

PROGRESSIVE DEMOCRATS FOR DELAWARE 2010 QUESTIONNAIRE

Please respond to the appropriate sections of this survey by indicating the number that corresponds to your position. The 4-point scale is:

- 1 - will not support
- 2 - don't know
- 3 - will support
- 4 - will proactively support (champion)

Space is provided at the end for comments, including examples of past actions where you supported one or more of the initiatives listed in your respective sections or any other progressive actions you have worked for.

SECTION 1 - to be answered by ALL CANDIDATES:

1. All U.S. citizens should be provided the choice of a robust public health insurance option (similar to Medicare).
2. Minimum wage should be set to ensure that it is a livable wage.
3. A woman's right to reproductive freedom should be supported and defended.
4. Same-sex couples should have the right to join in a civil union/domestic partnership with the same rights/responsibilities as married couples.
5. A waiting period should be established between when elected officials leave office and when they may be paid to lobby that government branch.
6. Conservation, improved energy efficiency, and a transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources should be promoted by all levels of government.

SECTION 2 - to be answered by candidates for FEDERAL OFFICE only:

1. Congress must pass comprehensive and enforceable reform of the financial industry, and ensure that these new regulations are enforced.
2. Congress should not approve pre-emptive military action by the U.S. (i.e., against Iran).
3. Congress should support legislation to begin a withdrawal of U.S. troops from Afghanistan no later than the President's stated July 2011 date, and ensure that the President negotiates a firm timetable for withdrawal with the Afghan government.
4. Congress should repeal DADT (Don't Ask, Don't Tell) and DOMA (Defense of Marriage Act) no later than 2012.
5. Congress should institute publicly funded campaign finance reform.
6. Congress should support an amendment to the Constitution to prohibit corporate contributions to elected officials/campaigns.
7. The Senate should modify the filibuster rule to end abuse of the present rule, and should end other deceitful procedures such as the secret/anonymous hold rule.
8. Congress should provide a meaningful path to citizenship for otherwise law-abiding, undocumented immigrants currently in the U.S.
9. Congress should adopt a firm, verifiable cap that reduces greenhouse gas emissions at least 25% below 1990 levels by 2020, with a plan created and adopted within 18 months.

SECTION 3 - to be answered by candidates for the GENERAL ASSEMBLY only:

1. The State should provide tax credits to small businesses creating jobs in Delaware.
2. The State should provide financial support for organizations providing foreclosure mediation.
3. The State should fully consider the environmental impact before proceeding with Delaware River dredging.

4. The State should oppose oil drilling off the Delaware coast.
5. The State should require complete transparency of spending of Delaware's Race to the Top funds.
6. The State should require education reforms to be tested/piloted prior to system-wide implementation.
7. The State should repeal mandatory minimum sentencing for minor drug offenses, restoring judicial discretion.
8. The State should prohibit contributions to elected officials/campaigns from paid lobbyists.
9. The State should create an open and independent redistricting commission.
10. The General Assembly should publish the operating budget and bond bill at least three legislative days prior to any vote on said bills.
11. The General Assembly rules should eliminate the "desk drawer veto."
12. The State should adopt a firm, verifiable cap that reduces greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions at least 25% below 1990 levels by 2020, with a plan created and adopted within 18 months

SECTION 4 - to be answered by candidates for ATTORNEY GENERAL only:

1. The State should oppose oil drilling off the Delaware coast.
2. The State should repeal mandatory minimum sentencing for minor drug offenses, restoring judicial discretion.
3. Independent commissions should be created when the AG office has a perceived conflict of interest.

SECTION 5 - to be answered by candidates for COUNTY COUNCIL only:

1. The County should establish and implement a regular interval for real estate reassessment.

2. The County should fully investigate historical significance of sites before approving new development.
3. County building codes should include higher energy-efficiency standards for all new construction.
4. The County ethics committee should resolve complaints involving county employees or elected officials within 6 months of the time the allegations are filed.
5. The County should reinstitute community input at each state of the county's development planning process.
6. The County should develop incentives to encourage "green" construction, beyond current code requirements.

SECTION 6 - to be answered by candidates for AUDITOR only:

1. Complete transparency of spending of Delaware's Race to the Top funds should be required.
2. The Auditor should post all job openings and filled positions for investigations, following OMB procedures.
3. The Auditor should be authorized to and should inspect ALL spending by school districts, not just the spending of state dollars.

If you have already held office, please explain how you integrated any progressive principles into your elected office. If you haven't held office, explain how you would integrate progressive principles into your elected office.

SECTION 7 - to be answered by candidates for TREASURER and all ROW OFFICES:

If you have already held office, please explain how you integrated any progressive principles into your elected office. If you haven't held office, explain how you would integrate progressive principles into your elected office.

