## 2012 Civitas Candidate Survey

## Candidate Profile Information

**Name**

John Blust

**Office sought**

NC House

**District (if applicable)**

62

**Party**

Republican

**Address**

PO Box 8146
Greensboro, NC 27419

**County**

Guilford

**Occupation**

Attorney/Accountant

**Email**

johnbl@ncleg.net

## Candidate Issue & Policy Questions

**1. Tax rates in North Carolina are**

Too high

**2. North Carolina should raise the state sales tax by ¾ of one cent – or 15 percent -- to provide additional resources to public schools.**

Disagree

**4. North Carolina should allow offshore and natural gas exploration.**

Agree

**5. In order to address North Carolina's ongoing budget difficulties, state lawmakers should:**

Reduce spending

**6. Marriage between one man and one woman should be the only domestic legal union that is valid in North Carolina.**

Agree

**7. The Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) should be repealed.**

Agree

**8. North Carolina should retain capital punishment as a sentencing option.**

Agree

**9. North Carolina should adopt a constitutional amendment limiting the annual growth rate of state spending to a combination of inflation plus population growth.**

Agree

**10. North Carolina's status as a "Right to Work" state should be written into the state constitution.**

Agree

**11. Teacher pay should be tied to student performance and other factors reflecting teacher quality.**

Agree

**12. The North Carolina legislature should repeal Same-Day Registration.**

Agree

**13. North Carolina should amend the state constitution to ensure that all new issues of state or local debt require voter approval.**

Agree

**14. North Carolina should reinstate the cap on the state gas tax rate.**

Agree

**15. North Carolina should repeal mandated renewable energy quotas on electric companies in order to decrease energy costs.**

Agree

**16. In terms of state regulation of businesses, which most closely resembles your view?**

The state should eliminate many regulations to allow entrepreneurs more flexibility

**17. The state should continue to fund Planned Parenthood.**

Disagree

**18. When state government spends more money to hire more state workers, it creates jobs and therefore stimulates the economy.**

Disagree

**19. North Carolina should repeal its estate tax.**

Agree

**20. Students should be able to perform at or above grade level before being promoted to the next grade.**

Agree

**21. North Carolina should have term limits for state Senators and Representatives.**

Agree

**23. North Carolina should eliminate all targeted tax credits and subsidies for businesses and instead tax all businesses the same.**

Agree

**24. Judges should continue to be elected by the voters.**

Agree

**25. North Carolina should provide tax credits to individuals and businesses that fund scholarships for K-12 students to attend non-public schools.**

Agree

**26. State lawmakers should make more laws requiring employers to provide certain benefits to workers (i.e. paid sick leave, lunch breaks, etc.).**

Disagree

**27. State pensions should be eliminated for elected officials in North Carolina.**

Agree

**28. The federal government should provide healthcare under a single-payer system.**

Disagree

**29. North Carolina should allow collective bargaining for:**

No public employees

**30. The current K-12 teacher tenure system should be retained.**

Disagree

**31. Decisions about how to pay for healthcare services should be determined by:**

The individual

**32. North Carolina needs to continue to aggressively offer targeted tax credits and subsidies to recruit businesses to expand or relocate in the state, thus creating jobs.**

Disagree

**33. Minimum Wage Laws:**

Are an unfair intrusion into the labor market, and hurt the employment opportunities for low-skilled labor

**34. North Carolina currently spends about $8,400 per K-12 public school student. This is about the right amount of spending.**

Disagree

**35. Party labels should be restored to judicial elections.**

Agree

**36. North Carolina should implement a state health insurance exchange to comply with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Obamacare).**

Agree

**Additional comments**

#3 agree only if required to use neutral, computer-produced maps
#19 If the federal government repeals its death tax so that there is no longer a credit for state death taxes paid
#27 Would have to be part of a comprehensive overhaul of how elected officials are compensated.
#36 If Obamacare is not found unconstitutional or is not repealed.