



NATIONAL DEFENSE POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE
2012 ENDORSEMENT QUESTIONS

CANDIDATES: Please read the following questions, check Yes or No to indicate your answers, sign and return by e-mail to ExecDir@NationalDefensePAC.org. No candidate will be endorsed by NATIONAL DEFENSE PAC (NDPAC) without first answering & signing this questionnaire.

NDPAC was formed in May-2000 with the very specific focus of supporting military veterans for election or reelection to the U.S. Congress and other state elected offices, each with solid, demonstrable support for a strong national defense. In 2011, there are over 3,000,000 American men and women serving in the U. S. Armed Forces in the defense of freedom and the American way of life, and over 9,000,000 military veterans who have done the same. NDPAC believes that every one of them deserves your solid, unwavering support in Congress, as do their comrades in arms throughout the United States. In that regard, we have prepared these questions, for all candidates to answer before an NDPAC endorsement can be made, endorsement press releases sent, or any NDCPAC funds donated.

1. We are concerned that the current U. S. Armed Forces are being stretched too thin all too often with foreign deployments and missions that are more along the lines of "international policing" than national defense. When elected, can we count on you to advocate for our military to only be used to intervene when U.S national interests are at stake?

_____ YES _____ NO

2. Taking into consideration the prior question, there are times when the President commits troops overseas without 100% backing of Congress. Given that, will you do everything in your power to provide our troops in the field all support necessary to complete their mission successfully?

_____ YES _____ NO

3. A study released in early 2011 conducted by the RAND Corporation, analyzed the mental health and cognitive needs of veterans. Investigators found that nearly 20% of U.S. service members returning from Iraq or Afghanistan showed symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, and/or traumatic brain injury. Roughly half of those needing treatment had sought it, but only slightly more than half who received treatment got minimally adequate care. Do you commit to promoting policies that will raise the profile of this shortfall, reduce the negative image of PTSD, and ensure all elements of their care are adequately funded?

_____ YES _____ NO



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4. According to the Congressional Research Service, the FY2011 budget included \$50.7 billion for the DOD health care system that serves 9.5 million eligible beneficiaries through 56 hospitals, 363 outpatient medical facilities, and 275 dental clinics. The system's cost, which was \$19 billion in FY2001, has more than doubled in the 10 years since then. The cost of the medical program is projected by DOD to increase annually at a rate of 5-7% through FY2015, when it is projected to account for 10% of the DOD budget. In short, it's eating away at the ability of DoD to fund its core. Do you support fencing health accounts from the core Pentagon budget?

_____ YES _____ NO

5. In an age of fiscal austerity, it is essential that spending be prioritized effectively, and expended efficiently. In the past few years, Congress has been criticized putting partisanship over country and has failed to pass the annual budget in time for the fiscal year, including the once "apolitical" defense spending bills. Deputy Secretary of Defense Ash Carter stated in February 2011 speech, "...And what that means is that each and every program manager in the department is having to upset carefully calibrated plans, stop or slow activities only to restart them later, defer the commencement of important new programs, and so on. The result is not only delay. It is inefficient and uneconomical." He also spoke about the need to build military capabilities in a time-efficient manner and for the "money the country can afford to give us ... We are in the habit of taking forever, and forever costs an awful lot." When elected will you commit to pressing for timely passage of responsible authorization and appropriations bills, particularly to fund the national security accounts (DoD, State, etc) and for further reform to military procurement to ensure that it provides the most capable equipment at the greatest value to taxpayers?

_____ YES _____ NO

6. Energy Security is a simplistic buzzword for a complex problem. Energy-related threats to U.S. national security stem from: potential supply disruptions of finite reserves, energy blackmail, misuse of energy profits by undemocratic regimes (Iran, Venezuela, Russia, etc.), the high cost of energy and its impact on economic recovery, and more. In addition, at the very core of every military maneuver is fuel. DoD's average fuel bill for the last three years was \$14.6 billion. Given the national security imperative to reduce our dependence on foreign oil, are you willing to support policies (including tax reforms and mandates if needed to break monopolistic positions) to encourage the diversity of potential domestic liquid fuel sources, including domestic oil production on and off shore, biofuels, natural gas fuels, vehicle electrification, and innovation in much higher fuel efficiency in vehicles. Will you commit to implementing all policies necessary to reduce our foreign oil demand at least 60% by 2030?

_____ YES _____ NO



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7. Will you support an effort to improve the nation's ability to protect against and respond to cyber-attacks, including efforts to focus authority, responsibility and accountability for this mission?

_____ YES _____ NO

8. DOD's core mission is to deter threats to U.S. national security and, if that fails, to apply force on the battlefield. Activities not directly related to these missions should be considered for outsourcing or privatization, and procured where they can be provided more efficiently by existing commercial experts. The average time to receive a spare part through the defense logistics system is 30 days. Caterpillar Company can ship a part anywhere in the world in 48 hours. If elected, do you commit to a review of DOD activities not directly related to the mission of the armed forces to identify areas that are best utilized through outsourcing or privatization?

_____ YES _____ NO

9. Do you support the Total Force Policy, as adopted in 1973, as it has subsequently evolved since the end of the Cold War, and as currently conceived in the 2010 QDR, "Prevailing in today's wars requires a Reserve Component that can serve in an operational capacity—available, trained, and equipped for predictable routine deployment... At the same time, within this operational reserve, our nation must have a force generation model that provides sufficient strategic depth. As the operational environment allows, the Department will seek ways to rebalance its reliance on the Reserve Component to ensure the long-term viability of a force that has both strategic and operational capabilities." Will you oppose efforts to backslide on this cost-effective policy that, when looked at from the perspective of the Reserve and National Guard underpins the connection of an informed and representative armed force to the values of the larger population and remains the legacy of the citizen-soldiers of Lexington and Concord?

_____ YES _____ NO

10. Layered missile defenses are critical to guard against the unpredictable actions of rogue regimes, reduce the possibility of strategic blackmail, and avoid the disastrous consequences of an accidental or unauthorized launch by a foreign power. Do you support the development and deployment of national and theater missile defenses to protect the American homeland, our people, our Armed Forces abroad, and our allies? (From the 2008 Republican Platform).

_____ YES _____ NO



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11. Our military and intelligence professionals deserve a great deal of credit for ending Osama Bin Laden’s life. Nevertheless, the threat from al-Qaeda remains real, and perhaps more disparate than before, requiring a much more strategic and integrated team approach. Secretary Gates often stated that the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan demonstrated that military success alone isn’t enough to win. He noted the long list of other critical elements: economic development, institution-building and rule of law, internal reconciliation, good governance, basic services, trained and equipped indigenous military and police and more. “Funding for non-military foreign-affairs programs has increased since 2001, but remains disproportionately small relative to what we spend on the military and to the importance of such capabilities,” said Gates. The State Department’s budget request for fiscal 2011 was \$51.4 billion, about what the Pentagon spends on health care. But, they have no constituencies advocating for their increase. Will you commit to ensuring that these so-called “soft” elements of our counter-terrorism and national security strategies are given more weight in coming years?

_____ YES _____ NO

12. The current Administration and Congress have been deficit spending with reckless abandon, with projected deficits in excess of \$1.3 Trillion Dollars annually for the next decade. In our opinion, such spending will bankrupt our nation and leave us more vulnerable to enemy forces than at any time in the past 100 years. Do you commit that, if elected, you will ensure that action is taken to bring our nation’s fiscal house in order, defined as bringing annual expenditures within the cap of annual federal income, and to do so by CUTTING SPENDING, NOT BY RAISING TAXES?

_____ YES _____ NO

CANDIDATE SIGNATURE

DATE

CANDIDATE PRINTED NAME

DISTRICT/STATE REPRESENTED

Please indicate below the points of contact between NDPAC and your campaign when not dealing directly with the candidate. Please include name, phone, and e-mail address:

Campaign Manager: _____

Press Releases: _____

Scheduling: _____

Military Information Officer: _____