

IVI-IPO GENERAL CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

CANDIDATE FOR State senate, 13th Legislative District PARTY Democratic

NAME Barack Obama

VOTING ADDRESS [REDACTED]

HOME PHONE [REDACTED] BUSINESS PHONE [REDACTED]

CAMPAIGN ADDRESS [REDACTED]

CAMPAIGN PHONE [REDACTED]

CAMPAIGN MANAGER Carol Harwell

Elective or appointive public and/or party office previously held including dates.

This will be my first elective office.

Other elective offices for which you have been a candidate.

I have not previously been a candidate.

Principal business, educational, professional and civic activities of the past ten years.

See biography attached.

What subjects have you studied and what experience[have you had which will be most helpful to you in the office you seek?

See biography attached. My experience and training as an attorney, coupled with my background as a community organizer, will allow me not only to be a strong advocate in Springfield, but also enable me to mobilize residents in the district. My civic involvement in issues of education, the environment, and economic development also gives me the policy background necessary to be effective.

Activities for other candidates. Please be specific.

I have been a financial supporter of such candidates as David Orr and Alice Palmer; I have worked actively on voter registration and education efforts throughout the county.

Please list all endorsements you have received so far.

The 4th, 5th and 6th Democratic Organizations, Aldermen's Preckwinkle and Steele; the New Party, Personal PAC, AFSCME, AFL-CIO, Sierra Club, CTU, Firefighters, IBEW, Illinois Nurses, Illinois Seniors in Action, IPAC.

As concisely as possible, state why you feel you should be endorsed over the other candidates(s). What goals for the office you seek are most important to you personally?

I feel I combine the professional background, organizational experience and long-standing commitment to social justice issues and community involvement that will make me effective not only in Springfield but also in the district. My top priority is ensuring that our young people are nurtured and supported through fully-funded public schools, and that a coherent job creation strategy is instituted at the state level to create more jobs at livable wages.

Please outline the place of patronage, personnel codes, race, gender and sexual orientation in establishing criteria for hiring and promoting public employees.

I do not think there is any place for patronage or any type of discrimination in the hiring and promoting of public employees, and will ensure that such policies begin in my own office practices. I am a strong supporter of affirmative action programs that ensure qualified minorities, women, and gays and lesbians are actively recruited and supported at all levels of government.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

BARACK OBAMA

BARACK OBAMA received his BA in Political Science from Columbia University. He spent five years working as a community organizer, first in Harlem, then in Chicago.

In 1988, **OBAMA** enrolled in Harvard Law School. There he served as the first African-American president of the Harvard Law Review and was a member of the Executive Board of the Black Law Students Association. He graduated Magna Cum Laude.

In 1992, **OBAMA** served as Illinois Executive Director of PROJECT VOTE!, an effort that added over 100,000 newly registered voters.

In 1993, **OBAMA** was named by Crain's Chicago Business as one of "40 under 40" outstanding young leaders in the city of Chicago. He is the recipient of the 1995 Legal Eagle Award from IVI-IPO for his work in bringing Illinois into compliance with the National Voter Registration Act (Motor Voter). His commentaries have been heard on National Public Radio and his memoir Dreams of my Father was published by Random House in August 1995.

OBAMA works as a civil rights attorney with the firm Davis, Miner, Barnhill and Galland. He specializes in employment discrimination, fair housing and voting rights litigation. He also lectures at the University of Chicago Law School, where he teaches civil rights law and related subjects.

In addition, **OBAMA** serves on the boards of several organizations including: the Chicago Annenberg Challenge (Chairman), the Joyce Foundation, the Woods Fund of Chicago, the Center for Neighborhood Technology, the Chicago Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under the Law and Public Allies. He is a member of the Cook County Bar Association.

BARACK OBAMA is married to Michelle Obama and is a member of Trinity United Church of Christ.

FRIENDS OF BARACK OBAMA

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IVI-IPO General Candidate Questionnaire

Elections

1. Do you support:
 - a. moving the primary election date? Yes.
 - b. keeping voters' party preferences in the primary secret? Yes.
 - c. eliminating straight party voting in general elections? Yes.
 - d. appointment of year-round administrative election judges? Yes.
 - e. any other changes? Campaign finance reform legislation.
2. Should Illinois citizens be required to complete separate forms to register to vote in State and Federal elections? No, we need a unitary system.
3. Do you support Merit Selection of judges?

Yes, although it would be important to construct a system that ensures adequate minority representation on the bench – perhaps merit selection within sub-circuits.

4. Do you believe that appointments to judicial vacancies should be based on nominations from local review panels? Yes.

Finance

5. Do you support:
 - a. a graduated income tax? Yes.
 - b. maintaining current corporate/individual ratio? Yes.
 - c. increasing the \$1,000 personal exemption? Yes, as part of shift to higher income tax.
 - d. increasing income taxes to relieve or replace local property taxes? Yes.
6. Will you vote to increase state funding to at least 50% of public education costs? Yes.
7. Do you support vouchers or other means of public funding for private or parochial schools? No.
8. Do you support:
 - a. public financing of election campaigns? Yes.
 - b. extending the same campaign disclosure requirements for ward and township committeemen throughout the states? Yes.
 - c. permitting state employees to hold other public sector jobs concurrently? No.

9. Do you support land-based or riverboat gambling for Cook County? No.
10. Will you support legislation requiring citizen referenda at the state or local level before land-based or riverboat gambling is expanded? Yes, at the local level to maximize local input.

Civil Rights & Civil Liberties

11. Do you favor adding sexual orientation to Human Rights Act? Yes. Do you favor domestic partnership legislation? Yes.
12. Do you favor amending Professional Regulation legislation to prohibit discrimination against board-certified graduates of foreign schools? Yes.
13. Do you support mandatory AIDS testing for insurance or employment? No.
14. Do you support mandatory drug testing for public or private sector employees? Only in those rare circumstances – i.e. airline pilot, railroad engineer, nuclear safety worker – in which lives may be threatened by failure to perform.
15. Should state police be allowed to stop vehicle operators to test DUI on grounds other than probable cause? No.
16. Do you support the recently passed legislation permitting employers to eavesdrop on the telephone conversations of their employees? No.

Labor

17. Do you favor comparable worth for state employees? Yes.
18. Do you support the right of public employees to strike? Yes.
19. Do you support banning the replacement of strikers in public employment? Yes.
20. Do you support family leave legislation for private employment? Yes.
21. What is your position on:
- a. raising the minimum wage? I support it.
 - b. establishing a lower minimum wage for minors? Opposed.
 - c. including farm workers and household employees under existing labor laws? Support.

Health & Human Services

22. Will you support a single-payer health plan for Illinois? Yes, with Medicaid incorporated into a single, graduated system of services covering all workers, so as not to create disincentives to work.
23. What program changes, if any, do you support to improve the present state mental health program? Increased funding, and a thorough review of current service delivery systems.
24. Do you support:
 - a. Medicaid funding for abortions? Yes.
 - b. insurance coverage of abortions for state employees? Yes.
 - c. parental consent/notification for minors seeking abortions? Depends on how young – possibly for extremely young teens, i.e. 12 or 13 year olds.
 - d. any other restrictions on abortions. No.
25. Do you support additional funds for the DCFS to enable the hiring of sufficient caseworkers? Yes.
26. Do you support:
 - a. cost of living adjustment for public aid recipients? Yes.
 - b. workfare? Yes, if combined with training, child care, and health care provisions.
 - c. restrictions on welfare benefits for teen mothers? No.
 - d. restrictions on benefits for women who have children while on welfare? No.
 - e. repeal of the six month limit for receiving general assistance? Yes.
 - f. restoration of the Aid to the Medical Indigent program. Yes.
 - g. energy assistance programs for the poor? Yes.
27. Would you support “repair and deduct” legislation? Yes.

Energy & Environment

28. Do you support the retail rate law? I didn't support it, and am pleased it was repealed.
29. Do you support an elected ICC? Yes.
30. On balancing environmental protection and economic development: I believe the two are compatible, particularly to the extent that we attempt to channel economic development activity (a) into those environmentally friendly sectors of the growth economy such as recycling and waste management through state purchasing practices,

etc., and (b) work with industry to find the most economical and efficient means of complying with our environmental goals, even as we provide the IEPA with the authority it needs to enforce EPA statutes.

Transportation

31. Do you support a third Chicago, south suburban Cook County or Peotone airport? No.
32. Do you support:
- a. inter-city high speed rail? Yes.
 - b. the current formula for allocation of funds to CTA, Metra, and PACE? No – CTA is shortchanged.

Criminal Justice

33. Do you support:
- a. admissibility of illegally obtained evidence? No.
 - b. electronic evesdropping? No.
 - c. police radar? Yes, unless it is abused?
 - d. prior government restraints on the press? No.
 - e. state censorship of the arts? No.
34. Do you support:
- a. capital punishment? No.
 - b. criminal prosecution of juveniles as adults? No.
 - c. mandatory sentencing? No
 - d. work release, home monitoring, other alternative sentencing? Yes.
35. Do you support state legislation to:
- a. ban the manufacture, sale and possession of handguns? Yes.
 - b. ban assault weapons? Yes.
 - c. mandatory waiting periods and background checks? Yes.