



## 2016 Candidate Questionnaire for Endorsement Consideration

Candidate Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Office Sought: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### Introduction

Texas Values Action will make endorsements in the 2016 election cycle. We will only endorse candidates who share in our mission and in our goals to ensure Texas is a state in which religious liberty flourishes, families prosper, and every human life is valued. Candidates must be able to demonstrate a firm commitment to protecting religious liberty, marriage and family, and innocent human life.

Candidates must complete this questionnaire to be considered for an endorsement. We will not necessarily endorse a candidate in every race and our endorsement of a candidate in a race does not represent a criticism of any other candidate in the same race.

Your questions, comments, and further thoughts are welcomed on these and other issues.

### General Questions

- 1) STATEMENT: Judeo-Christian values established a framework of morality, which permitted our system of limited government.

Agree \_\_\_\_\_ Disagree \_\_\_\_\_

- 2) SHORT ANSWER: Based on the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution, please arrange the following entities, starting with the highest source of authority, and continue the list in descending order of authority: President, Congress, Constitution, God, Supreme Court, Voters.

\_\_\_\_\_

## Religious Liberty

- 3) STATEMENT: Religious freedom is our most foundational freedom and deserves the highest level of protection in law.

Agree\_\_\_\_\_ Disagree\_\_\_\_\_

- 4) STATEMENT: Government should not discriminate against individuals, organizations, and business owners who affirm marriage as between a man and a woman. In light of the U.S. Supreme Court marriage ruling, legislation should be passed that bans government from penalizing individuals, organizations, or business owners because of their sincerely held religious beliefs on marriage.

Agree\_\_\_\_\_ Disagree\_\_\_\_\_

- 5) STATEMENT: All Texans, including government officials like County Clerks and Justices of the Peace, have the right to abide by their conscience and/or religious convictions and the right to have their faith reasonably accommodated.

Agree\_\_\_\_\_ Disagree\_\_\_\_\_

- 6) STATEMENT: Religious symbols (including the Ten Commandments, Crosses, Nativity Scenes, etc.) should be free to display on public property, including in our public schools and at our war memorials.

Agree\_\_\_\_\_ Disagree\_\_\_\_\_

- 7) STATEMENT: Texans should be free to express their religious beliefs, including prayer, in public places, including in public schools and at governmental meetings.

Agree\_\_\_\_\_ Disagree\_\_\_\_\_

## Marriage and Family

- 8) STATEMENT: Marriage is a God-ordained, sacred and legal union of one man and one woman. No government has the authority to alter this definition.

Agree\_\_\_\_\_ Disagree\_\_\_\_\_

9) STATEMENT: In light of the U.S. Supreme Court marriage ruling, Texas should change the definition of marriage in our state constitution and state laws to include marriage between same-sex couples.

Agree\_\_\_\_\_ Disagree\_\_\_\_\_

10)STATEMENT: No-fault divorce laws should be repealed.

Agree\_\_\_\_\_ Disagree\_\_\_\_\_

a) STATEMENT: Where minor children are involved, divorce laws should be reformed to include mutual consent of both parents and an increased waiting period, unless there is fault or abuse.

Agree\_\_\_\_\_ Disagree\_\_\_\_\_

b) STATEMENT: Marital education focused on the impact of divorce on children should be required before a divorce is filed.

Agree\_\_\_\_\_ Disagree\_\_\_\_\_

11)STATEMENT: Homosexual conduct tears at the fabric of society and contributes to the breakdown of the family unit. Homosexual conduct should not be presented as a responsible behavior in public policy and in law.

Agree\_\_\_\_\_ Disagree\_\_\_\_\_

a) STATEMENT: Homosexual conduct should not receive special legal entitlements or special status in law.

Agree\_\_\_\_\_ Disagree\_\_\_\_\_

b) STATEMENT: The terms “sexual orientation” and “gender identity” should not be recognized in Texas law.

Agree\_\_\_\_\_ Disagree\_\_\_\_\_

c) STATEMENT: All criminal and civil penalties against those who oppose homosexual conduct out of faith, conscience, or belief in traditional values should be opposed.

Agree\_\_\_\_\_ Disagree\_\_\_\_\_

d) QUESTION: In light of recent local ordinances passed that give special rights based on “sexual orientation” and “gender identity” (SOGI Laws), do you support legislation that would prevent local governments from creating new protected classes not already found in state law?

Support\_\_\_\_\_ Oppose\_\_\_\_\_

12) STATEMENT: Abstinence is the only 100% effective method to prevent pregnancy and sexually-transmitted diseases. If sex education is taught at a public school, abstinence-only sex education should be taught as the preferred method.

Agree\_\_\_\_\_ Disagree\_\_\_\_\_

13) STATEMENT: The state should ban abortion providers and any entity or individual affiliated with an abortion provider from providing sex education instruction or materials in Texas public schools.

Agree\_\_\_\_\_ Disagree\_\_\_\_\_

14) STATEMENT: The state should fund education by allowing dollars to follow the child instead of the bureaucracy, through a program which allows parents the freedom to choose their child's school, public or private.

Agree\_\_\_\_\_ Disagree\_\_\_\_\_

15) STATEMENT: The State Board of Education should be elected and should have the authority to review and veto all instructional materials that enter the classroom.

Agree\_\_\_\_\_ Disagree\_\_\_\_\_

16) QUESTION: Would you support or oppose the expansion of gambling in Texas?

Support\_\_\_\_\_ Oppose\_\_\_\_\_

a) STATEMENT: The Texas Lottery should be abolished.

Agree\_\_\_\_\_ Disagree\_\_\_\_\_

## Life

17) STATEMENT: Human life begins at conception and deserves full legal protection at every stage until natural death.

Agree\_\_\_\_\_ Disagree\_\_\_\_\_

18) STATEMENT: An employer should not be forced by the government to violate his or her conscience by providing access to abortifacient drugs and contraception to employees.

Agree \_\_\_\_\_ Disagree \_\_\_\_\_

19) STATEMENT: Abortion providers and their affiliates, including Planned Parenthood, should be ineligible to receive any taxpayer funds from federal, state, or local governments. Any existing taxpayer funding to abortion providers and their affiliates should be banned.

Agree \_\_\_\_\_ Disagree \_\_\_\_\_

a) STATEMENT: The state of Texas should prohibit all Medicaid funding from being distributed to Planned Parenthood and other abortion providers.

Agree \_\_\_\_\_ Disagree \_\_\_\_\_

20) STATEMENT: Harvesting of Embryonic Stem Cells requires the destruction of unborn human life and should be banned.

Agree \_\_\_\_\_ Disagree \_\_\_\_\_

21) STATEMENT: Texas should criminalize the sale or transaction of baby body parts by an abortion clinic and should make it illegal for abortionists to alter the procedure to preserve baby body parts.

Agree \_\_\_\_\_ Disagree \_\_\_\_\_

### Other Questions

22) OPEN ANSWER: Our Founding Fathers protected religious freedom in the first two clauses of the First Amendment. In your own words, what does it mean to exercise religious freedom?

23) OPEN ANSWER: Describe your spiritual beliefs and values.

24) OPEN ANSWER: How will your spiritual beliefs and values impact you in your elected office?

25) OPEN ANSWER: Describe the charitable, educational, religious, or political organizations you have been affiliated with as a leader, member, contributor, or volunteer.

Please sign the completed questionnaire and return it with any further comments.

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Signature of Candidate

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Date

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Printed Name of Candidate

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Phone

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Campaign Mailing Address

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