

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: A.B. Swindell, IV Office Sought (circle): Senate ~~House~~ District #: 11th
Address: PO Box 788 Party (circle): Democrat ~~Republican~~ Other: D
City: Nashville State: NC Zip: 27856
County of Residence: Nash Length of Residence in County: 21 years
Home Phone: 252 459 7805 Work Phone: 919-715 3030 Mobile Phone: _____
Email: abs@ncleg.net Fax: 252-459 ~~7805~~ 4538
Gender: MALE Race/Ethnicity: W Religion: Methodist
Place of Birth (city/state): Nashville / NC Date of Birth: 10 18 45
Marital Status (circle): Married Single Divorced Separated Number of Children: 3
Occupation: Consultant Employer: Self
Military Service: Non discharged US Army High School: Cary VA
Colleges/Universities Attended: Wilson C. College, Sandhills CC, NCSU
Degrees: AA / Teacher Certification, Voc Ed Methods @ NC STATE
Previous Elected/Appointed Offices: Wilson CC - Certification Heavy Equipment operator.
Oxford City Council 1981-85
NC Senate 2001 - present 5 TERMS

SECTION II. Candidate Campaign Information

Name of Campaign Committee: Swindell For Senate
Campaign Email: abswindell@embargymail.com Campaign Website: www.abswindell.com *
Campaign Phone: _____ Campaign Fax: 252-459-7805
Campaign Address: PO Box 788 City: Nashville, State: NC Zip: 27856
Campaign Treasurer: SAM MARSH Campaign Treasurer Phone: _____
Political Consultants: _____

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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)

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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

① BFI - managed gov affairs, regulatory office
② Henny (Commercial business) 1971-1975

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

*most about right some are
open for discussion.*

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

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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

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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

*we need both reductions
and incentives*

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

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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

Need more information

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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.

We should always work towards
providing a strong business
attitude and climate.
Working with Business, Learning,
Community College, and Commerce.

Candidate Signature: 
(signature required)

Date: 3/18/2010

Albin B. (A.B.) Swindell, IV
PO Box 788
Nashville, NC 27856

A.B. Swindell was born in Robeson County, North Carolina, and at the age of three months, his family moved back to the family farm in Hyde County. His father, Russell, was a dairy farmer, who also served in the North Carolina State Legislature representing Hyde County.

A.B. was educated at Wilson Technical Community College, Sandhills Community College, and North Carolina State University. He served in the U.S. Army and received an Honorable Discharge.

A.B. began his career as a vocational educator with the Granville County School System in Oxford from 1971 until 1983 and while living in Oxford, he served on the Oxford City Council from 1981-1985. He was executive director of the NC Railroads Association from 1977 to 1980. In 1983, he was named District Administrative Assistant to U.S. Congressman Tim Valentine, 2nd District, and he served in that capacity for 12 years.

Following Congressman Valentine's departure from Congress, A.B. served as director of the NC Education Foundation under then State Superintendent of Public Instruction Bob Etheridge. Prior to seeking his senate seat, AB served as manager of government affairs in North and South Carolinas for Browning-Ferris Industries.

A.B. is currently serving his fifth term in the State Senate, representing Nash and Wilson Counties in the 11th District. He was first elected to the Senate in November 2000, representing the 10th District, which prior to redistricting was made up of Nash, Halifax, portions of Edgecombe and Wilson counties.

A.B. serves on the following Senate Standing Committees: Agriculture; Co-Chairman, Appropriations/Base Budget; Education/Higher Education; Finance; Judiciary II; Pensions & Retirement and Aging; Rules & Operations of the Senate; Transportation, and Ways and Means. In addition, he serves on the following legislative committees: Vice Chair, Joint Legislative Joining Our Businesses and Schools (JOBS) Study Commission; Co-Chair, Joint Legislative Study Committee on Public School Funding Formula; Co-Chair, Commission on Aging; Joint Legislative Study Committee on Capital Improvements; Joint Legislative Study Committee on State Funded Student Financial Aid; Joint Legislative Committee on Education Oversight; Joint Legislative Commission on Dropout Prevention and High School Graduation; N. C. Zoological Park Funding and Organization Study Committee; Joint Legislative Program Evaluation Oversight Committee; Joint Legislative Administrative Procedure Oversight; Joint Legislative Committee on Seafood and Aquaculture; Environmental Review Commission; Select Committee Energy, Science and Technology; Study Commission on Water and Wastewater Infrastructure; Task Force on the Consolidation of Early Childhood Education and Care; and, Joint Select Committee on Ex-Offender Reintegration into Society.

In addition to serving on the following boards, A.B. has been named to numerous interim legislative study commissions: NCIOM Access to Care Study Group; SBOE Business and Education Technology Alliance; NC Budget Advisory Commission; Peace College Board of Trustees; and NC Operation Lifesaver to name a few.

AB and his wife, Diane reside in Nashville where they are members of Nashville Methodist Church. They have three sons and two grandchildren.

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