2012 Civitas Candidate Survey

Candidate Profile Information

Name

Richard Rivette

Office sought

NC State Senate

District (if applicable)

38

Party

Republican

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County

Mecklenburg

Occupation

Marketing

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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

3. A nonpartisan redistricting commission should be established to draw North Carolina's Congressional and state legislative district maps.

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 The Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) should be repealed.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

Disagree

22. North Carolina should end the unofficial moratorium on the death penalty.

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).

Disagree

Additional comments

I take some of these items a step further. Read my entire website and learn how we can make North Carolina shine in the Southeast US and for foreign investment. The two major impediments to growth, and attracting companies here, in my career have been our outdated tax policy and failing schools. I promote eliminate of the estate tax, the gas tax, the state income tax, and in most cases the corporate income tax. Replace all with a fair tax. Everyone receives a rebate up to the poverty line. Beyond that all expenditures are taxed the same.

To alleviate all school problems I move to a free market system of school choice. I have posted a 17 point plan on my candidate website to address the most pressing questions. By having public, private, religious, charter, online,

homeschool and co-ops compete we will get better teachers, better performance and enormous cost savings. By eliminating most middle management we can provide every classroom with many more teachers so the ratios can be lowered as much as 1 teacher for each 8 students, my target goal.