

North Carolina FreeEnterprise Foundation
2010 Questionnaire
Candidates for North Carolina General Assembly

Please complete and return
by March 19 Deadline

SECTION I. Candidate Personal Profile Information

Name: Jamie Earp Office Sought (circle): Senate House District #: 34
Party (circle): Democrat Republican Other: _____
Address: 4441 Six Forks Rd., #106-171 City: Raleigh State: NC Zip: 27609
County of Residence: Wake Length of Residence in County: 3 years
(99)
Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Mobile Phone: 368-6446
Email: jearp@usa.net Fax: _____
Gender: M Race/Ethnicity: W Religion: Lutheran
Place of Birth (city/state): Statesville / NC Date of Birth: 10/21/75
Marital Status (circle): Married Single Divorced Separated Number of Children: 0
Occupation: Consultant Employer: Cardinal Strategy Group, LLC
Military Service: None High School: Alexander Central High
Colleges/Universities Attended: UNC Chapel Hill (BA); George Mason (JD)
Degrees: Bachelors in Political Science; Juris Doctorate
Previous Elected/Appointed Offices: _____

SECTION II. Candidate Campaign Information

Name of Campaign Committee: Earp for NC House
Campaign Email: info@earpfor34.com Campaign Website: www.earpfor34.com
Campaign Phone: (919) 928-5120 Campaign Fax: _____
Campaign Address: 4441 Six Forks Rd, #106-171 City: Raleigh State: NC Zip: 27609
Campaign Treasurer: Collin McMichael Campaign Treasurer Phone: (919) 889-1817
Political Consultants: Chris Sinclair + Alastair Macauley

North Carolina FreeEnterprise Foundation
 2010 Questionnaire
 Candidates for North Carolina General Assembly

Please complete and return
by March 19 Deadline

Considering your personal and professional associations, how likely are you to receive support from each of the following groups?

	Very Likely	Likely	Unknown	Unlikely	Very Unlikely
A. North Carolina Advocates for Justice (formerly the Academy of Trial Lawyers)	1	2	3	4	5
B. Medical Groups (ex. Doctors, Hospital Administrators)	1	2	3	4	5
C. Banking & Finance Industry	1	2	3	4	5
D. Utility/Telecommunications Companies	1	2	3	4	5
E. Real Estate & Construction Industry	1	2	3	4	5
F. Labor Unions	1	2	3	4	5
G. Retail/Wholesale Businesses	1	2	3	4	5
H. State Employees Association of N.C. (SEANC)	1	2	3	4	5
I. Insurance Industry	1	2	3	4	5
J. N.C. Association of Educators (NCAE)	1	2	3	4	5
K. Business Professionals (ex. Architects, Accountants, Engineers)	1	2	3	4	5
L. Transportation Industry	1	2	3	4	5
M. Agri-business Interests	1	2	3	4	5
N. Legislative Leadership Committees	1	2	3	4	5

Are there other groups not listed that you would expect to receive a campaign contribution or endorsement from? (Ex. Lillian's List, Anti-Tax Groups)

Anti-tax groups, various pro-business groups

North Carolina FreeEnterprise Foundation
2010 Questionnaire
Candidates for North Carolina General Assembly

Please complete and return
by March 19 Deadline

SECTION III. CANDIDATE ISSUE QUESTIONS & STATEMENTS

Instructions: Please respond to the following questions and statements by circling the response that best represents your position or opinion. You are invited to provide additional comments or explanations for your answers on a separate page. Please be sure to identify which question you are commenting on by noting the appropriate question number with your additional comments.

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. For every \$100.00 of sales, about how much profit do you believe the average North Carolina business nets? (Circle one response)

Under \$1 \$1-5 \$5-10 \$10-25 \$25-50 Over \$50

2. The current level of taxes paid by North Carolina businesses is too high, too low, or about right? (Circle one response)

Too high Too low About right

3. Have you owned or managed a business? (If so, please describe below.)

Yes No

Various consulting entities (incl current) & political campaigns

4. Do you believe that environmental laws and regulations in North Carolina are too strict, about right, or too lenient?

Too Strict About Right Too Lenient Undecided

BUDGET & TAXES

5. Reducing taxes on businesses in North Carolina will stimulate economic activity resulting in the creation of more jobs and increased tax revenue.

Agree Disagree Undecided

6. Reducing taxes on businesses in North Carolina will reduce state revenues and cause substantial harm to critical government programs and services.

Agree Disagree Undecided

7. The growth of state spending from year to year should be limited to a specific growth factor such as the rate of inflation.

Agree Disagree Undecided

8. Recurring state budget expenditures should only be funded with existing, recurring revenues.

Agree Disagree Undecided

9. The state sales tax should be expanded to include personal and professional services such as haircuts, automotive repairs, legal services and medical services.

Agree Disagree Undecided

North Carolina FreeEnterprise Foundation
2010 Questionnaire
Candidates for North Carolina General Assembly

Please complete and return
by March 19 Deadline

10. Dedicated sources of revenue (such as the Highway Trust Fund) should not be transferred to the General Fund as a means of balancing the state budget.

Agree Disagree Undecided

11. North Carolina's personal income tax should be increased in order to provide more revenue for state programs and services.

Agree Disagree Undecided

12. The North Carolina General Assembly should make permanent the one-cent sales tax increase that is set to expire on June 30, 2011, in order to secure those revenues for future needs and planning.

Agree Disagree Undecided

EMPLOYMENT

13. North Carolina should remain a "Right to Work" state, meaning that a person cannot be required to join a union in order to get or keep a job.

Agree Disagree Undecided

14. The North Carolina General Assembly should raise the state's minimum wage above the current level of \$7.25 per hour.

Agree Disagree Undecided

15. The North Carolina General Assembly should mandate what specific health benefits coverage private-sector employers provide to their employees, even if it raises the cost of premiums.

Agree Disagree Undecided

16. The North Carolina General Assembly should expand workers' compensation disability payments to workers who suffer from non-physical ailments such as stress and depression, even if it raises the cost of premiums.

Agree Disagree Undecided

17. Associations representing state and local employees and teachers should be allowed to engage in collective bargaining for wages, benefits and working conditions.

Agree Disagree Undecided

18. The North Carolina General Assembly should repeal the ability of state employees and teachers to authorize the payroll deduction of association dues (dues check-off).

Agree Disagree Undecided

19. Employers in North Carolina should be required to provide paid sick leave to all employees.

Agree Disagree Undecided

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

20. State tax dollars should be used as incentives to entice large companies to locate in North Carolina.

Agree Disagree Undecided

North Carolina FreeEnterprise Foundation
2010 Questionnaire
Candidates for North Carolina General Assembly

Please complete and return
by March 19 Deadline

21. The focus of North Carolina's economic development efforts should be on reducing the corporate income tax rate and improving the overall business climate of the state, rather than providing tax incentives to a limited number of large corporations.

Agree Disagree Undecided

ENVIRONMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE

22. North Carolina's environmental regulations should be no stricter than applicable federal requirements.

Agree Disagree Undecided

23. Toll roads are a necessary part of meeting North Carolina's growing transportation needs.

Agree Disagree Undecided

CIVIL JUSTICE

24. It is important for a jury in a civil lawsuit to be informed of health insurance and disability insurance payments already received by a plaintiff before deciding on an award in the case.

Agree Disagree Undecided

25. If there are multiple defendants in a negligence case and one or more of the defendants is unable to pay their share of the damages, the defendant or defendants who can pay should have to pay for 100 percent of the damages awarded.

Agree Disagree Undecided

26. The North Carolina General Assembly should repeal the state's "contributory negligence" law (which prohibits an injured person from collecting damages if the person contributed to his or her own injury) and replace it with "comparative fault" (which allows an injured person the potential to collect damages, depending upon the percentage of fault that is attributable to the person).

Agree Disagree Undecided

GOVERNANCE

27. The state legislature should expand the authority of cities and counties to impose a broader range of taxes and fees at the local level.

Agree Disagree Undecided

If you agree, which of the following taxes or fees would you favor? (Circle all of those that apply)

local sales tax local income tax development impact fees real estate transfer tax prepared meals tax

Other taxes or fees (please list): _____

28. North Carolina should continue to operate under Dillon's Rule, a legal doctrine providing that municipalities and counties possess only those powers and authorities expressly granted to them by the North Carolina Constitution or the State Legislature.

Agree Disagree Undecided

North Carolina FreeEnterprise Foundation
2010 Questionnaire
Candidates for North Carolina General Assembly

Please complete and return
by March 19 Deadline

29. The North Carolina Constitution should be amended to allow voters the ability to add referenda to the statewide ballot after collecting a required minimum number of signatures (i.e., initiative and referendum).

Agree Disagree Undecided

30. A nonpartisan redistricting commission should be established to draw North Carolina's congressional and state legislative district maps following the 2010 Census.

Agree Disagree Undecided

31. The North Carolina Constitution should be amended to establish specific limitations on the length of legislative sessions in North Carolina (session limits).

Agree Disagree Undecided

32. State legislative leaders (the President Pro Tempore of the N.C. Senate and the Speaker of the N.C. House) should be limited to serving no more than two consecutive terms at a time.

Agree Disagree Undecided

33. Judges in North Carolina should be appointed by the Governor instead of elected by the people.

Agree Disagree Undecided

EDUCATION

34. State lawmakers should increase taxes in North Carolina in order to raise teacher pay to the national average.

Agree Disagree Undecided

35. The N.C. General Assembly should grant local school boards independent taxing authority.

Agree Disagree Undecided

36. The North Carolina General Assembly should repeal the law requiring public schools to start the school year no earlier than August 25 and instead allow classes to begin in early August even if such a change would negatively impact the state's tourism industry.

Agree Disagree Undecided

BANKING & FINANCE

37. The government should take a greater role in establishing rates and prices for financial products and services.

Agree Disagree Undecided

38. It is necessary for the North Carolina General Assembly to increase regulations on the financial services industry in order to protect the interests of consumers.

Agree Disagree Undecided

North Carolina FreeEnterprise Foundation
2010 Questionnaire
Candidates for North Carolina General Assembly

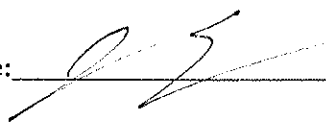
Please complete and return
by March 19 Deadline

SECTION IV. OPEN-ENDED QUESTION

Statewide surveys indicate the top issue on the minds of voters in North Carolina is the economy and jobs. With that in mind, please explain your vision for economic growth and job creation.

Please see enclosed material.

Candidate Signature:
(signature required)



Date:

3/19/10



Create a Competitive Tax and Regulatory Climate for ALL North Carolina Businesses

North Carolina has the highest tax rates in the southeastern United States. These high taxes discourage businesses from moving to North Carolina on their own and limit entrepreneur-minded individuals from starting a new business. We must reduce the employer tax rate in order to make North Carolina's business climate more competitive.

This reform should include ending North Carolina's debilitating addiction to "corporate welfare" as a means of creating jobs. The best and most cost effective way to grow jobs in our state is to create a business climate that incentivizes ALL employers to grow, expand and hire more workers. Today, North Carolina spends approximately \$400 million per year on these types of handouts, which give these companies an unfair competitive advantage on our already existing small business owner.

In addition to tax reform, our state's employers desperately need a fair and predictable regulatory system in order to plan and grow without fear of unreasonable interference or penalties by the state. Over the past decade, North Carolina's regulatory agencies have stopped being partners of employers and have adopted a mindset of trying to catch businesses misbehaving. We need to return to a system that encourages best practices, by doing so we can create an environment that protects employees while at the same time allowing businesses to expand thereby hiring more North Carolinians.

Increase Access and Affordability of Health Care Coverage

Employers in our state struggle everyday to keep their employees healthy and working, but the cost of doing so is becoming out of reach for many of them. Yet our state continues to stop businesses from accessing more cost effective means of keeping their workers insured. Senators Phil Berger, Neal Hunt and Thom Tillman proposed legislation that would allow North Carolinians to buy health insurance across state lines. North Carolina voters support this legislation, but the Democrat controlled General Assembly voted to stop North Carolinians from this legislation. Democrats have also opposed and stopped small businesses from joining groups that would allow them to get cheaper rates enjoyed by only larger "self insured" companies.

Keep North Carolina a "Right to Work" Business Friendly State

One of North Carolina's greatest competitive advantages is our Right to Work law – which is the foundation for our state constantly being ranked as one of the nation's "best states to do business". But this law is under constant attack by state and national labor unions that view North Carolina as ground zero for their future growth because states like Michigan, Ohio, New York and others can no longer endure the anti-competitive laws that unions have pushed through over the past few decades. These same organizations are also behind the national "card check" legislation that seeks to eliminate the democratic secret ballot process from the workplace – the same inherent privacy right given to citizens when they cast their votes on election-day.

Our state needs leaders who will fight any attempt to make North Carolina the next Michigan. We cannot afford for our private sector to become less competitive, less productive, and more bureaucratic – like our state government is today.

Create an Education System That Prepares Students for the Workforce

One of the main problems facing employers today is an inability to find employees with the skills and education to do the work they need. And this isn't just in the high tech, financial services or pharmaceutical industries, but in the agriculture, manufacturing and service industries as well. North Carolina's public school system has systematically removed vocational education from the K-12 curriculum, and has focused on preparing students for one thing – getting a 4-year college degree. We must prepare students at



every education level – whether high school, community college, or advanced degree – to enter and be a productive member of the workforce. Having our public school system, community college system, and university system working together to address the employer/employee needs of our state is critical to keep us competitive with other states and the world.

This approach will not only give employers a capable group of workers to fill their needs, but will also help to remedy our state's embarrassing drop-out rate. We spend more money per student in K-12 than almost any other state in the country, but we rank among the worst in the country in the number of students that actually finish high school. Engaging students in areas that interest them and have real world applications will result in higher graduation rates and a better prepared workforce for North Carolina's employers.

Protect Employers from Legal Abuse

Today, North Carolina enjoys an average climate in regard to its legal environment. When a trial lawyer wins a multi-million dollar lawsuit against a small business, jobs and workers suffer. Companies spend heavily on lawyers, not to mention litigation insurance to protect themselves from frivolous lawsuits. These burdensome costs on employers are hindering job creation and expansion for all companies, instead of creating new jobs or expanding their business. By enacting real tort reform, and keeping our state's pro-business legal environment laws in place, we can limit frivolous lawsuits and create and retain more jobs for North Carolinians.