

**PA PAC Questionnaire for
North Carolina Governor/Lieutenant Governor – 2020**

Please return the completed questionnaire along with your resume or biographical statement describing education, work history, community service, and prior political experience as soon as possible, but by January 1 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 PA PAC c/o Tom Miller 1110 Virginia Avenue, Durham, NC 27705-3262

Please note that following the January 1 deadline, the People's Alliance PAC may publish your responses to this questionnaire and your resume.

When answering this questionnaire, please repeat the questions in your response document with each question numbered and organized as it appears here. Type your responses in italics, bold, or a different font to distinguish your responses from the questions. Do not use colors or shading!

Please try to confine your responses to no more than 300 words unless another word limit is indicated. Do not feel obliged to exhaust the limit for each question.

If you use words or ideas from another person, please attribute your source.

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

Candidate's name: Terry Van Duyn

Office you are running for: ___ Governor x Lieutenant Governor

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Why Are You Running?

1. Of all the issues confronting the State of North Carolina which single issue is most important to you and why? What would you do about it if you are elected?

I am running to ensure that every North Carolinian receives a world class education, regardless of the zip code they were born in, the color of their skin, or the income level of their parents. As Lieutenant Governor, not only will I sit on the board of the Community College System where I will work to ensure that we are training a workforce ready for 21st Century jobs, but I will also be Governor Cooper's voice in the State Senate. As the only Senator running for Lieutenant Governor in the Democratic Primary, and the only Democrat to serve in a leadership role, I am uniquely qualified to advocate for Governor Cooper's vision where education is our state's top priority.

Politics and Voting Rights

2. What changes would you make to North Carolina's election and campaign finance laws and why?

First, we must acknowledge that "voter fraud" has been used to justify "voter ID" which is designed to suppress voter turnout. I was a vocal opponent of Voter ID legislation and will continue to fight to improve, not discourage, voter turnout.

Second, we must correct Citizens United. I introduced legislation with Senate Bill 339, the "We the People" Act, that would place a referendum on the ballot to clearly define that constitutional rights belong only to individuals and not corporations or other artificial entities and that conditionally protected free speech does not include the unlimited spending of money on political campaigns. I am the only person in this race to introduce such legislation and I am willing to fight until we get it done.

Third, we need an independent redistricting process. I introduced SB673, which calls for independent redistricting commission. In California, which implemented independent redistricting via ballot initiative, voter turnout has been as high at 70% and approval rating for their legislature have improved dramatically. When people think their vote counts, they are more likely to get involved.

Finally, I would fight to protect non-partisan local and judicial election and restore public funding for judicial races. Especially at the local level, partisan labels discourage participation. Judges should never have to solicit campaign funds.

3. Support or Oppose – Please indicate whether you support or oppose the following. *If necessary, you may explain each of your answers with no more than 100 words.*

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| a. Establishing a non-partisan redistricting commission for congressional and state legislative districts | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support | <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose |
| b. Affiliated party committees | <input type="checkbox"/> Support | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose |
| c. Voter ID | <input type="checkbox"/> Support | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose |
| d. Same-day voter registration | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support | <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose |
| e. A convention of states | <input type="checkbox"/> Support | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose |

The Environment

4. Do state agencies have the authority they need to protect the state's natural resources from sources of pollution such as GenX, coal ash, fracking, and hog waste? What changes would you make, if any?

They do not. I support changing the law so that the Department of Environmental Quality is fully funded and has the necessary regulatory ability not only to investigate, but to regulate, fine, and hold corporations accountable for the pollution and contamination of our natural resources. Furthermore, I oppose the burning of coal for power. I oppose all fracking. And I am vehemently opposed to the practice of spraying hog waste.

5. Under what circumstances should polluters be exempt from fines and civil penalties imposed by the state?

There are no circumstances under which polluters should be exempt from fines and state imposed penalties. This is why I sponsored Senate Bill 651, the Polluters Pay Act, which would ensure those responsible for contamination would pay to clean up their own waste regardless of cost. It would also guarantee that polluters be responsible for providing alternative sources of safe water for use by those impacted and would block corporations from passing down the expense of their clean-up to rate-payers.

6. How does climate change inform your policy view with regard to the environment, economic development, energy production, and transportation?

As chair of the North Carolina Energy Policy Council, the **current** Lieutenant Governor's vision was to turn North Carolina from a *net user* to a *net producer* of fossil fuels, promoting fracking and offshore drilling. **This is exactly the wrong direction.** Climate Change is the number one threat that we face. We must focus on moving North Carolina towards 100% renewable energy, which is why I introduced Senate Bill 513, State Clean Energy Goal for 2050. North Carolina should look towards clean, renewable energy such as wind and solar, and eliminate the burning of fossil fuels and nuclear.

The current Legislature's hostility toward multi-modal transportation must change. I will work to increase the use of public transportation, from buses to light rail, and encourage local governments to work with DOT to include bike lanes and shared spaces for pedestrians in their transportation plans.

Educating Our Children

7. What measures, if any, do you believe are necessary to improve public education in North Carolina? In your answer please address teacher qualifications, compensation, and retention; the role of charter schools and vouchers; re-segregation; and takeovers of struggling schools. *Please limit your answer to no more than 450 words.*

Since 2010, Republicans have sent the consistent message that our schools are broken. That is just wrong. Our schools are not broken, but they are under-resourced. We need to respect teachers, pay them a fair wage, provide them with the resources they need, and let them do their jobs. I have consistently voted against budgets that did not include sufficient resources for getting teacher pay to at least the national average. I support re-establishing and expanding the Teaching Fellows Program, fully funding continuing education, restoring Masters Pay, increasing textbook funding to pre-recession levels, eliminating the Pre-K waitlist, providing raises for non-instructional personnel and for Community College and University staff.

We need to make sure that NO North Carolina student has to attend an over-crowded or substandard classroom. That's why I worked to get the Governor's bond referendum passed.

Finally, we need to abandon gimmicky initiatives like vouchers which take resources and control away from public schools. Instead, we must focus on the basics: recruiting good teachers, especially teachers of color, providing them with training, support and adequate pay.

Healthcare

8. Are you satisfied with the current system of providing healthcare to North Carolina residents? In your answer please address health care costs, the availability and distribution of healthcare services, and the roles of managed care organizations, Medicaid, and subsidized healthcare insurance under the Affordable Care Act.

North Carolina has the 10th highest rate of uninsured people in America. We rank 8th for low birth weight. In fact, there is not a leading cause of death where North Carolina does better than the national average. This is certainly not acceptable to me.

We need to expand Medicaid. Not only would it provide healthcare for over 600,000 of our brothers, sisters, and siblings, by decreasing the numbers of uninsured we would reduce insurance premiums by as much as 12%.

Our hospitals, especially our rural hospitals are under severe financial pressure because we have not expanded Medicaid. We cannot meet the needs of rural North Carolina if we lose our hospitals.

Consider, too, that NC is in the process of transforming its Medicaid system to Managed Care. For Republicans, Managed Care means privatizing Medicaid, shifting the risk associated with healthcare to insurance companies.

But the promise of Managed Care, if done correctly, is that it drives costs down by keeping people healthy. Under Governor Cooper's leadership, Secretary of DHHS, Dr. Mandy Cohen, has worked to improve Managed Care by doing just that. She had modified the waiver for transformation to include mental health and social determinants of health, making sure people have a healthcare home where they can get preventative care, learn how to stay healthy, address mental and substance abuse issues, and get access to housing and transportation support. Healthy people use less healthcare. That is how we can bring the cost curve down in a way that uplifts North Carolina.

I have been, and will continue to be, a fierce advocate for Medicaid Expansion and well-resourced Managed-care. ***(It was while advocating for Medicaid Expansion that I had my microphone cut off by Sen. Berger on the Senate floor.)***

State and Local Government Finances

9. Is the current system of state and local taxation and fees fair and adequate to meet the needs of North Carolina residents? What changes should be made, if any? Please cite specific examples. *Please limit your answer to 400 words.*

The problem of income inequality in North Carolina is real. The top 1% take home 7.2% of all income, earning 20 times what the average bottom 99% earns. Ability to pay must be a factor in fair, equitable tax policy and for that reason, I strongly support a return to a graduated income tax.

Second, I emphatically disagree with the proposition that eliminating corporate taxes creates jobs. When I talk to businesses, they tell me North Carolina isn't doing enough. The issues they want to talk about are: lack of an educated work-force, lack of affordable housing, lack of high-speed internet and

water and transportation needs. North Carolina has been underfunding these needs for too long. We need to stop cutting corporate taxes, including those already in budget that Governor Cooper vetoed, and invest those dollars in a North Carolina that works for everyone.

10. What is your position on the use of public funds for economic incentives for private businesses?

Although the effectiveness of economic incentives is debatable, I believe that they are a necessity in an environment where North Carolina is competing with other states for high quality jobs.

Economic incentives are also a tool to encourage those jobs be developed distressed counties. North Carolina uses a tier system to distribute a portion of incentive funds granted in higher-wealth counties for use in lower-wealth counties.

We must, however, evaluate the effectiveness of our programs both in terms of their return on investment to the taxpayer, and their ability to significantly improve the lot of low-income (Tier One) counties. Without improved investments in education and healthcare, economic incentives will not work.

In fact, the effectiveness of the Tier System was called into questioned by the Program Evaluation Division of the General Assembly. Their 2017 report concluded:

“The General Assembly should establish a commission to reexamine the State’s strategy for identifying and assisting chronically distressed communities in the state. The root causes for chronic economic distress are extremely complex and include not just economic-related factors, but educational, health, mobility and other interrelated components.”

In other words, we must dramatically increase investments in education as recommended by the recently made public Leandro Decision report, and must expand medicaid. Without adequate investments in education and healthcare, economic incentives are ineffective. I was a leader in the Legislature, and as Lieutenant Governor I will be a strong advocate for increased investment in education and healthcare.

Finally, we must hold businesses that receive taxpayer funds accountable. According to Pew Trust, North Carolina trails at least 30 other states making sure there is high-quality information for tracking the results of tax incentives. As Lieutenant Governor, I would work with the Department of Commerce and the Office of State Budget to develop plans and procedures for regular program reviews.

11. Should state and local governments be allowed to condition government contracts and incentives on local hiring and rates of compensation and workplace benefits and safeguards which exceed state minimums?

Absolutely. We passed an ordinance in Buncombe that requires contractors doing business with the county pay a living wage. It was working until the General Assembly made it illegal. Furthermore, the prohibitions in HB142 regarding local non-discrimination ordinances must be repealed. I sponsored a bill to do that.

12. There was no #12 included in the survey.

13. What should be the minimum wage in North Carolina and what workers should it cover?

North Carolina's minimum wage should be \$15 for all workers. Along with Senators Erica Smith and Valerie Foushee, I introduced Senate Bill 137, the Economic Security Act, which would guarantee it.

As the oldest of eight children, I grew up in a three bedroom apartment and watched my parents work hard and play by the rules. When I was old enough, I went to work for an hourly wage. At that time, an hourly wage was enough for me to pay my way through college and save for my future.

Anyone that works 40-hours a week in our North Carolina should not be forced to live in poverty because of corporate greed.

Local Government

14. Should local governments have the authority to control rents and to compel developers to include affordable housing as a part of their projects?

Yes, absolutely! Local governments know their neighborhoods; they deal daily with the conflicting interests of property rights and public welfare. Local governments are more flexible, more accountable, and more innovative. (Local control used to be a Republican mantra!)

The city of Asheville, in the last election, passed a bond issue that includes funding for Affordable Housing. They are fast-tracking zoning variances for developers that include affordable and work-force housing in their plans.

Both the city and county have funded non-profits like Habitat for Humanity and Mountain Housing Opportunities to leverage tax dollars with non-profit fundraising. I have supported both organizations and am particularly proud of Mountain Housing Opportunities' effort to re-develop affordable housing in an historical African American neighborhood that had been decimated by urban renewal. They worked with the City, and the County to restore that location, encouraging African American families to return and open businesses.

Civil Rights

15. Would you support legislation designed to protect gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people from discrimination in housing, employment, public accommodation, and access to government benefits and services? What consideration will you give LGBTQ people when evaluating the impacts of legislation generally? What skills and resources will you draw on to inform your position?

Not only would I support future legislation, but I led the charge this past session to introduce the most sweeping set of non-discrimination legislation North Carolina has ever seen. I worked closely with advocates from Equality NC to introduce Senate Bill 426, the Mental Health Protection Act, which, if passed, would ban conversion therapy in North Carolina, Senate Bill 209 the Hate Crimes Prevention Act, which, if passed, would expand the scope of hate crimes to protect members of the LGBTQ+ community, and Senate Bill 464, which would fully repeal HB2.

As the Democratic Whip when HB2 originally passed, I worked hard to hold the members of our Democratic Caucus together in opposition of the bill and have introduced its full repeal in multiple sessions.

16. What should the state do to promote racial equity and diversity, such as increasing opportunities for under-represented and under-served people of color? Can you provide an example of your advocacy for race-equity and diversity?

Our first step as a state must be to admit that it was our own history, both the private conversations within our homes and the public legislation enacted, which enforced racial segregation and continues to enshrine racial bias and discrimination. I am a graduate of Racial Equity Institute training. What I learned there has informed my work in the General Assembly ever since.

The current GOP recoils against these facts. They pass “race neutral” tax cuts which are anything but, resulting in a shift in tax burden from corporations and the wealthy to the lower and middle class. As a result, black residents are paying a larger share of taxes than before. I have advocated for more equitable tax policy, including reinstatement of the Earned Income Tax Credit.

Republicans refuse to expand Medicaid although research shows that over half of all uninsured folks are people of color and that expansion states have closed the racial gap for access to cancer treatment. I have been a strong and consistent voice for Medicaid Expansion.

The Leandro Report found improvements in the achievement gap stymied because of the cuts made after the 2007 recession. I have been a strong voice for increased funding for education. Furthermore, students do better when they have access to people who look like them. I fully support Governor Cooper’s Executive Order 113: Establishing the Task Force to Develop a Representative and Inclusive Vision for Education, and as Lieutenant Governor, will make this a priority in my work on the State Board of Education and the Community College Board.

Finally, North Carolina has been the poster child of voter suppression. I have been a vocal opponent of Voter ID, both in 2013 and recently, and have sponsored independent redistricting bills.

Crime, Law Enforcement, and Punishment

17. What, if anything, should be done about gun violence and the proliferation of guns in North Carolina?

I support a background check requirement for every gun purchased and also support Red Flag Laws. Further, we need to enact safe storage legislation. No child should die because of an unsecured gun and teenagers should not be able to kill themselves with an unsecured gun. If gun owners understood that accidents and suicides account for 1/3 of gun deaths, attitudes might change. It is past time for us to treat gun violence as a public health problem and allow the CDC to collect the data necessary to protect the public.

18. Should the death penalty in North Carolina be abolished? If you believe it should be retained, would you change the way in which it is applied and administered?

The death penalty should absolutely be abolished.

19. Should state and local government law enforcement agencies have the discretion to decide whether to cooperate with the federal government in enforcing immigration laws and policy?

Local sheriffs need the autonomy to determine the manner in which they, and their departments, will cooperate with ICE.

I am proud to represent a community that elected, and continues to support, a sheriff who understands that ICE often undermines the working relationships our law enforcement officials need within minority communities. When victims of crime are afraid of the police, or do not trust our law enforcement officials, then our law enforcement officials cannot do their jobs.

We have a school in Buncombe County where 30% of the student body is Hispanic. These parents are afraid to come to parent-teacher conferences and cannot support their children for fear of being targeted and deported. This negatively affects our community.

People are never "illegal," and working to support a family should never be criminalized.

Political

20. For whom did you vote for in the 2012 and 2016 presidential and gubernatorial elections? For whom did you vote in the 2016 U. S. Senate election?

President Obama in 2012 and Secretary Clinton in 2016. Lieutenant Governor Dalton in 2012 and Governor Cooper in 2016. I voted for Representative Deborah Ross in the 2016 U.S. Senate election.

Thank you for completing this questionnaire.

Please do not forget to provide us with your resume or biographical statement.