



2014 QUESTIONNAIRE FOR CANDIDATES FOR THE OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

Citizens Union would appreciate your responses to the following questions 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 running for office in order to determine our "Endorsed Candidates" for the general election.

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

We thank you very much for your response.

Candidate Name: John Cahill Age: 56

Campaign Address: 36 West 44th - 13th floor, NY NY (Room 1302)

Campaign Telephone Number: 917 475-1523 Fax: ()

Party Affiliation(s): RC Co. / RC Commercial Campaign Manager Name: ED WRIE

Website & Email: www.cahillforag.com

Education: BA, JD, MLL

Occupation/Employer (or years in currently held elected office): Chadbourne and Parke, Pataki -Cahill

Previous Offices and Campaigns:

_____ NA _____

Are you willing to be interviewed by CU's Local Candidates Committee?

NO _____

YES

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

Have you completed requisite campaign finance filings?

NO _____

YES

Signature of Candidate: _____ Date: _____

I. REFORM ISSUES

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 amending the constitution to allow for no-excuse absentee voting?	<u>Support/</u> Oppose
2. What is your position on instituting early voting in New York State to allow voters to cast their votes at more convenient times over a period of several days?	Support/ <u>Oppose</u>
3. What is your position regarding automatic voter registration in which voter registration information of individuals who consent to be registered is provided electronically to the Board of Elections, and address information is updated automatically?	<u>Support/</u> Oppose
4. What is your position on consolidating the state and federal primary to the third week in June, while ensuring that the legislative session ends at least two weeks prior?	Support/ <u>Oppose</u>
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 strict two-party division of governance and operation?	Support/ <u>Oppose</u>
6. What is your position on amending the constitution to allow for Election Day Voter Registration?	Support/ <u>Oppose</u>
7. What is your position on automatically granting New Yorkers on parole the ability to vote? Currently those on parole may obtain a Certificate of Good Conduct or Relief to have their right to vote restored, but few of these are granted, and they cannot be applied for immediately upon release.	Support/ <u>Oppose</u>
8. What is your position on making it easier for candidates to appear on the ballot by lowering signature requirements and utilizing less burdensome witness signature requirements?	Support/ <u>Oppose</u>
9. 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/ <u>Oppose</u>
10. What is your position on reforming the special election process, utilizing a nonpartisan special election for state legislative vacancies, as proposed by S.161/A.5290?	Support/ <u>Oppose</u>
11. What is your position on instituting Instant Runoff Voting (IRV) for primary elections	Support/ <u>Oppose</u>

in citywide election in New York City, effectively eliminating the need for a separate runoff election?	
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CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

12. What is your position on establishing a matching public financing system for state legislative and statewide races similar to the New York City model?	Support/Opnose
13. What is your position on lowering campaign contribution limits for legislative and statewide candidates for public office?	Support/Opnose
14. What is your position on restricting campaign contributions from registered lobbyists, placement agents and those who do business with the state?	Support/Opnose

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM (CONTINUED)

15. What is your position on limiting or banning campaign contributions from corporations, LLCs, and LLPs? (Note: such entities would have the constitutionally-protected right to form separate political action committees.)	Support/Oppose
16. What is your position on closing "soft money" loopholes such as limiting transfers from party committees to candidates or other committees to twice the limit set on individual contributors and limiting contributions to party committees, including housekeeping accounts, to the same ceiling placed on candidates?	Support/Oppose
17. What is your position on requiring candidates to include the full name, home address, and employer/business name for each contribution and bundler?	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 improving disclosure of independent expenditures such as requiring disclosure of electioneering activities?	Support/Oppose
21. What is your position on limiting the ability of candidates to accumulate "war chests" and then transferring funds raised in one race to another in which they run?	Support/Oppose
22. What is your position on clarifying the definition of coordination between candidates and political committees to ensure candidate contribution limits are not exceeded, and expenditures and contributions are properly reported?	Support/Oppose

JUDICIAL REFORM

23. What is your position simplifying and modernizing the state's court system by consolidating the nine trial courts into a two-tiered system?	Support/Oppose
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ETHICS REFORM

24. What is your position on amending the State Constitution to extend pension forfeiture, subject to due process safeguards, to all public officers and legislators who have been convicted of felonies?	Support/Oppose
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BUDGET REFORM

25. 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
26. 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
27. What is your position on ensuring adequate disclosure and itemization of discretionary funds, including member items and lump sum funds, as well as reporting on their usage?	Support/Oppose
28. What is your position on limiting the ability of the governor to enact policy changes governing the use of resources in appropriation bills by requiring that such bills be consistent with existing law or proposed changes in separate legislation?	Support/Oppose

ADDITIONAL REFORM

29. What is your position on having the Executive Director of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey appointed directly by the Board of Commissioners, and having the position of Chair of the Board rotated between representatives of New York and New Jersey?	Support/Oppose
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