



Project Vote Smart 2011 Kentucky Gubernatorial Political Courage Test

Candidates are strongly encouraged to complete the Political Courage Test online at: <https://secure.votesmart.org/candidate>

Please indicate your positions on the following issues. You will be recognized for your Political Courage, which will be calculated based on the number of issues you are willing to address. If you would like to expand upon an answer, please do so in the "Other or expanded principles" section. All "Other or expanded principles" must be under 100 words; additional text will not be included in the database.

Should you choose not to respond, Project Vote Smart may research your public record to determine your likely positions on these issues.

The Political Courage Test must be signed and returned to our office by 11:59 pm MDT the day of the deadline.
One Common Ground Phillipsburg, MT 59858 - Fax: 1-406-859-8680 - politicalcourage@votesmart.org

Abortion and Reproductive Issues:

- | | | |
|---|-----------------|---------------|
| a) Do you support pro-choice or pro-life legislation? | Pro-choice ____ | Pro-life ____ |
| b) Should abortion be legal after the first trimester of pregnancy? | Yes ____ | No ____ |
| c) Should abortion be legal when the pregnancy resulted from incest or rape? | Yes ____ | No ____ |
| d) Should abortion be legal when the life of the woman is endangered? | Yes ____ | No ____ |
| e) Should parental notification be required before an abortion is performed on a minor? | Yes ____ | No ____ |
| f) Should parental consent be required before an abortion is performed on a minor? | Yes ____ | No ____ |
| g) Do you support sexual education programs that include information on abstinence, contraceptives, and HIV/STD prevention methods? | Yes ____ | No ____ |
| h) Do you support abstinence-only sexual education programs? | Yes ____ | No ____ |
| i) Other or expanded principles: _____ | | |

Budget, Spending, and Tax Issues:

1) State Spending: Using the key, indicate what state funding levels (#1-6) you support for the following general categories. **Select one level per category; you may use a number more than once.**

KEY	
1 = Greatly Increase	
2 = Slightly Increase	
3 = Maintain Status	
4 = Slightly Decrease	
5 = Greatly Decrease	
6 = Eliminate	

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| ____ a) Education (higher) | ____ e) Law enforcement |
| ____ b) Education (K-12) | ____ f) Transportation and highway infrastructure |
| ____ c) Environment | ____ g) Welfare |
| ____ d) Health care | ____ h) Other or expanded categories: _____ |

2) State Taxes: Using the key, indicate what state tax levels (#1-6) you support for the following general categories. **Select one level per category; you may use a number more than once.**

KEY	
1 = Greatly Increase	
2 = Slightly Increase	
3 = Maintain Status	
4 = Slightly Decrease	
5 = Greatly Decrease	
6 = Eliminate	

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| ____ a) Alcohol taxes | ____ f) Sales taxes |
| ____ b) Cigarette taxes | ____ g) Income taxes (low-income families) |
| ____ c) Corporate taxes | ____ h) Income taxes (middle-income families) |
| ____ d) Gasoline taxes | ____ i) Income taxes (high-income families) |
| ____ e) Property taxes | ____ j) Other or expanded categories: _____ |

3) Budget Stabilization: Indicate which proposals you support (if any) for balancing Kentucky's budget.

- | | | |
|--|----------|---------|
| a) Tapping into Kentucky's "rainy day" fund | Yes ____ | No ____ |
| b) Issuing the early release of certain non-violent offenders | Yes ____ | No ____ |
| c) Increasing tuition rates at public universities | Yes ____ | No ____ |
| d) Instituting mandatory furloughs and layoffs for state employees | Yes ____ | No ____ |
| e) Reducing benefits for Medicaid recipients | Yes ____ | No ____ |
| f) Privatizing certain government services | Yes ____ | No ____ |

Candidate Name (please print): _____ Office: _____ District: _____

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- g) Reducing public pension benefits Yes _____ No _____
- h) Other or expanded principles: _____

Campaign Finance and Government Reform Issues:

- a) Do you support limits on the number of terms for Kentucky governors? Yes _____ No _____
- b) Do you support limits on the number of terms for Kentucky state legislators? Yes _____ No _____
- c) Do you support limits on the following types of contributions to candidates for state government?
 - 1) Individual Yes _____ No _____
 - 2) Political Action Committee Yes _____ No _____
 - 3) Corporate Yes _____ No _____
 - 4) Political Party Yes _____ No _____
- d) Should candidates for state office be encouraged to meet voluntary spending limits? Yes _____ No _____
- e) Do you support requiring full and timely disclosure of campaign finance information? Yes _____ No _____
- f) Other or expanded principles: _____

Crime and Public Safety Issues:

- a) Do you support capital punishment for certain crimes? Yes _____ No _____
- b) Do you support alternatives to incarceration for certain non-violent offenders, such as mandatory counseling or substance abuse treatment? Yes _____ No _____
- c) Do you support decriminalizing the possession of small amounts of marijuana? Yes _____ No _____
- d) Should a minor accused of a violent crime be prosecuted as an adult? Yes _____ No _____
- e) Should a minor who sends sexually-explicit or nude photos by cell phone face criminal charges? Yes _____ No _____
- f) Do you support the enforcement of federal immigration laws by state and local police? Yes _____ No _____
- g) Other or expanded principles: _____

Economic Issues:

- a) Do you support reducing government regulations on the private sector? Yes _____ No _____
- b) Do you support state funding for job-training programs that re-train displaced workers? Yes _____ No _____
- c) Do you support expanding access to unemployment benefits? Yes _____ No _____
- d) Do you support providing tax incentives to businesses for the purpose of job creation? Yes _____ No _____
- e) Do you support spending on infrastructure projects for the purpose of job creation? Yes _____ No _____
- f) Do you support providing direct financial assistance to homeowners facing foreclosure? Yes _____ No _____
- g) Do you support comprehensive public pension reform that incorporates a defined contribution plan, similar to a 401(k)? Yes _____ No _____
- h) Other or expanded principles: _____

Education Issues:

- a) Do you support the national Common Core State Standards initiative? Yes _____ No _____
- b) Do you support requiring public schools to administer high school exit exams? Yes _____ No _____
- c) Do you support a merit pay system for teachers? Yes _____ No _____
- d) Do you support the establishment of charter schools in Kentucky? Yes _____ No _____
- e) Do you support the state government providing college students with financial aid? Yes _____ No _____
- f) Should illegal immigrants who graduate from Kentucky high schools be eligible for in-state tuition at public universities? Yes _____ No _____
- g) Other or expanded principles: _____

Environment and Energy Issues:

- a) Do you support state regulation of greenhouse gas emissions? Yes _____ No _____

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- b) Do you believe that human activity is contributing to climate change? Yes ____ No ____
- c) Do you support state funding for the development of alternative energy? Yes ____ No ____
- d) Do you support state funding for the development of traditional domestic energy sources (e.g. coal, natural gas, oil)? Yes ____ No ____
- e) Do you support providing financial incentives to farms that produce biofuel crops? Yes ____ No ____
- f) Do you support state funding for improvements to Kentucky's energy infrastructure? Yes ____ No ____
- g) Do you support state funding for open space preservation? Yes ____ No ____
- h) Other or expanded principles: _____

Gun Issues:

- a) Do you support restrictions on the purchase and possession of guns? Yes ____ No ____
- b) Do you support requiring background checks on all firearms sales at gun shows, including sales by unlicensed dealers? Yes ____ No ____
- c) Do you support allowing individuals to carry concealed guns? Yes ____ No ____
- d) Do you support requiring a license for gun possession? Yes ____ No ____
- e) Other or expanded principles: _____

Health Issues:

- a) Do you support a universally-accessible, publicly-administered health insurance option? Yes ____ No ____
- b) Do you support expanding access to health care through commercial health insurance reform? Yes ____ No ____
- c) Do you support interstate health insurance compacts? Yes ____ No ____
- d) Do you support requiring individuals to purchase health care insurance? Yes ____ No ____
- e) Do you support monetary limits on damages that can be collected in malpractice lawsuits? Yes ____ No ____
- f) Do you support legalizing physician-assisted suicide in Kentucky? Yes ____ No ____
- g) Do you support allowing doctors to prescribe marijuana to their patients for medicinal purposes? Yes ____ No ____
- h) Other or expanded principles: _____

Social Issues:

- a) Do you support same-sex marriage? Yes ____ No ____
- b) *Should Kentucky allow same-sex couples to form civil unions/domestic partnerships?* Yes ____ No ____
- c) Do you support state funding for stem cell research? Yes ____ No ____
- d) Do you support state funding for embryonic stem cell research? Yes ____ No ____
- e) Do you support affirmative action? Yes ____ No ____
- f) Do you support the inclusion of sexual orientation in Kentucky's anti-discrimination laws? Yes ____ No ____
- g) Do you support the inclusion of gender identity in Kentucky's anti-discrimination laws? Yes ____ No ____
- h) Other or expanded principles: _____

Administrative Priorities: *On an attached page or via e-mail, please explain in a total of 100 words or less, your top two or three priorities if elected. If they require additional funding for implementation, please explain how you would obtain this funding.*

CANDIDATE MUST SIGN TEST TO BE INCLUDED IN THE DATABASE

Candidate Name: _____ State and District: _____ Party: _____
Signature: _____ Date: _____