



## 2010 CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Please return by Oct. 1 to:**

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1) Why are you running for the Legislature?

I'm a mom who wants to make sure we have the best possible future for all of our families.

2) If you had the opportunity, what is the first bill you would like to submit in the 2011 session and why?

Cut taxes. People deserve to spend more of their own hard-earned money. Government has to realize that it is not possible for us to spend our way into prosperity – particularly when the money we are spending belongs to the citizens of Kansas.

3) Do you support or oppose legislation that would allow for tax increases to be enacted only by a legislative supermajority or referendum? (i.e. either 3/5 or 2/3 vote of legislature for approval of a tax increase)

a. support **X** b. oppose

Why? We have to avoid using tax increases to compensate for undisciplined spending.

4) When state revenues are less than state expenditures, which statement most accurately reflects your first priority?

Maintain current expenditures and raise taxes.

Both cut spending and raise taxes.

Cut more than 15% before considering a tax increase.

Do not raise taxes and cut spending.

If you would cut spending, are there any specific areas you would cut? Why?

We need to look at what the essential duties of government are, fund those, cut the rest.

If you were to raise taxes, what specific taxes you would raise and why?

The folks in my district are not in a position to bear additional tax increases.

5) What do you believe to be the most important issues facing the Kansas Legislature in the upcoming session? (Please rank 1-5, 1 being the most important)

1 Jobs. Creating and maintaining good paying jobs has to be our own job one.

2 Supporting the small businesses that create jobs.

3 Cut waste, particularly by examining non-essential government functions.

4 Make sure all government spending is transparent to the citizens of the state.

5 Get more of the educational dollars to the classroom.

6) Many Cities, Counties and State agencies use tax dollars to hire lobbyists to lobby the Kansas Legislature. Do you believe this is a proper use of tax dollars and should such expenditures be disclosed to Kansas taxpayers? Why or why not?

Any expenditure of tax dollars should always be fully disclosed to Kansas taxpayers. Government must never lose sight of the fact that it is spending money that belongs to the taxpayers. I don't think most citizens want their tax dollars spent on lobbyists, nor do I think it is an appropriate expenditure.

7) How do you believe Kansas Supreme Court Justices should be selected?

I believe that qualified justices who wish to uphold the Kansas Constitution as written should be appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Senate.

8) If the rate of inflation (consumer price index), plus population growth in Kansas grew at 4%, what do you believe would be the appropriate percentage increase in state budget expenditures? Why?

No more than 4%. We have to live within our means and we need a firm standard to help us determine appropriate growth.

- 9) Kansas economic growth has been lagging behind our neighboring states and annual population growth is stagnant at an average increase of less than one-half of one percent per year. As a legislator, how would you address these problems?

We have to have jobs to allow for growth. We need to support our small businesses because they are both the major provider of jobs and the hearts of our communities. A major part of that support has to be to cut taxes and that means we have to cut government spending and live within our means.

- 10) The 2010 Legislature increased the state sales tax from 5.3% to 6.3% in part, to help fund a FY 2011 state general fund budget that increases spending by \$204 million over FY 2010. Once implemented, Kansas will have the largest sales tax amongst neighboring states. (Nebraska is next closest at 5.5%). Considering 33% of our population resides in a county bordering Missouri alone, do you support the decision of the Legislature?

No. We hurt Kansas businesses when our sales tax rate outpaces those of neighboring states. Hurting Kansas businesses costs jobs and that hurts Kansas citizens.

- 11) Do you have any other positions or information that would be of interest to the members of AFP-Kansas?

We have an obligation not to leave our children worse off than we are.