



CONNECTICUT CATHOLIC PUBLIC AFFAIRS CONFERENCE, INC.

134 FARMINGTON AVENUE

HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06105-3784

MICHAEL C. CULHANE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DEACON DAVID W. REYNOLDS
LEGISLATIVE LIAISON

July 9, 2010

Dear

The Connecticut Catholic Public Affairs Conference, representing the Catholic Bishops of Connecticut and the 1.34 million Catholics in our state, is conducting a survey of all candidates running for state office in Connecticut in the Primary Election on August 10, 2010. I am enclosing a *2010 Primary Candidate Survey* for your review and completion.

As you can see, our questionnaire covers a wide range of issues. We will be posting your responses to this questionnaire on our website, and Connecticut's 376 Catholic parishes will be encouraged to distribute copies to their parishioners. To enable us to collect this information in a timely manner, and to ensure proper distribution, we ask that you complete and return your questionnaire by fax or email no later than Friday, July 23, 2010. Please note that the Connecticut Catholic Public Affairs Conference views this survey as an educational and instructional effort to inform the members of our parishes as to the positions taken by the respective candidates on the important issues facing the citizens of Connecticut. I hope that you will return this survey promptly so that we do not have to indicate a "non-response" when the results are distributed.

Your responses to this survey are greatly appreciated and can be faxed to 860-525-0750, or emailed to ccc@ctcatholic.org.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at 860-524-7882. Again, thank you for your cooperation regarding this effort.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael C. Culhane". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Michael C. Culhane
Executive Director

Enclosure

Connecticut Catholic Public Affairs Conference

*Representing the Archdiocese of Hartford, Diocese of Bridgeport,
Diocese of Norwich and the Ukrainian Catholic Diocese of Stamford*

Connecticut Primary Candidate Survey – August 10, 2010

Candidate Name: _____ District: _____

1) Economy/Taxes

It is projected that the state will soon be facing a \$3.4 billion deficit in fiscal year 2010/11, followed by a \$3.7 billion deficit for 2011/12. Some elected officials would prefer to address this fiscal crisis by increasing various state taxes, while others believe it should be addressed through sizable cuts in state spending.

A. Do you support balancing the budget by increasing taxes to avoid making sizable cuts in state programs?
Yes ___ No ___ Undecided ___

B. Do you support balancing the budget by making the necessary cuts in state programs to avoid increasing taxes?
Yes ___ No ___ Undecided ___

2) Education

Concerns about an educational achievement gap and racial segregation between school districts have existed in Connecticut for many years and still persist today. One way to address this issue is by providing parents with the opportunity to send their child to the school of their choice.

A. Do you support a proposal that would allow tax credits for corporations that donate to a scholarship program for middle and lower income students to attend a private or religious school?
Yes ___ No ___ Undecided ___

B. Do you support changing Connecticut law to allow municipalities to provide a property tax credit to lower and middle-income families who send their children to a private or religious school, similar to the credit currently given to veterans and senior citizens?
Yes ___ No ___ Undecided ___

3) Teen Health

Current state law requires consent by a parent or guardian for a minor to get a tattoo, visit a sun-tanning salon, get an aspirin in school, etc. However, notification of a parent or guardian is not required for a young girl to obtain an abortion.

Do you support the notification of an adult family member (parent, guardian, grandparent, sibling over 21 years old, etc.) prior to a girl under 18 years of age receiving an abortion in Connecticut?
Yes ___ No ___ Undecided ___

4) Physician-Assisted Suicide

An effort is currently underway to legalize physician-assisted suicide for terminally ill patients in our state. This issue raises many ethical concerns, such as whether this procedure would actually threaten the most vulnerable in our society.

Do you support physician-assisted suicide for terminally ill mentally competent patients?
Yes ___ No ___ Undecided ___

5) Death Penalty

Efforts to repeal the death penalty in Connecticut have been on-going for years. Many people view the death penalty as a deterrent to crime and just punishment for the criminal. Others view it as immoral and failing to act as a deterrent to crime. They would prefer to replace it with life imprisonment without a possibility of parole.

Do you support the repeal of the death penalty, replacing this punishment with life imprisonment without the possibility of parole?
Yes ___ No ___ Undecided ___

Return to: Connecticut Catholic Public Affairs Conference, 134 Farmington Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut 06105
Fax (860-525-0750) or Email (ccc@ctcatholic.org)