

2012 Civitas Candidate Survey

**Candidate Profile Information**

**Name**

Louis Pate

**Office sought**

Senate

**District (if applicable)**

7

**Party**

Republican

**Address**

102 Meredith St  
Mount Olive, NC 28365

**County**

Wayne

**Occupation**

Retired

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**Candidate Issue & Policy Questions**

1. Tax rates in North Carolina are

Too high

**2. North Carolina should raise the state sales tax by  $\frac{3}{4}$  of one cent – or 15 percent -- to provide additional resources to public schools.**

Disagree

**3. A nonpartisan redistricting commission should be established to draw North Carolina's Congressional and state legislative district maps.**

Agree

**4. North Carolina should allow offshore and natural gas exploration.**

Agree

**5. In order to address North Carolina's ongoing budget difficulties, state lawmakers should:**

Reduce spending

**6. Marriage between one man and one woman should be the only domestic legal union that is valid in North Carolina.**

Agree

**7. The Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) should be repealed.**

Agree

**8. North Carolina should retain capital punishment as a sentencing option.**

Agree

**9. North Carolina should adopt a constitutional amendment limiting the annual growth rate of state spending to a combination of inflation plus population growth.**

Agree

**10. North Carolina's status as a "Right to Work" state should be written into the state constitution.**

Agree

**11. Teacher pay should be tied to student performance and other factors reflecting teacher quality.**

Agree

**12. The North Carolina legislature should repeal Same-Day Registration.**

Agree

**13. North Carolina should amend the state constitution to ensure that all new issues of state or local debt require voter approval.**

Agree

**14. North Carolina should reinstate the cap on the state gas tax rate.**

Agree

**15. North Carolina should repeal mandated renewable energy quotas on electric companies in order to decrease energy costs.**

Agree

**16. In terms of state regulation of businesses, which most closely resembles your view?**

The state should eliminate many regulations to allow entrepreneurs more flexibility

**17. The state should continue to fund Planned Parenthood.**

Disagree

**18. When state government spends more money to hire more state workers, it creates jobs and therefore stimulates the economy.**

Disagree

**19. North Carolina should repeal its estate tax.**

Agree

**20. Students should be able to perform at or above grade level before being promoted to the next grade.**

Agree

**21. North Carolina should have term limits for state Senators and Representatives.**

Disagree

**22. North Carolina should end the unofficial moratorium on the death penalty.**

Agree

**23. North Carolina should eliminate all targeted tax credits and subsidies for businesses and instead tax all businesses the same.**

Disagree

**24. Judges should continue to be elected by the voters.**

Agree

**25. North Carolina should provide tax credits to individuals and businesses that fund scholarships for K-12 students to attend non-public schools.**

Agree

**26. State lawmakers should make more laws requiring employers to provide certain benefits to workers (i.e. paid sick**

leave, lunch breaks, etc.).

Disagree

**27. State pensions should be eliminated for elected officials in North Carolina.**

Disagree

**28. The federal government should provide healthcare under a single-payer system.**

Disagree

**29. North Carolina should allow collective bargaining for:**

No public employees

**30. The current K-12 teacher tenure system should be retained.**

Disagree

**31. Decisions about how to pay for healthcare services should be determined by:**

The individual

**32. North Carolina needs to continue to aggressively offer targeted tax credits and subsidies to recruit businesses to expand or relocate in the state, thus creating jobs.**

Disagree

**33. Minimum Wage Laws:**

Are an unfair intrusion into the labor market, and hurt the employment opportunities for low-skilled labor

**34. North Carolina currently spends about \$8,400 per K-12 public school student. This is about the right amount of spending.**

Disagree

**35. Party labels should be restored to judicial elections.**

Agree

**36. North Carolina should implement a state health insurance exchange to comply with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Obamacare).**

Agree

**Additional comments**

Question 23- While it would seem great to adopt equal business tax policies; how, then, would we address Question 25, as one example?

Question 32- We must be mindful of what our rival States are doing in recruiting efforts. That being said, we should seek

ways to make North Carolina more business-friendly: tax policy, regulatory policy, infrastructure,etc.

Question 34- We should be getting better outcomes for these expenditures. A large percentage of 4th Graders are not proficient in reading skills which leads to high school dropout and a lifetime of poverty. This cycle must be improved. It's not a lack of money!

Question 36- If Obamacare survives the legal challenges, the States will be forced to implement state health insurance exchanges or accept a federal health insurance exchange. Of the two choices, the state health insurance exchange seems more acceptable.