

Brookline PAX 2010 Democratic Primary Endorsement Questionnaire

Name _____ Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____ Office Sought _____

- NOTES:*
- A. Please submit questionnaire by e-mail if possible (see cover letter).*
 - B. Short answers are encouraged, but feel free to use additional sheets if necessary.*
 - C. See cover letter explaining the questions and PAX's endorsement process.*

1. WHY ARE YOU RUNNING for this office, and what are the strengths and priorities that distinguish you from your opponents? Provide some background information – local/national political and governmental activity, positions held, occupation, education, and anything else relevant to the office's challenges.

2. POLICY PRIORITIES: Many Brookline residents share the view that, while terrorism is a real issue, two broader threats to our national security are (a) greenhouse gases likely to warm our planet by at least 3° F and possibly as many as 12° over the next century, and (b) three decades of increasingly widespread anti-government and anti-tax sentiment causing deterioration in public education and other public services and infrastructure, cuts in police pay, community policing, and crime prevention, and the imminent closing of courthouses, including Brookline Court.

a. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the foregoing?

b. What is your current position on and past involvement if any (e.g., specific votes or public statements) with:

- some increased taxes as a general proposition?
- specifically, an increased gasoline tax?
- increased legalized gambling, either by casinos or otherwise?

3. DHS SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS: What is your opinion about the surveillance cameras provided to Brookline and other Boston metro communities by the Department of Homeland Security, including:

a. how much the privacy intrusion concerns you, and

b. your general thoughts on the trade-offs between privacy and public safety?

4. DEATH PENALTY: What is your position on and past involvement if any (e.g., specific votes or public statements) with the death penalty?

5. DRUG SENTENCING REFORM: The state Senate's criminal justice bill, supported by the Governor, includes (in addition to CORI reform) "mandatory post-release supervision" for all inmates and parole (and re-entry preparation program) eligibility for all drug law offenders.

a. Do you support, and what is your past involvement (if any) with that Senate version?

b. Do you disagree, and if so why, that "mandatory" drug law sentencing doesn't eliminate discretion but merely shifts it from judges to prosecutors; causes racial sentencing disparities; and on balance reduces public safety by wasting resources and impeding "recidivism prevention"?

6. IMMIGRATION: What are your views on, and past involvement (if any) with:

a. whether the recent Arizona law will encourage inappropriate ethnic profiling?

b. recent Massachusetts efforts to block public benefits for illegal immigrants?

3. EDUCATION: What are your views on and past involvement (if any) with:

a. MCAS, especially its "high-stakes" aspect?

b. more charter schools?

8. RACIAL PROFILING: A racial profiling mandatory data collection bill, S.1409, was favorably reported out by the Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight. It has support from the Governor and the "major chiefs," conditional on obtaining federal grant money for a new statewide, electronic citation system. Why do you support or not support such a law?

9. REFORM OF STATE LEGISLATURE:

a. Do you see a need to enhance public confidence in the state legislature? if so, how (other than b and c below)?

b. What changes would you support to:

- empower the members of the legislature in relation to leadership?

- improve the way committee chairmanships are selected?

c. Would you support making the Open Meeting and/or Public Records laws apply to the legislature?

Would you like PAX's endorsement? _____ Signature _____ Date _____

RETURN COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRE TO:

Frank Farlow
8 Bowker Street
Brookline MA 02445-6955