

2012 Civitas Candidate Survey

Candidate Profile Information

Name

Danny Hefner

Office sought

NC Senate

District (if applicable)

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Party

Democrat

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County

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Occupation

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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.

Disagree

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 The Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) should be repealed.

Disagree

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.

Disagree

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.

Disagree

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.

Disagree

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

State regulations are just about right and should not be changed significantly

17. The state should continue to fund Planned Parenthood.

Agree

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.

Agree

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.).

Agree

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

Agree

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

Agree

29. North Carolina should allow collective bargaining for:

No public employees

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

Agree

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.

Agree

33. Minimum Wage Laws:

Are necessary to protect workers, should be higher, and have little or no impact on employment opportunities for low-skilled workers

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.

Disagree

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

Agree

Additional comments

4. I agree that North Carolina should allow offshore and natural gas exploration. Especially, if the State is to receive a royalty for any and all resources located. The royalty payment should then be utilized to lower either the State Income Tax rate or the State Fuel Tax rate.

6. Article 4, Section 1 of the U.S. Constitution clearly states "Full Faith and Credit shall be given in each State to the public Acts, records, and judicial Proceedings of every other State." To agree or disagree with "Amendment One" would be a mute point as this is an issue that shall finally be decided by the U.S. Supreme Court. When same-sex marriage was ADJUDICATED through the Massachusetts State Supreme Court, EVERY other State was supposed to render Full Faith

and Credit to those proceedings, but did not. "Loving vs. Virginia", as decided in 1967, installed a precedent within the U.S. Supreme Court, whereas, by unanimous decision of the Court, as it was established, in the final paragraphs of the decision; Chief Justice Warren wrote, "Marriage is the most basic right of all men." Therefore, it is illogical to enshrine discrimination into the N.C. State Constitution. My personal feelings on this subject are irrelevant. When does discrimination become wrong? At 10 people, 100 people, 1,000,000 people, or 36,000,000 people if Kinsey's statistics are correct?

30. The tenure system should be maintained for N.C. teachers, however, the tenure system should be modified. If the teacher is not performing to guideline to ensure that all students are receiving the education they deserve, then the tenure should be revoked and the teacher removed.