

North Carolina FreeEnterprise Foundation
2010 Questionnaire
Candidates for United States Congress

Please complete and return
by March 19 Deadline

SECTION I. Candidate Personal Profile Information

Name: Patrick McHenry Office Sought (circle): Senate House District #: 10
Address: PO Box 1406 Party (circle): Democratic Republican Other: _____
City: Hickory State: NC Zip: 28603
County of Residence: Gaston Length of Residence in County: Lifelong except college + work in DC.
Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: 828-441-2006 Mobile Phone: _____
Email: Ryan.Minta@mchenryforcongress.com Fax: 828-326-9733
Gender: Male Race/Ethnicity: White Religion: Roman Catholic
Place of Birth (city/state): Mecklenburg Co, NC Date of Birth: 10/22/1975
Marital Status (circle): Married Single ^{Engaged} Divorced Separated Number of Children: _____
Occupation: Incumbent Congressman, Real Estate Employer: US House of Reps.
Military Service: N/A High School: Ashbrook High, Gastonia - 1994
Colleges/Universities Attended: _____
Degrees: BA - History, 2000
Previous Elected/Appointed Offices: NC House of Representatives, 2003-2005,
Presidential appointee - Special Assistant to US Sec. of
Labor - 2001

SECTION II. Candidate Campaign Information

Name of Campaign Committee: McHenry for Congress
Campaign Email: Ryan.Minta@mchenryforcongress.com Campaign Website: www.mchenryforcongress.com
Campaign Phone: 828-441-2006 Campaign Fax: 828-326-9733
Campaign Address: P.O. Box 1406 City: Hickory State: NC Zip: 28603
Campaign Treasurer: Cathy Rains Campaign Treasurer Phone: _____
Political Consultants: Dee Stewart, The Stewart Group, Inc.

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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)

National Right to Life, National Rifle Association, US Chamber of Commerce, NFIB

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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.

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 federal taxes paid by North Carolina business and industry 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

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

Too Strict About Right Too Lenient Undecided

5. Do you believe reducing taxes on businesses will stimulate economic activity resulting in the creation of more jobs and increased tax revenue?

Yes No Undecided

6. Do you believe reducing taxes on businesses will reduce tax revenues and cause substantial harm to critical government programs and services?

Yes No Undecided

7. Do you believe the United States Congress should increase the minimum wage?

Yes No Undecided

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8. Do you believe the U.S. Congress should enact "Cap and Trade" legislation that would enable government agencies to cap the amount of emissions a company may produce or require that company to purchase credits if it exceeds the government-set emissions limitation?

Yes No Undecided

9. Do you believe a limit should be imposed on the amount of damages a jury can award to a plaintiff beyond the actual monetary loss incurred by the plaintiff?

Yes No Undecided

10. Do believe offshore energy exploration should take place off of the coast of North Carolina?

Yes No Undecided

11. Do you believe a nonpartisan redistricting commission should be established to draw North Carolina's congressional and state legislative district maps following the 2010 Census?

Yes No Undecided

12. Do you believe secret ballot voting during union organizing elections should be eliminated?

Yes No Undecided

13. Do you believe employers, employees and organized labor should be subject to binding arbitration in order to determine the wages and benefits an employer must provide for its employees?

Yes No Undecided

14. Do you believe the government should take a greater role in establishing rates and prices for financial products and services?

Yes No Undecided

15. Do you believe it is necessary for the U.S. Congress to increase regulations on the financial services industry in order to protect the interests of consumers?

Yes No Undecided

(Please proceed to Section IV. Open-Ended Questions)

1. A primary focus of the U.S. Congress this past year has been to reform health care and health insurance in the United States. Please briefly explain your recommendations for reform and the roles of the government and private sector in your proposal.

I believe that every American should have access to quality and affordable healthcare. However, a government-rationed healthcare system is not the answer. Healthcare decisions should be made by patients and their doctors, not government bureaucrats.

I support the establishment of Association Health Plans, which would allow small businesses that could not otherwise afford health insurance to band together and purchase insurance as a group so that more working Americans have access to health insurance. It should be the right of every American to have tax-free Medical Savings Accounts to help cover out-of-pocket expenses associated with healthcare.

To make healthcare coverage more affordable and accessible for workers, I support the Small Business Health Fairness Act, which would allow small businesses to band together to purchase health insurance.

Lawsuit abuse is putting many doctors out of business and increasing the cost of healthcare for everyone. Some counties in the mountains of North Carolina now have no doctors practicing obstetrics because they cannot afford insurance premiums. Lawsuit abuse needs to be reformed, including capping jackpot jury awards on non-economic damages and limiting what trial lawyers take from injured patients.

2. 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.

Last year, I stood in opposition to a stimulus bill that the Obama Administration promised us would solve all of our problems. All they needed from the American people was a little bit of money, "only" \$9,500 from each man, woman and child in the country.

I voted against this bill because I saw it for what it was: a bill that spent too much money on government, too much on special interests projects, and was loaded with more pork than a Sunday pig pickin'. I voted against it because I knew it wouldn't work.

Here we are a year later and unfortunately I was right. I wish I had been wrong. I wish it HAD worked and that it had helped folks in Western North Carolina find jobs. It hasn't. So far just 33.7% of the funds from the stimulus bill have been spent and that money has been ineffective in creating jobs.

Due to the Obama administration's failure to provide any solutions with real help to the American people, I convened a meeting of economic development officials from all ten counties of our district to discuss what we can do to increase job creation.

My plan is simple:

- Stop making the problem worse by issuing an immediate cease-and-desist order on new taxes and regulation.
- Restore investor confidence in our economic future by confronting our deficit.
- Reduce the price of doing business in America by increasing our energy supply and lowering business taxes.
- Evaluate our foreign trade agreements to make sure that they are fair.
- And strengthen the retraining programs across North Carolina's community college system so that those who want to work are prepared to.

Our communities are full of good, reliable men and women who know how to work hard and creating jobs for them is my number one priority. I know that government can't create real, long lasting jobs, that the private sector and small business leaders are the engine of our economy.