



AMERICANS FOR PROSPERITY K A N S A S

2010 CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Please return by July 2 to:

Americans For Prosperity, 2348 SW Topeka, Suite 201

Topeka KS 66611

Phone: (785) 354-4AFP : Fax: (785) 354-4239

E-mail: DSONTAG@AFPHQ.ORG

Name GREG SMITH District 22

Campaign Address GREG SMITH P.O. BOX 4157, OVERLAND PARK, KS 66204

Email greg@gregsmithforkanssas.com Campaign Website GREG.SMITH.FOR.KANSAS.COM

1) Why are you running for the Legislature?

I REALIZE THAT BOTH POLITICAL PARTIES HAVE
ABANDONED THE IMPORTANT PRINCIPLES OF FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY,
LIMITED GOVERNMENT, AND ACCOUNTABILITY. THESE PRINCIPLES
NEED TO BE RESTORED.

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

I WOULD SPONSOR A BILL TO REPEAL THE SALES
TAX INCREASE. THE SALES TAX WILL HURT BOTH BUSINESS
AND 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

b. oppose

WHY? THE CITIZENS OF KANSAS BEAR THE BURDEN OF A
TAX INCREASE. THE DECISION TO RAISE TAXES IS A LAST
RESORT MEASURE. A SUPERMAJORITY/REFERENDUM REFLECTS THE
SERIOUSNESS OF THIS ACTION AND MAKES IT MORE DIFFICULT
TO ACHIEVE, AS IT SHOULD.

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?

NO AREA DESERVES SPECIAL TREATMENT. WE MUST OPERATE GOVERNMENT WITHIN ITS FINANCIAL LIMITS. ALLOCATIONS ARE

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

I AM AGAINST RAISING TAXES AND WOULD NOT RAISE ANY TAXES W/O CREDIBLE EVIDENCE THAT IT WAS ABSOLUTELY A CRITICAL REQUIREMENT AND WOULD BENEFIT THE PEOPLE OF KANSAS.

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 CONTROLLING TAXES AND GOVERNMENT SPENDING
- 2 REDUCING THE SIZE AND REACH OF GOVERNMENT.
- 3 CHANGING THE WAY STATE JUDGES ARE APPOINTED
- 4 CREATING AN ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH BUSINESSES CAN GROW
- 5 CHANGING THE K-12 EDUCATION FINANCE FORMULA.

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?

THESE AGENCIES HAVE A RIGHT TO AIR THEIR CONCERNS AND POSITIONS TO THE LEGISLATURE. A LOBBYIST MAY HELP THEM DO THIS MORE EFFECTIVELY. THE EXPENDITURE SHOULD BE DISCLOSED BECAUSE TAXPAYERS HAVE A RIGHT TO KNOW WHERE GOVERNMENT DOLLARS ARE BEING SPENT.

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

KANSAS SHOULD FOLLOW THE FEDERAL MODEL OF
APPOINTMENT WITH LEGISLATIVE CONFIRMATION
OR DIRECT ELECTION OF JUDGES.

- 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?

FISCAL DISCIPLINE IS THE KEY. INCREASE IN EXPENDITURES
SHOULD NEVER EXCEED THE RATE OF INFLATION PLUS
POPULATION GROWTH. IN THIS SCENARIO, 4% OR LESS WOULD BE
APPROPRIATE.

- 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?

I WOULD SUPPORT POLICIES / LEGISLATION THAT FUNDUCE
JOB AND BUSINESS GROWTH IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR
AND WORK TO REDUCE THE SIZE OF GOVERNMENT.

- 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?

I DO NOT SUPPORT THIS DECISION. IT WILL CAUSE A
LOSS OF JOBS AND REVENUE FOR KANSAS.

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

I AM THE FATHER OF KELSEY SMITH AND HAVE SUCCESSFULLY
WORKED TO PASS THE KELSEY SMITH ACT IN KANSAS,
MINNESOTA AND NEBRASKA.