loose interpretation of the commerce clause completely defeats the purpose of having enumerated powers.

- 10) Nullification is still a legitimate and useful way to restrict an overreaching federal government, and should be used whenever needed.
- 11) Government should be performed as local as possible. One size does not fit all.
- 12) Government should be completely transparent. The people have a right to know how their representatives vote and how taxes are collected and spent.

Section 3: Size And Scope Of Government

Rank how you agree or disagree with the following statements on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being strongly disagree, 2 being somewhat disagree, 3 being neutral, 4 being somewhat agree, 5 being strongly agree.

- 13) The federal government is too big, and radical cuts are needed immediately to rein government in on all fronts and put government back within its constitutionally defined box.
- 14) There is waste and bloat in all areas of government, including the military.
- 15) The government should not be in the business of redistribution of wealth, even if the cause is seemingly noble such as medicare, medicaid, and social security. People should assume responsibility for themselves, and private charities which will be better stewards of funds than the government should help those who are truly in need. The US citizen is the most generous person on the face of the Earth, and there is no shortage of charity in this country, even in these times of extremely high taxation, as evidenced by organizations from The Shriners to Susan G. Komen For The Cure.
- 16) School choice, as outlined in South Carolina's Educational Opportunity Act, H.3407, is the way to solve our educational woes.
- 17) Which departments, if any, of the federal government would you eliminate?

Section 4: Economics

Rank how you agree or disagree with the following statements on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being strongly disagree, 2 being somewhat disagree, 3 being neutral, 4 being somewhat agree, 5 being strongly agree.

- 18) Sound money is a way to not only protect an individual's purchasing power, but to restrain the ability of a government to spend beyond its means.
- 19) Inflation is the most insidious and regressive tax ever invented. It benefits the wealthy, and hurts the poor and those living on fixed incomes most. The inflationary policies of the Federal Reserve are immoral and should be stopped.
- 20) The Federal Reserve should be subject to a full audit.
- 21) The Federal Reserve should be abolished.
- 22) If you disagree with #21: The Federal Reserve's two monopoly powers should be eliminated. The market should set interest rates instead, and competing currencies and gold and silver should be acceptable legal tender.

23) The massive debts the federal government operates under amount to generational theft from future taxpayers who do not have the ability to vote against those presently in office. The debt needs to be simply \$0. Raising taxes isn't the answer to this, cutting spending is.

24) South Carolina's own debt needs to be simply \$0. Raising taxes isn't the answer to this, cutting spending is.

Section 5: Civil Liberties

Rank how you agree or disagree with the following statements on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being strongly disagree, 2 being somewhat disagree, 3 being neutral, 4 being somewhat agree, 5 being strongly agree.

25) Property rights are the foundation of a free society. Property tax is an affront to private ownership, and eminent domain should not be abused.

26) The Patriot Act is not worth the harm it does to the Fourth Amendment.

27) In the words attributed to Benjamin Franklin, "Those who would trade freedom for security deserve neither and ultimately lose both."

28) The TSA is security theater and only serves to provide the illusion of security and burn tax dollars. It should be made a crime to grope or "pornoscan" law abiding citizens.

29) Open carry laws like those in Alaska, where firearms may be carried openly or concealed by any law abiding citizen without permit, greatly enhances the security and freedom of everyone in society. South Carolina should follow Alaska's example.

30) Students capable of legally buying and attaining a firearm should be able to do so on college campuses. Doing so might prevent tragedies like those at Northern Illinois and Virginia Tech.

Section 6: Foreign Policy

Rank how you agree or disagree with the following statements on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being strongly disagree, 2 being somewhat disagree, 3 being neutral, 4 being somewhat agree, 5 being strongly agree.

31) The killing of Osama Bin Laden demonstrates what a proper US anti-terrorism policy is: a small targeted operation that eliminates real threats. Going into nation building for decades is a waste of money the government doesn't have, and comes with the even higher price of thousands of lost military lives and tens of thousands of innocent civilians.

32) To quote Thomas Jefferson, "The most successful war seldom pays for its losses." War should be the tool of last resort, and defensive in nature, not offensive.

33) Congress must declare war for the President to wage it, except under threat of imminent attack.

34) Defense is one of the few proper functions of the federal government. The US national defense must always be the best and most elite fighting force in the

world.

35) The US shouldn't pay for other wealthy nation's national defense. There is no reason for 50,000 US troops in Germany, or 30,000 US troops in Japan, or 30,000 US troops in Korea, etc. These wealthy nations can pay for their own defense.

36) All foreign aid should be eliminated. To think that we can buy meaningful allies is naïve. Foreign aid takes money from the poor people in a rich country, and gives it to the rich people in a poor country.

Section 7: Social Issues

37) Do you believe in tobacco and alcohol being legal, so long as those who use it assume responsibility for their actions and do not harm others?

38) Should the legal drinking age be 18 or 21? If 21, do you support exemptions for military personnel? If 21 and no exemptions, explain why.

39) Do you believe in marijuana being legal medically and/or in general, so long as those who use it assume responsibility for their actions and do not harm others? If you do not support legalized marijuana, but do support legalized tobacco and alcohol, how do you rectify these views given that medically speaking, marijuana is less addictive and harmful than both alcohol and tobacco?

40) What are your views on abortion?

41) Does the government have any role in marriage? If so, what?

Section 8: The Fire Inside

42) Who is your greatest political hero or idol, and why?

Please return your completed surveys in one of the following ways:

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