

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: Jimmy Crawford House or Senate District 16

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?

I believe that this would be a substantial increase to State spending and increase State taxes. This seems to be unnecessary and wasteful. I would like to see more options to better access the legislative process via the Internet or other new technologies.

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

The current ACES program created a progressive scale allocating price per barrel of oil to tax rates. Clearly, increasing production is the issue and creating a sliding scale whereby oil tax breaks are earned by desirable levels of production seem to be the wisest course of action.

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

There must be consequences to frivolous and blatantly false lawsuits that bog down the courts, while safeguarding the ability to make valid claims. An example is environmental groups filing lawsuits simply to delay legal developers of natural resources.

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

I will fight for empowering parents to make educational choices for their children through a State Constitutional Amendment allowing a scholarship program for private education. Also, reducing the administrative cost of the Anchorage School District by consolidating those administrative costs with those of the Municipality of Anchorage would greatly improve education for Alaskan students.

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

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

I will push for the All-Alaska natural gas pipeline and smaller off-shoots to supply energy across the state. Also, we should invest in responsible renewable energy sources such as the Susitna Dam Project and rural energy projects creating solar or geothermal power production. Let's produce roadways and necessary infrastructure that encourage economic developments across the state.

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.

I believe the state operating budget is too high. Unfunded Federal mandates which force state spending on programs that don't work for Alaskans need to stop. Examples are 1) No Child Left Behind or 2) Medicaid spending. And we need to stop duplication of Federal and State spending.

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.

The Tenth Amendment emphasizes the limited power of the Federal Government over the states. Alaska ranks #2 in the amount of state lands owned by the Federal Government. 69.1% of the State of Alaska is owned by the Federal Government. The Federal government grossly encroaches over Alaska's rights to develop resources and manage our own land.

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

- 1) Stop State spending for abortions.**
- 2) Create a State-wide medical information system that would eliminate duplication of testing by various doctors and hospitals.**
- 3) Reduce fraud and misuse of the Medicaid and Medicare systems in the state.**
- 4) Emphasize health education across the state, including preventative health measures.**

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

Reforming the appointment process to widen the scope of choice for the Governor beyond that which is provided by the Alaska Judicial Council would help the judicial system become more conservative. Also, shortening terms for retention votes on judges could bring more responsibility to the bench.

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 will abide by all APOC regulations. However, I believe that people should be free to contribute to the candidate of their choice. It's their money and the government should not control how and on whom they choose to spend it.