

36th CD Special Election Candidate Forum List of 15 Questions for Candidates

1. FOREIGN POLICY: Are there circumstances where the United States should take pre-emptive military action against another country? For instance, if the United States receives indisputable evidence that extremists are set to overthrow the admittedly unstable government of Pakistan, may the US take preemptive action to secure Pakistan's nuclear arsenal?
2. FOREIGN POLICY: In light of the current turmoil in the Middle East, would you ever support sending military and/or financial aid to despotic or dictatorial regimes? And what would you do to finally put an end to the tremendous influence of this country's military industrial congressional complex?
3. FOREIGN POLICY: Do you support the decades-old U.S. policy of sending billions of dollars in military aid to Israel and Egypt?
4. FOREIGN POLICY: When is it ok to assassinate a foreign head of state?
5. FOREIGN POLICY: How will you reduce the defense budget, end the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and prevent future foreign aggression? Additionally, should ALL US troops exit Iraq by the end of 2011 (as currently planned)?
6. DOMESTIC POLICY : In the Venice, Mar Vista, and other West Los Angeles areas of the northern 36th District, residents living by Santa Monica Airport have great concerns regarding the airport's negative impacts on their health, safety, and quality of life. Please tell us your views on these issues, and whether or not you support the recent L.A. City Council resolution requesting Congress to direct the FAA to alter flight paths and close six flight schools at the SM Airport.
7. DOMESTIC POLICY : Many people believe that electoral reform is necessary for democracy. Do you think we need campaign finance reform and if you do, what is the reform you're offering? Would you support an immediate change to Instant Run-Off Voting for legislative and executive office?
8. DOMESTIC POLICY: As a public official, what have you done for the preservation of private property rights, especially with regards the "imminent domain" taking of private property, such as the KELO vs. NEW LONDON case, where governments have taken private property for the benefit of other private corporate enterprises. Once in office will you support a congressional reversal of the KELO vs. NEW LONDON case?
9. DOMESTIC POLICY: What steps do you believe American can do to create affordable energy independence? Do we need to utilize our own natural fossil fuel resources, alternative fuel resources such as solar or wind, or both? Which form of energy is the most cost-effective? What is your position on nuclear power? Do you feel that we have adequate safeguards in place to avoid a recurrence of what happened in Japan?
10. DOMESTIC POLICY: Everyone talks about creating 'green jobs'. What about providing assistance for existing businesses to function more sustainably? Would you develop a system of rebates, incentives and education to accomplish this? Do you agree that we need to ban the use of free plastic single use plastic shopping bags in the country?

11. BUDGET/FINANCE POLICY: California is a state of great opportunity, and is currently in a state of great deficit. Considering the district you seek to represent as a critical piece of California's contribution to the national economy, what kinds of jobs do you intend to promote - both as short-term jump-starts, and as long-term examples of the kinds of careers that our government should promote - not only for the sake of California and our nation, but also as a model that should benefit democracies all over the world?

12. BUDGET/FINANCE POLICY : What are your thoughts about the 30/10 Plan? Do you believe it can be achieved on a bipartisan basis? Will you fight to get and speed up light rail/subway to the Venice area?

13. BUDGET/FINANCE POLICY: Do you believe we have a problem with respect to the salaries and pensions of our federal workforce? If so, what steps would you take to alleviate those pressures on the budget deficit?

14. BUDGET/FINANCE POLICY: Should we, and if so how would we, decrease spending and/or raise revenues to pay down our federal deficit and debt?

15. BUDGET/FINANCE POLICY: How do you propose we lower our public and private health care costs?