

PA PAC Questionnaire for N. C. General Assembly Candidates - 2018

Please return this completed form along with your resume or a brief biographical statement describing your education, work history, community service, and prior political experience as soon as possible, but by **March 9**, at the latest.

You may e-mail your responses to Tom Miller at tom-miller1@nc.rr.com or you may send a printed copy of your responses to Durham PA-PAC c/o Tom Miller, 1110 Virginia Avenue, Durham, NC 27705

Please note that following the March 9 deadline, the Durham People's Alliance PAC may publish your responses to this questionnaire and your resume.

Thank you for completing this questionnaire and your willingness to serve the people of Durham.

Candidate's name: Barry Angelo Burch Sr District 30

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When responding to this questionnaire, type your answers in italics, bold, or a different font to distinguish your answers from the questions. Please do not use colors. You may explain your answer to every question, but please be concise. If possible, limit your answer to each question to no more than 350 words. If you use words or ideas from another person, please attribute your source.

Why You Are Running

1. Of all the issues confronting the State of North Carolina which single issue is most important to you and why? **Homelessness Homeprevetion: because we have a duty to see that everyone has safe and adequate housing** What would you do about it if you are elected? **Seek out the ways and means to empower those nonprofits and organizations to find workable solutions toward prevention and rapid rehousing.**

Politics and Voting Rights

2. Do you support or oppose placing state legislative and U. S. Congressional redistricting in the hands of a non-partisan commission? **Support!**

The Environment

3. Should state agencies charged with the management and protection of our environment have the authority to make standards and rules which exceed federal standards? **Yes**

4. Has the state created laws and regulations adequate to protect North Carolinians from the potential harmful impacts of fracking? **NO**

5. What tools would you support in the clean up of GenX, coal ash, and other pollutants in the state's streams, lakes, estuaries and sounds, and water supplies? **I would support the recommendations of Environmentalists that do this work for a living and are not trying to politicize their efforts. To hold accountable those businesses that do not take seriously the health of our people and the welfare of our environment**

Educating Our Children

6. What measures, if any, do you believe are necessary to improve public education in North Carolina? **Parent involvement, and tools necessary for our teachers to do their job in safety and be compensated adequately.**

Healthcare

7. Are you satisfied with the current system of providing healthcare to North Carolina residents? **NO** Explain. **It is too expensive for the average person.** If you are not satisfied, what changes would you make? **Work to see how we can make coverage affordable**

State Revenues

8. Is the current system of state and local taxes and fees fair and adequate to meet the needs of North Carolina residents? **NO** What changes should be made, if any? **There is not a staple answer for this, taxes are extremely too high and while money is needed to run the state, the state should not be oppressing the poor.** Please cite specific examples. **There has to be a better way to get back taxes than across the board liens and wage garnishment. People are not making a livable wage then we take from them and exacerbate the problem.**

9. State and local governments provide substantial economic incentives for corporations to relocate to North Carolina or to expand their operations in the state. What is your position on the use of economic incentives for private business? **If they are given incentives, then they should be mandated to also hire qualified NC Residents, it is said they are bringing jobs, but often times, they are bringing in personnel for those positions.**

Civil Rights

10. Would you support legislation designed to protect gay, lesbian, and transgender people from discrimination in housing, employment, public accommodation, and access to government benefits and services? **YES**

Crime, Law Enforcement, Courts and Racial Justice

11. What, if anything, should be done about gun violence and the proliferation of guns in North Carolina? **Buy back programs, and then destroy the weapons that have been seized, instead of allowing them to find their way back into the sell zone.**

12. Should state and local government law enforcement agencies have the discretion to decide the extent to which they cooperate with U. S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement with regard to detainers and programs such as Secure Communities and the 287(g) program? **YES – There are extenuating circumstances for different communities, that cannot be addressed across the board.**

13. Do you support or oppose the recent statutory changes that discourage North Carolina judges from waiving court fines and fees for indigent defendants? Why or why not? **OPPOSE – Paying a fine may very well be the difference between a person eating or paying a utility bill**

14. At times, both political parties have suggested moving from the election of judges to some form of “merit selection”. What do you believe is the best way to select independent and qualified judges? **It has to be something that continues to be non political. The Public should have the say as to how judges are elected. Otherwise, those who legislate, will have control over those who interpret the law.**

Yes or No

15. Please answer the following questions by circling (or underlining) YES or NO. You may explain or qualify your answer to any question, but *please use no more than 40 words.*

a. Should North Carolina voters have to present some sort of identification in order to vote?

YES or NO

b. Do you support increased state funding for a crisis pregnancy center?

YES or NO

c. Should North Carolina have a paid sick leave law?

YES or NO

d. Should cities and counties have the authority to use inclusionary zoning to promote affordable housing?

YES or NO

e. Should cities and counties have the authority to control rents to promote affordable housing?

YES or NO

f. Do you support or ~~oppose~~ requiring a supermajority city council vote in re-zoning cases when qualified neighbors file a protest petition?

YES or NO

g. Under what circumstances should polluters be exempt from fines and civil penalties imposed by the state? None

YES or NO

h. Should magistrates or other government officials be excused from performing their lawful duties because of their religious beliefs?

YES or NO

i. Should the death penalty in North Carolina be abolished?

YES or NO

j. Do you support the Jordan Lake and Falls Lake rules?

YES or NO (Not a yes or no answer, the cost is too high, the premise for environmental concerns is good, there has to be a compromise, how that end result will look, I cannot say)

Concerning You

16. Have you ever been convicted of any criminal offence other than a minor traffic offense? Have you ever been charged with a felony (without regard to the disposition of the charge)? If the answer to either of these questions is yes, please describe the charge or charges, the circumstances, and the outcome. **NO**

17. For whom did you vote in the 2012 and 2016 general presidential elections?

Thank you and please don't forget to send us your resume or biographical statement.