

Anchorage Tea Party

Alaska State Legislature Candidate Questionnaire 2012

You may use as much space as you like for your responses, including additional pages. Your responses will be posted on our website, and hard copies will be made available to attendees at our June 25, 2012 candidate forum.

Candidate Name: Clint Hess House or Senate District: H

1. Give your opinion on a rotating legislative session to be held in each of the three largest cities in Alaska. What are your ideas for providing Alaska citizens' better access to the legislature?

The government should make itself available to the public, which it serves, in order to help encourage all people to become more engaged in the governmental process. This could include rotating the legislative session to areas of that state that are able and willing to host such a gathering. After a systematic analysis of the costs and benefits, Alaskans will be able to make an informed decision on implementing effective ways to bring the governmental process closer to the people.

2. What must Alaska do to increase our oil-related revenues?

Increasing oil production is the only fair and equitable way of increasing oil-related revenues.

3. What is your position on "Loser Pays" tort reform legislation for Alaska?

Balanced legislation needs to be enacted to prevent frivolous lawsuits without discouraging legitimate claims.

4. What is the one most important thing we can do to improve education in Alaska and how will you facilitate that?

Identify what is working and what is not working, such as a planned methodical audit of school districts, looking at the effectiveness of programs. This information will allow Alaskans to continue our investment in quality educators and programs that are successful in preparing Alaskans for a better future.

5. Give examples of capital budget projects you favor spending state monies on.

I support a variety of capital projects, such as transportation infrastructure (e.g. roads, bridges, ports/harbors, and airports) and energy projects (e.g. electrical, natural gas). These projects lay a foundation for economic growth and development that will benefit all Alaskans and help to provide the opportunity for lower cost transportation and energy.

6. Do you believe this year's state operating budget is too high, just right, or too low? If too high, name three programs in which you would make cuts. If too low, list the areas which need more spending.

The state operating budget is too high based on the price and amount of oil that is flowing through the pipeline. I am currently reviewing the state operating budget in order to have a better understanding of specific programs that should be reduced or increased.

Please email responses to admin@anchorageparty.org by June 22. Thank you for your willingness to serve Alaska!

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7. What is your interpretation of the Tenth Amendment of the United States Constitution and how it relates to states' rights? Give specific examples relating to Alaska.

I interpret the 10th amendment of the United States Constitution to be the following: if the constitution does not give a particular power to the federal government, and has not forbidden the state from having a particular power, that power is for the respective state or it's people.

This specifically applies to Alaska in a variety of ways including how federal agencies (i.e. BLM, NPS, EPA, etc.) are assuming that they have the power to dictate policy and authority over Alaskan waterways, land, resources and issues.

8. Name four things Alaska can and should do to reduce health care costs.

- 1) Establish a framework which allows Alaskans to comparison shop for their health insurance from providers both in and out of Alaska.**
- 2) Tort reform that provides for fair compensation to patients with legitimate claims, while protecting health care providers and organizations from frivolous lawsuits.**
- 3) Health education for all age groups and cultures of Alaska.**
- 4) Further leverage our use of telemedicine, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners.**

9. Do you support the current processes for Alaska judicial appointments and retentions? Why or why not?

I believe that the public should have more input in the process.

10. List any restrictions you personally will have (or have) on contributions to your campaign such as a dollar cap, accepting contributions from public-sector or private unions, PACs, etc. Please provide details and justification.

I agree with the APOC regulations regarding contribution limits and I will never change my values, or vote a certain way, in order to receive either financial or non-financial support from individuals or organizations.