

Northern Virginia Tea Party Candidate Questionnaire – November, 2009, General Election
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1. According to the Virginia General Assembly's Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission, between 1998 and 2007, Virginia's annual budget doubled, from \$17.6 billion to \$35 billion (*Review of State Spending: 2007 Update*, p. ii). This increase was \$9 billion more than needed to keep up with population growth and inflation. Sixty-four percent of the increase went to education and healthcare.

Question: The increase in the Virginia budget between 1998 and 2007 was:
 Excessive Sufficient Insufficient Undecided

2. The *2007 Update* states (p. 7) that between 1998 and 2006, Virginia inflation-adjusted spending for public schools increased four times faster than enrollment (37 percent vs. 9 percent).

Question: The increase in Virginia public-school spending between 1998 and 2006 was:
 Excessive Sufficient Insufficient Undecided

3. The *2007 Update* states (p. 7) that between 1998 and 2006, inflation-adjusted budgets for Virginia four-year public colleges and universities increased three times faster than enrollment (46 percent vs. 15 percent).

Question: Budget increases between 1998 and 2006 for Virginia's four-year public colleges and universities were:
 Excessive Sufficient Insufficient Undecided

4. The ACT college admissions test *High School Profile Report* for the Virginia 2008 graduating class states that 26 percent of the 17,000 students tested statewide were ready for college-level coursework.

Question: Academic achievement in Virginia public schools is:
 Excellent Good Satisfactory Unsatisfactory Undecided

5. The *2007 Update* states (p. 7) that between 1998 and 2006, Virginia's Medicaid budget, adjusted for medical-care inflation, increased much faster than the number of eligible recipients (48 percent vs. 29 percent). Note: Between 1998 and 2006, Virginia population increased 14 percent.

Question: The increase in Virginia Medicaid spending between 1998 and 2006 was:
 Excessive Sufficient Insufficient Undecided

6. The Virginia Department of Transportation projects that in 2010, there will be almost no money (only \$10 million statewide) for constructing new roads. Transportation is funded primarily by gasoline taxes. Traditionally sales and income tax revenues, which generally increase faster than gasoline-tax revenues, have been off-limits to transportation and reserved for education, public safety, and healthcare.

Question: Would you let transportation compete with public education, public safety, and healthcare for sales and income tax revenues?
 Yes No Undecided

NAME: Jose Ruelas  DISTRICT: 47 DATE: Aug. 30, 2009

Please return by Sept. 1, 2009, to: Fairfax County Taxpayers Alliance PO Box 356 Fairfax, VA 22038
OR email signed copy to webmaster@fcta.org. Responses will be posted on NorthernVirginiaTeaParty.com.