

# Union County & Galloway 912 Project Federal Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate: Steve Stivers

1) Why should we cast our vote for you?

Because I share your values and because I have the legislative experience to be effective as well as the business and military experience to understand how Congress can affect our safety, liberty and freedom. I will work hard to represent you, will always listen to my constituents and will make myself available to know where they stand.

2) What are the three most important goals you intend to achieve?  
How do you plan to achieve these goals?

1. Focus on Jobs – I would cut the taxes and government red tape (they kill small businesses and prevent new businesses from starting.)
2. Cut Spending - (institute a line item veto, zero based budgeting, performance based budgeting, cut government employees, and move to a two-year budget cycle so that Congress has time to analyze each area before passing budgets)
3. Balance the Budget - (Cutting spending, earmark reform, creating a line item veto & reducing entitlements)

3) Name one recent legislation which you supported and one which you opposed.  
Explain your position.

Support – Stupak amendment to prohibit coverage of abortions in the proposed government-run health care plan. I oppose public funds to be used for abortion.

Oppose - Pelosi's healthcare reform. Instead of expanding a broken system, I would fix the system first with a bill that includes: 1. Eliminate Pre-existing Conditions; 2 Pass Tort Reform to reduce the cost of defensive medicine; 3. Require Price Transparency so that consumers will know what healthcare really costs - this reform will help market-driven solutions like Health Savings Accounts bring price competition to the healthcare marketplace; 4. Allow small business to band together to have the buying power of big business; 5. Allow health insurance to be sold across state lines to increase competition; 6. Give people an incentive in their own health by mandating discounts for healthy behavior; and 7. Expand high risk pools.

- 4) Name one or more federal departments or programs that you would introduce legislation to phase out or eliminate. Explain your position.

This is a hard question, because only four Departments perform Constitutional roles. (State, Defense, Justice & Treasury), so you could eliminate the Departments of Agriculture, Education, Interior, Housing and Urban Development, Transportation, Energy and others to return to a constitutionally pure government.

One example I would eliminate is the Department of the Interior - The Department of the Interior is responsible for managing land owned by the federal government (about one-third of the land in the United States). Their mismanagement has resulted in significant environmental problems for example in the Florida Everglades or the Old Timber in the Pacific Northwest. The Interior Department should be abolished, and those lands that have recreational or historical value should be sold or given to private conservation groups. Those groups would do a better job of preserving these cherished lands than has the federal government. Lands that have commercial value (such as timber and grazing lands) should be sold to the private business concerns that currently lease them from the federal government or to environmentalists who wish to buy them for conservation purposes.

- 5) In your view, what is the proper role of government?  
How do your answers to questions 2 to 4 above reflect this view?

I believe in limited government. The views in questions 2 through 4 will result in smaller, more limited government that is accountable to the people and does not exclude or misinform the voters.

**Score each statement on how closely it resembles your opinion. Use separate sheets if you wish to further explain you answer.**

- 1) The Tenth Amendment limits the total scope of federal power as being only those powers specifically enumerated in the Constitution of the United States. The rest is to be handled by the state governments, or by the people themselves, as they determine.

Strongly Agree  Agree  No Opinion  Disagree  Strongly Disagree

- 2) Higher government spending retards economic growth by transferring additional resources from the private sector of the economy to government, which uses them less efficiently.

Strongly Agree  Agree  No Opinion  Disagree  Strongly Disagree

- 3) Private property and free markets are essential to our prosperity and freedom.  
 Strongly Agree  Agree  No Opinion  Disagree  Strongly Disagree
- 4) Man-made global warming is a scientific fact and immediate action to lower CO2 emissions is necessary to prevent an environmental catastrophe.  
 Strongly Agree  Agree  No Opinion  Disagree  Strongly Disagree
- 5) "Entrepreneurs and their small enterprises are responsible for almost all the economic growth in the United States"<sup>1</sup>  
 Strongly Agree  Agree  No Opinion  Disagree  Strongly Disagree
- 6) The Constitution is a living, breathing document that should be interpreted to reflect modern realities.  
 Strongly Agree  Agree  No Opinion  Disagree  Strongly Disagree
- 7) "The federal government has taken too much tax money from the people, too much authority from the states, and too much liberty with the Constitution."<sup>2</sup>  
 Strongly Agree  Agree  No Opinion  Disagree  Strongly Disagree
- 8) "Congress has not unlimited powers to provide for the general welfare, but only those specifically enumerated."<sup>3</sup>  
 Strongly Agree  Agree  No Opinion  Disagree  Strongly Disagree

**Check each that applies**

- 1) Which of these are Natural Rights?  
 **A.** Private Property  
 **B.** Medical care  
 **C.** Life  
 **D.** A job with a living wage  
 **E.** A home  
 **F.** Pursuit of happiness
- 2) Historically, which of these is the most effective way to increase tax revenue?  
 **A.** Increase the rate of income tax on those making more than \$250K/year  
 **B.** Permanent across the board income tax rate reductions.  
 **C.** Increase taxes on imports  
 **D.** Other (Explain)

- 3) What should be the objective of governmental assistance to the poor?
- A.** Income redistribution to reduce the gap between the rich and poor.
  - B.** Self sufficiency. A hand up rather than a hand out.
  - C.** Temporary emergency help when help from families, local communities, churches or private charities are unavailable.
  - D.** Social justice.
  - E.** "Charity is no part of the legislative duty of the government"<sup>4</sup>
  - F.** Other (Explain)
- 4) Under what circumstances abortion should be allowed?
- A.** Never
  - B.** Life of the mother
  - C.** Health of the mother
  - D.** Rape
  - E.** Incest
  - F.** Birth Defects
  - G.** Sex selection
  - H.** Any reason
- 5) What should be the US policy in Afghanistan?
- A.** Withdrawal
  - B.** Continue the current surge
  - C.** Add up to 40,000 troops as requested by General McChrystal
  - D.** Additional Air power, drones, & special forces
  - E.** Other.

**How do you think you would vote on this legislation or amendment?**

- 1) Elimination of the progressive income tax –replace it with a flat income tax or a national sales tax (with repeal of the 16<sup>th</sup> amendment to the Constitution)
- Support  Support with Conditions (explain)  Oppose  Undecided
- 2) A requirement that all public servants, elected or appointed, to justify their public acts under the Constitution
- Support  Support with Conditions (explain)  Oppose  Undecided
- 3) Cutting the corporate income tax.
- Support  Support with Conditions (explain)  Oppose  Undecided

- 4) Elimination of automatic withholding of taxes.  
 Support  Support with Conditions (explain)  Oppose  Undecided
- 5) Elimination of the estate tax  
 Support  Support with Conditions (explain)  Oppose  Undecided
- 6) All federal income tax increases require a supermajority vote of three fifths of Congress  
 Support  Support with Conditions (explain)  Oppose  Undecided
- 7) Make permanent the Bush tax cuts  
 Support  Support with Conditions (explain)  Oppose  Undecided
- 8) Audit of the Federal Reserve.  
 Support  Support with Conditions (explain)  Oppose  Undecided
- 9) Halt of any further spending that was authorized in the TARP and STIMULUS legislation  
 Support  Support with Conditions (explain)  Oppose  Undecided
- 10) Sunset all federal agencies each year, subject to Congress affirmatively re-establishing them.  
 Support  Support with Conditions (explain)  Oppose  Undecided
- 11) Repeal of the 17<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Senators would once again be chosen by the state legislations.  
 Support  Support with Conditions (explain)  Oppose  Undecided
- 12) Health Care Bill H.R. 3200  
 Support  Support with Conditions (explain)  Oppose  Undecided

13) Cap and Trade Bill H.R. 2454

Support  Support with Conditions (explain)  Oppose  Undecided

14) Full funding for the border fence.

Support  Support with Conditions (explain)  Oppose  Undecided

15) Elimination of chain migration

Support  Support with Conditions (explain)  Oppose  Undecided

16) Legislation to make English the official national language

Support  Support with Conditions (explain)  Oppose  Undecided

17) Restoration of full funding for the strategic defense initiative (SDI)

Support  Support with Conditions (explain)  Oppose  Undecided

18) Elimination of the special statutory authority granting environmental groups standing to bring lawsuits on behalf of the public.

Support  Support with Conditions (explain)  Oppose  Undecided

19) An energy plan that calls for immediately increasing usage of all domestic resources including nuclear energy, natural gas, and coal as necessary.

Support  Support with Conditions (explain)  Oppose  Undecided

20) A bill to immediately defund ACORN.

Support  Support with Conditions (explain)  Oppose  Undecided

1) Will you defend our 1<sup>st</sup> amendment rights on all media including talk radio and the internet?

Yes  No  Undecided

2) Will you pledge to vote against any legislation which raises taxes?

Yes  No  Undecided

- 3) Will you uphold the 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment right of private citizens to keep and bear arms?  
 Yes  No  Undecided
- 4) Do you promise to never vote in favor of a bill that both you and the public has not had sufficient time to read and understand?  
 Yes  No  Undecided
- 5) Do you pledge to vote against any budget that is not balanced?  
 Yes  No  Undecided
- 6) Would you advocate a reduction in the civilian federal workforce by 20 percent or more?  
 Yes  No  Undecided
- 7) Do you believe the Bush administration was justified in using enhanced interrogation techniques as they did?  
 Yes  No  Undecided
- 8) Do you think water-boarding is torture?  
 Yes  No  Undecided
- 9) Will you pledge to vote against confirmation of any judicial nominee who rejects the jurisprudence of originalism? (Candidates for the Senate)  
 Yes  No  Undecided
- 10) Is it appropriate for the federal government to attach mandates to money given to state and local governments for education?  
 Yes  No  Undecided

|  |
|--|
| Notes: 1 Ronald Reagan 2. Ronald Reagan 3. Thomas Jefferson 4. James Madison |
|--|