



Freedoms Heritage Forum

Kentucky's Conservative Political Action Committee (PAC)

Phone: (502) 895-7700 PO Box 8090, Louisville, KY 40257 FAX: (502) 897-2426

2010 KENTUCKY CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Name: Roger Thoney Party: Republican Office: State Representative Dist: 67

Address: 17 Meadow Lane Ste 10, Highland Heights, KY 41076

Campaign Phone: (859) 781-0790 Fax: (859) 781-0790

Web site: www.rogerthoney.com

Please circle your response to each question (even if you think it will not be an issue in the office you are running for), write your comments and then sign and date at the bottom of the questionnaire.

Please return this questionnaire by Wednesday, February 24th.

1. We are fed up with the politicians and the political system that:

- A) ... Took Prayer and the Ten Commandments out of our schools and caused the progressive wave of crime and immorality that has engulfed our nation over the last 50 years and made American children last or next to last in scholastic achievement in international testing. **Do you agree? ___Yes ___No What would you do to fix this?**

I do not have any proposed "fix" to address these issues, but I am open to suggestions. My actions will be consistent with my beliefs, which follow.

I believe that the First Amendment to the United States Constitution protects our inalienable right as individuals to pray anywhere within the jurisdiction of the United States including upon public property. No law or court ruling can negate or "prohibit the free exercise of" this right; however, our individual rights extend only to the point at which they infringe upon someone else's right.

Silent prayer or prayer that would not be disruptive is constitutionally proper in public schools. Group prayer meetings on public school property are proper as long as the group follows the rules that apply to all groups. Prayer, or religious, clubs are proper in public schools as long as they follow the rules for all clubs. Such clubs could post the Ten Commandments if the rules permit clubs to post information on school property.

I also recognize that public school officials have the authority to regulate the activities that take place on the property for which they are responsible, but they do not have the authority to "prohibit the free exercise of" a Constitutional right unless it would be disruptive to others. For example, demonstratively praying in the middle of class could disrupt the class, so school officials would have the authority to make rules that ensure that this does not happen.

Public school officials also must be careful if they wish to order the posting of the Ten Commandments on public school property or order that prayer be said within the school. The Kentucky Constitution (Section 5, Right of Religious Freedom) states that "no human authority shall, in any case whatever, control or interfere with the rights of conscience." While the posting of the Ten Commandments by order of public school officials should not be prohibited, it must be done with proper regard for the "rights of conscience" of others.

Section 5 of the Kentucky Constitution also states that "no preference shall ever be given by law to any religious sect, society or denomination; nor to any particular creed, mode of worship or

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system of ecclesiastical polity," which seems to say that we cannot pass a law to put prayer and the Ten Commandments into the schools. I will live up to the Constitution of the United States and the Kentucky Constitution.

While I may have no proposed "fix" to address prayer and the Ten Commandments in school, I do have a proposal that will help win the battle on a broader front. The assault on Christianity is a part of the Marxists' strategy to transform the United States into a socialist/communist country. Karl Marx laid out a strategy for transforming a society into a communist state in his writings. The first phase of this strategy is to tear down the existing society by creating divisions along social, cultural, and economic lines. His prescription was to establish counter movements for each dominant characteristic of the society to be transformed.

Our society was white-male, Christian dominated with a capitalist-based economy and the family as the central unit before the transformation effort was started. This is why we discriminate against white males the way we do and why Christianity is the religion under assault. The Marxists are anti-Christian, but seemingly not anti-Muslim or anti-religion, because Christianity is the dominant religion in our society and they want to create a division. For similar reasons, they demonize businesses and capitalism; promote the concept of multiculturalism rather than a "melting pot;" foment class envy and racial hatred; promote group rights and minority rights rather than individual rights; and support measures, such as our current welfare programs and divorce laws, that result in splitting up families. They assault the family to create division. The purpose of choosing the title of Hillary Clinton's book "It Takes a Village ..." was to begin to move us from a society in which the family is the central social unit. They also "dumb down" our children in the public schools to make them more susceptible to propaganda and the acceptance of government as a "savior."

We must defeat this Karl-Marx-based socialist/communist movement and then restore that which was lost. My proposed strategy to accomplish this is to ratify the Freedom Amendment (see www.rogerthoney.com/ussenatecampaign for details). A large, powerful federal government is the power base for the Marxists, so we need to dismantle it. The Freedom Amendment will reverse the current power relationship between the federal government and the states by making the federal government more dependent upon the states for its revenue. It also will establish a competition among the states that will lead to less government spending, lower taxes, and a more business-friendly environment.

B) ... Legalized the shedding of innocent blood, through abortion.

Do you agree? Yes No What would you do to fix this?

I will introduce a bill to amend the Kentucky Constitution to protect the right to life for unborn children from the moment of conception. See www.rogerthoney.com/abortion. Note that Marxists

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promote legalizing abortion because it creates division and helps them get political support from many women.

C) ... **Banned Christian prayer** in schools but allows Muslim prayer, while the Muslims have already taken over Europe and are about to take over America.

Do you agree? Yes No **What would you do to fix this?**

This is unconstitutional discrimination and should be treated as such. The "fix" for many of these issues is to defeat the Marxist movement to transform our country into a socialist/communist state. It is this transformation movement that underlies the discrimination against Christian prayer and Christianity in general. See my comments regarding the Marxist transformation to socialism/communism in A) above.

D) ... **Censored Creation Science** and instead requires teaching the unproven theory of evolution. This is a fundamental issue of human respect and behavior.

Do you agree? Yes No **What would you do to fix this?**

This is another aspect of the anti-Christian, Marxist transformation movement discussed above. The Marxists censor creation because it is Christian-based and promote the theory of evolution because it counters the Christian-based creation explanation of life. The two should be treated equally – both should be taught together as alternative explanations or neither one taught at all.

I also think that it is important to stress that the theory of evolution is faith-based just as much as creation. Those who believe in the theory of evolution are placing their faith in the validity and accuracy of myriad assumptions that underlie the theory while those who believe in creation are placing faith in a supreme being.

I have no proposed "fix" to this problem, but I am open to suggestions. I am reluctant to tell teachers what to teach, but could support an equality mandate. As I said before, the underlying cause of this problem is the Marxist transformation movement in the United States. We somehow have to get the Marxist line of thinking out of a position of dominance in our schools.

E) ... **Redefined marriage and promotes sodomy** in our schools.

Do you agree? Yes No **What would you do to fix this?**

This, too, is another aspect of the Marxist transformation movement. Promoting sodomy furthers the assault on Christianity to create division. I believe that marriage is between a man and a woman and will support legislation consistent with this belief.

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I have no proposed "fix" to these problems other than to defeat the Marxist movement and restore that which we have lost. The Marxists have taken their movement into the classroom; and we must find a way to get it out. We want our teachers to teach, not promote propaganda. I am open to suggestions on how to deal with these issues, but keep in mind that I am reluctant to tell teachers what to teach; I will abide by the constitution; and I believe that government should stay out of our lives. It is possible to privatize public schools and let school officials and parents deal with these issues, but no one has expressed an interest in this to me.

F) ... **Created a huge national debt and high taxes** that are destroying our economy.

Do you agree? Yes No What would you do to fix this?

The best strategy to balance our budget is to create more jobs. Creating jobs will reduce spending and increase tax revenue (fewer people will be drawing on social programs and more will become taxpayers). In order to create more jobs, we must reduce the cost of living and cost of doing business to reduce the risk of starting and operating businesses and to make us more competitive in the global economy. We can reduce the cost of living and cost of doing business by reducing the cost of government taxation, regulation, and litigation (see www.rogerthoney.com for details).

We also need to reduce spending. If we were to reduce the cost of living by 10%, then we could reduce the payout on social programs by 10% and not adversely affect recipients. If we were to reduce the cost of health care, then spending on Medicaid, Medicare, and SCHIP would decline. If we were to reduce the price of oil, then the goods and services purchased by government would cost less.

We can reduce the cost of health care and health insurance by implementing The Freedom Plan for Health Care Finance Reform (see www.rogerthoney.com). The medical credit card program proposed in this plan will replace Medicaid and SCHIP/KCHIP and will cost taxpayers less in later years than we spend on these programs now. In the early years, taxpayer spending will be reduced by as much as 90%. Reducing the cost of health care also will reduce the cost of living and cost of doing business which will help create more jobs.

We can reduce the price of oil by reducing our demand for oil and increasing production. We can reduce our demand for oil by operating our cars and trucks on non-oil-based fuels such as natural gas, alcohol, or hydrogen and we can increase our production of oil by opening off-shore and other banned areas to oil exploration and production (see The Switch and Drill Plan on www.rogerthoney.com/ussenatecampaign). Our dependence upon oil is the greatest threat to our national security (see <http://www.rogerthoney.com/ussenatecampaign/Shared%20Documents/Position%20Paper%20on%20National%20Security%20and%20Defense.pdf>).

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Each of the measures discussed above will help reduce government spending and balance our budget, but we need more. We must stop and reverse the growth of government spending in order to keep from losing our freedom. At some point, we will become slaves of government, working more and more just to put food in our mouths and a roof over our heads and to pay our taxes. The Freedom Amendment will work to stop and reverse the growth of government spending (see www.rogerthoney.com/ussenatecampaign).

The Freedom Amendment will shift power from the federal government to the states by making the federal government more dependent upon the states for its revenue; and it requires that the federal government operate with a balanced budget. It also will establish a competition for residents among the states that will lead to less government spending, lower taxes, and a more business-friendly environment.

We also can reduce government spending by eliminating or downsizing government agencies such as the Department of Education, the EPA, the BATFE, the Department of Commerce, the Department of Energy, etc. Education should be left up to the states; the EPA and BATFE are out of control; the Department of Commerce does little to promote U.S.-based businesses; and the Department of Energy has failed miserably. Our current economic crisis is directly related to our energy policy that left us heavily dependent upon oil, a raw material whose price is controlled by an economic cartel. The hyperinflation in oil that we experienced from 2003-2008 triggered the current world economic problems.

We can cut all government spending related to global warming. Claims of global warming or cooling have absolutely no basis in science whatsoever (see www.rogerthoney.com). The taxpayer money we spend on this only serves to further the Marxist socialist/communist agenda. The budgets of NASA, NOAA, and the NSF should be cut drastically until they re-establish themselves as trustworthy scientific organizations.

Also related to global warming, I will introduce a bill that will prohibit the Public Service Commission of Kentucky from allowing utility companies to include global-warming-related expenditures in the rate base. Kentuckians will not pay for this hoax in their electric bills.

All of these issues (A-E) could have been corrected by Congress if they chose to do so!!! See article 3, section 2 of the US Constitution: "The Supreme Court shall have appellate Jurisdiction, both as to Law and Fact, with such Exceptions, and under such Regulations as the Congress shall make."

If we don't **stand against evil NOW**, when will we do it?

If **you and I** don't protect our children from the tyrannical government, **who will do it?**

Do you agree? Yes No

2. According to Planned Parenthood Federation of America Annual Reports, Planned Parenthood affiliates performed over 305,000 abortions in 2007. Planned Parenthood receives about a third

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of its money in government grants and contracts, \$349 million in 2008. **Will you work to stop this taxpayer funding of abortion?** Yes No

3. According to Cornell University Law School (www.law.cornel.edu/uscode/42...) and Wikipedia the United States Congress about 30 years ago passed a provision in the United States Code section 1988 that requires taxpayers to pay attorneys in civil rights cases. The ACLU has abused that law to make untold millions of dollars simply by suing the Boy Scouts, school children, military academies, cities and towns with the goal of punishing any who dare to exercise their first amendment right to religious freedom. **Will you work to amend the US code section 1988** so that fees are no longer awarded to the ACLU or any other plaintiff in Establishment Clause Cases and so that the free expression clause [free exercise of religion] has at least the same financial incentives as the current attacks on faith?

Yes No

I would support changes to the law that will help rein in abuse by the ACLU; however, I believe that people should not be denied a civil right because of an inability to pay an attorney. I would support changes to expressly include free-exercise-clause cases under this law. The sword cuts both ways here. Those whose right to the "free exercise of religion" has been violated should be protected under this law, too. Perhaps we need an ACLU-type organization that will fight to protect our religious freedom. Also, although a bit far-fetched now, there may come a time when we will be using this law to prevent radical Islam from being "established" within our society.

The law allows reimbursement for costs to the "prevailing party," which means the ACLU only gets paid if it wins. They are winning these cases, so we need to focus upon how to defeat them in court. This is another reason why we need an ACLU-type organization that will fight to protect our religious freedom.

I also would support a restriction in the law that limits reimbursement in Establishment Clause cases to cases brought against government entities. This may reduce the number of lawsuits against organizations such as the Boy Scouts, school children, etc. I believe that private organizations lie outside the scope of the Establishment Clause and school children should not be harassed because they exercise their right to the "free exercise of religion." Perhaps we need to take a closer look at using taxpayer money to subsidize private organizations.

Cities, towns, and schools must focus on treating everyone equally to avoid lawsuits. If they allow one religious group to express their religious views, then it must be through a process that allows other religious views to be expressed also.

I am open to other suggestions, too.

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4. According to Steve Forbes (youtube.com 4/24/07), America has huge oil and coal reserves. Why should we pay our enemies for oil when we can make our own if we had the right politicians who would fight the radical environmentalists? **Would you work for drilling for American oil and work against Cap and Trade?** Yes No

Oil is a global commodity, so simply buying oil from a different source will not adversely affect our Islamic enemies. They will sell it to someone else or raise the price to make up for lost revenue. We must reduce our demand for oil by switching to non-oil-based fuels to operate our cars and trucks. This will result in a precipitous decline in the price of oil and revenue for our Islamic enemies and reduce OPEC's ability to manipulate oil prices. Increasing our production of oil will help some, but switching to non-oil-based fuels will "stick a stake into the heart" of OPEC and our Islamic enemies (see The Switch and Drill Plan on www.rogerthoney.com/ ussenatecampaign mentioned in 1F above).

Regarding global warming and cap and trade, as I mentioned in 1F above, I will introduce a bill that will prohibit the Public Service Commission of Kentucky from allowing global-warming-related expenditures in the utility rate base. If cap and trade legislation passes at the federal level, then I will explore the possibility of providing protection for Kentucky-based businesses using a states rights argument.

5. (A) Do you favor raising State Taxes to balance the budget? Yes No **Comment**

(B) If No, how would you balance the budget? **Comment** – *The best strategy to balance the budget is to create more jobs and reduce the cost of living and cost of doing business in Kentucky. Reducing the cost of living will enable us to provide the same level of assistance with fewer dollars. In addition, we can*

- *reduce spending on Medicaid and KCHIP by implementing The Freedom Plan for Health Care Finance Reform mentioned in 1F above;*
- *reduce spending on welfare programs by making them loan-based rather than handout-based (provide a helping hand not a handout – see www.rogerthoney.com for details);*
- *eliminate global-warming-related spending at our state colleges and universities and pressure them to earn more money from the private sector through consulting fees, etc.;*
- *conduct a thorough review of each state agency (a management audit as in the nuclear industry) with an eye on increasing efficiency and reducing waste;*
- *reduce the education bureaucracy in Frankfort;*
- *apply the philosophy of "those who receive the benefit pay more of the bill" and charge higher user fees so that government-run operations will pay for themselves without a taxpayer subsidy, like businesses (this can include raising court fees, public transit fees, etc.);*
- *eliminate the need for the PVA office by eliminating the property tax or reduce the PVA budget by changing the determination of property tax from a value-basis to an area-basis;*

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- *reduce spending in the County Clerk's office (and reduce fees paid by taxpayers) by making auto license renewals good for 4 years as are our driver's licenses;*
- *reduce spending in our jails by allowing bail bondsmen to post bail (not only will this reduce overcrowding, but also will reduce the cost of health care provided to those under arrest);*
- *delay pay raises and capital expenditures as many private-sector businesses do during economic downturns.*

In general, we must take a close look at why we do that which we do and find better, lower-cost ways to operate.

6. Do you support giving Spousal Benefits to unmarried domestic partners of state employees?

Yes No **Maybe (comment)**

7. Do you support the Right to Life of all including the pre-born, elderly, and disabled?

Yes No **Exceptions (comment)**

8. A) Do you support the 2nd Amendment? Yes No **Comment**

B) Will you introduce legislation to ensure that Americans' rights to own firearms are not infringed by the State Government? Yes No **Comment** – *I will vote for such legislation, but I cannot commit to introducing it because I will have a full plate of other measures that I will be trying to implement. Each of us has a role to play in life. My role is in the area of economics.*

9. Do you support routine AIDS testing in Kentucky Prisons on entrance and release?

Yes No **Comment** – *I want to investigate this issue more before I make a commitment. Corrections procedures indicate that we already screen for AIDS upon entrance when medical personnel think that conditions warrant it (high risk individuals). The procedures also require that corrections personnel take precautions in situations that involve the handling of bodily fluids. How effective are these measures? If they are not effective, then why are they not effective? Is AIDS a major problem in our prisons now? Is routine testing a solution to that problem? These are some of the questions that I would like to investigate first.*

10. Do you support the notification of spouses of AIDS Carriers? Yes No **Maybe (comments)**

Spouses of AIDS carriers certainly have a need to know, but so do non-spouse potential partners of AIDS carriers. There is a broader issue here that I would like to investigate before making any commitment as to how this notification should be made. I also would like to know what we do now if anything.

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11. Do you support "Peace Through Strength" (Strong National Defense)?

Yes **No** **Comment**

12. Do you support Hate Crimes Legislation to give special protection to those who practice sodomy?

Yes **No** **Comment** – *I do not support hate-crime legislation to give special protection to any group. Our rights are individual rights, not group rights.*

13. Do you support giving Kentucky Students a balanced presentation on scientific information about origins and the universe?

Yes – Teach all competing theories including Evolution and Intelligent Design.

No – Continue censoring all scientific evidence that is contrary to the Theory of Evolution.

Comments – *With the exposure of the "sloppy" science underlying claims of global warming, I am taking a closer, harder look at all so-called "science." I am beginning to question whether the "science" supporting the theory of evolution is strong enough to consider it a "scientific theory." As I said in 1D above, the theory of evolution is faith-based just as much as creation. Should we be teaching the theory of evolution at all? Why waste time teaching a scientific theory that has little basis in science because of the myriad assumptions upon which it is based? What do you think?*

14. Do you support students' right to say grace before meals?

Yes **No** **Comments:**

15. Do you support students' right to see the 10 Commandments on Public Property?

Yes **No** **Comment** – *I am not aware of one's right to "see" anything being a right protected by either of our constitutions. I view our rights as being of expression. Students have a right to express their religious views, as individuals, on public property. Religious groups have a right to express their views on public property as long as they follow the rules for all groups. This includes displaying the Ten Commandments. The inalienable rights of freedom of religion and speech apply throughout the jurisdiction of the United States including upon public property.*

16. Do you support parents' right to choose schools for their children (charter schools)?

Yes **No** **Comment** – *I also will support a voucher plan, if constitutional, and/or a system based upon education tax credits.*

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17. Do you support expanded gambling in Kentucky?

Yes No **Comment** – *Personally, I do not support expanded gambling in Kentucky; but I will support putting it on the ballot for the people of Kentucky to decide.*

18. Write other comments on the back of this form.

19. Do you want our endorsement? Yes No

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Kentucky Constitution Section 5

Right of religious freedom.

No preference shall ever be given by law to any religious sect, society or denomination; nor to any particular creed, mode of worship or system of ecclesiastical polity; nor shall any person be compelled to attend any place of worship, to contribute to the erection or maintenance of any such place, or to the salary or support of any minister of religion; nor shall any man be compelled to send his child to any school to which he may be conscientiously opposed; and the civil rights, privileges or capacities of no person shall be taken away, or in anywise diminished or enlarged, on account of his belief or disbelief of any religious tenet, dogma or teaching. No human authority shall, in any case whatever, control or interfere with the rights of conscience.