

31 Thompson Ave



2010 QUESTIONNAIRE FOR CANDIDATES FOR NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE

Citizens Union would appreciate your response to the following questionnaire related to policy issues facing the State of New York and our interest in reforming how state government operates. Responses to these questions will be one of several factors Citizens Union will use to evaluate candidates who are running for office in order to determine our "Preferred Candidates" for the primary election and "Endorsed Candidates" for the general election. If you seek our support, we would also need to schedule an interview with you as part of the evaluation process.

We plan to make responses to this questionnaire public in our Voters Directory and other appropriate venues.

We thank you very much for your response.

Candidate Name: Andrew Hevesi

Age: 36

Office to Which You Seek (Re) Election: Assembly/Senate District #: 28

Campaign Address: _____

Campaign Telephone Number: () _____ Fax: () _____

Party Affiliation(s): D, WFP Campaign Manager Name: Doug Forand, , 917-733-2763

Website & Email: andyhevesi@gmail.com

Education: B.A. Political Science, Queens College

Occupation/Employer (or years in currently held elected office): Assembly Member since 2005

Previous Offices, Campaigns and Community/Civic Involvement: Prior to his election, Andrew served as Chief of Staff to former New York State Assemblyman, now State Senator, Jeff Klein, and as the Director of Community Affairs for New York City Public Advocate Betsy Gotbaum. Andrew has also worked as a paralegal in the Domestic Violence Bureau of the Queens County District Attorney's Office.

Are you willing to be interviewed by CU's Local Candidates Committee? YES X NO _____

(Please note: Citizens Union can grant its "Preferred Candidate" and "Endorsed Candidate" rating only to candidates we have interviewed.)

Have you completed requisite campaign finance filings? YES X NO _____

Signature of Candidate: [Signature] Date: 8-10-10

I. CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

Please state your position on the following reform measures. Specify whether you support or oppose each. You may elaborate in the space provided at the end or on additional paper.

ELECTION REFORM

1. What is your position on establishing by statute an Independent Legislative Redistricting Commission charged with drawing congressional and state legislative lines and removing the responsibility from the Legislature, through the passage of S.1614B/A.5279B ?	Support/Oppose
2. What is your position on a process where the legislature directly appoints the members of a districting commission, as in S.7881-A or S.7882-A, as an alternative to the independent commission referred to in Question 1?	Support/Oppose
3. What is your position on maintaining the current redistricting process in which legislative lines are drawn by the legislators with support and research from the New York State Task Force on Demographic Research and Reapportionment (LATFOR)?	Support/Oppose
4. What is your position on the adoption of stricter redistricting rules that would ensure that every district is: more equal in population (within 1% deviation from the mean), contiguous and compact, formed without regard for protecting an incumbent or political party, mindful of the need to keep neighborhoods intact, and not drawn to undermine racial, linguistic, and ethnic representation?	Support/Oppose
5. What is your position on restructuring the state Board of Elections and changing the administration of elections by amending the constitution to abolish the two-party system of governance and operation?	Support/Oppose
6. What is your position on making it easier for candidates to appear on the ballot by, for example, lowering signature requirements and utilizing less burdensome witness signature requirements?	Support/Oppose
7. What is your position on amending the Municipal Home Rule law to limit the ability of a mayor-appointed charter revision commission to "bump" other local charter amendments from appearing on the ballot?	Support/Oppose
8. What is your position on removing prisoner populations from the census counts for the purpose of redistricting and instead counting those populations in their last known place of residence?	Support/Oppose
9. What is your position on amending the constitution to allow for Election Day Registration?	Support/Oppose
10. What is your position on amending the constitution to allow for no-excuse absentee voting?	Support/Oppose

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

11. What is your position on lowering campaign contribution limits for legislative and statewide candidates for public office?	Support/Oppose
12. What is your position on establishing a system of public financing for state legislative and statewide races?	Support/Oppose
13. If you support public financing, what is your position on a system where public funds are awarded on a matching basis (similar in design and function to the New York City system) rather than a system of full public funding of campaigns?	Support/Oppose
14. What is your position on restricting campaign contributions from registered	

lobbyists and those who do business with the state?	Support/Oppose
15. What is your position on banning campaign contributions from corporations, LLCs, and LLPs, while still allowing such entities to form separate PACs?	Support/Oppose
16. What is your position on limiting transfers from party committees to candidates, or other committees, to twice the limit set on individual contributors and limiting contributions to party committees to the same ceiling placed on candidates?	Support/Oppose
17. What is your position on increasing disclosure and reporting of campaign contributions and expenditures by requiring candidates to include full name, home address, and employer/business name for each contribution?	Support/Oppose
18. What is your position on requiring that two periodic campaign finance reports be filed during the legislative session to reflect contributions given during the session?	Support/Oppose
19. What is your position on stricter requirements on the use of campaign contributions for non-campaign related activity, such as personal use?	Support/Oppose
20. What is your position on requiring disclosure of independent expenditure campaigns?	Support/Oppose

ETHICS REFORM

21. What is your position on changing the representation of the Commission on Public Integrity so no one elected official makes a majority of the appointments?	Support/Oppose
22. What is your position on expanding the jurisdiction of the newly formed Commission on Public Integrity to include legislative ethics violations, lobbying and campaign finance enforcement?	Support/Oppose

BUDGET REFORM

23. What is your position on requiring all budget documents, including budget bills and legislative additions, to be presented in a format that is organized into programmatic categories and facilitates public and legislative review?	Support/Oppose
24. What is your position on requiring the governor's budget submission to present the full scope of the state's financial obligations, including its public authorities?	Support/Oppose
25. What is your position on establishing an independent, nonpartisan budget office to provide revenue projections, display economic and policy analysis and require that the state engage in long term, multi-year budget planning?	Support/Oppose
26. What is your position on the use of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) rather than cash accounting for the state budget?	Support/Oppose
27. What is your position on requiring regular reporting of lump-sum appropriations and member items that includes detailed information on funds distributed, recipients, and remaining funds and bans on member item appropriations to organizations of which a close relative of the Member is on the staff or board.?	Support/Oppose
28. What is your position on distributing member item allocations equally amongst all legislators and requiring for greater accountability as expressed in S. 7007/A10116?	Support/Oppose
29. What is your position on incorporating the use of performance budgeting and outcome measurement to promote the more rational appropriation of state funds?	Support/Oppose
30. What is your position on instituting a later start date for the state fiscal year?	Support/Oppose
31. What is your position on mandating the use of conference committees in the legislative budget process?	Support/Oppose

ADDITIONAL REFORM

As an elected official who is seeking re-election,

- a. what were the top five promises or goals you made to your constituents when you ran for your current seat and what progress has been made in keeping those promises, and
- b. what are the top five promises or goals you are making to the voters during this campaign?

We thank you very much for your response. Please feel free to use additional paper if the space provided is not sufficient.

TOP FIVE CAMPAIGN PROMISES OR GOALS FROM 2008 AND ACTION ON THEM

1. Reform: In 2010, we successfully passed landmark ethics legislation that ends the era of secrecy and significantly raises the bar of disclosure and accountability for elected officials. Additionally, I am a co-sponsor of Assembly Member Gianaris' independent redistricting bill, as well as the stricter campaign finance laws.
2. Environment: As Chair of the Subcommittee on Renewable Energy, I was a co-sponsor of the Green Jobs/Green New York Program that passed the Legislature last year. This legislation encourages conservation, helps consumers with the cost of sustainable improvements to the homes and will save billions in energy costs. Additionally, I have been working to reduce the effects of waste removal trains that travel through much of my district, emitting harmful emissions and polluting the area.
3. Improving the Quality of Life: I have recently introduced four bills that address the major problems caused the transfer of waste by rail in my district. As a result of the railway tracks and their cargo, a multitude of environmental and health concerns have occurred including noise problems at all hours, odor and pest issues, and air pollution. In a neighborhood where asthma rates are on the rise, and where families seek to raise their families in safety, addressing this issue immediately is of great concern to me.
4. Create New Jobs: The Green Jobs/Green New York Program is a vital step toward improving our economy, with the creation of thousands of jobs to update our aging infrastructure. The program will create workforce training programs throughout the state to ensure that the state's workforce is highly trained and in place to handle mass-scale retrofitting.
5. Education: I supported the landmark charter school bill that increased accountability for charter schools while qualifying New York for vital Race to the Top funding, as well as the expansion of parental involvement in the recent extension of mayoral control last fall. In 2008, after working with local parents and teachers, I provided a grant for IS/PS 87 to restore Fast for Word, a computer-based program designed to help children with learning disabilities improve their reading skills. In addition, I have worked to restore funding for various youth job programs.

TOP FIVE 2010 CAMPAIGN PROMISES OR GOALS

1. Improving the Quality of Life: I am committed to continuing the fight to eradicate the problems that are caused by the garbage trains. In addition, through my legislative email program, I will continue to work one on one with my constituents to address problems as they arise.
2. Updating our Energy Infrastructure: I am committed moving both our state's energy structure and economy into the 21st century through the promotion of green projects. I have just introduced a legislation to create a viable competitive market based system for the installation and generation of renewable energy in New York. I also believe that we need to invest in smart grid technology in order to upgrade our energy infrastructure in New York. As we've seen with power outages in the past few weeks, updating our power grid to reflect modern energy needs. In addition, promoting smart growth projects, which redevelop current infrastructure, allow for greater community planning and minimize sprawl by utilizing existing infrastructure.
3. Restoring Medicaid Funding: Medicaid funding has been slashed, resulting in cuts to dental and vision programs, as well as cuts to basic care. With the historic health care reform in Washington that passed this year, we must ensure that New Yorkers are receiving the best quality care possible. Restoring Medicaid funding to levels that allow for quality, comprehensive preventative care is key to making

healthcare affordable for all New Yorkers.

4. Restoring the Education Budget: Nothing is more important to the future of our state than fully funding our state's education system. Cuts to education means less teachers, larger classes, and less specialized classes like art and music. We need to ensure that our education budget is restored, and that we are adding funding for English language learners and special needs students.
5. Creating New Jobs: We need additional program and incentives to create new, middle class jobs that will move our state's economy into the future. Our state needs to identify developing industries, such as renewable energy, and incentivize them here in New York.

**Please return to: Citizens Union, Local Candidates Committee
299 Broadway, Suite 700 New York, NY 10007
via fax to 212.227.0345 or via email to asenteno@citizensunion.org**