

## 2010 CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Please complete this form and return it to the above address.

### ABORTION QUESTIONS

*Arkansas Right to Life (ARTL) believes that all unborn children should be protected by law and that abortion should be permitted only when necessary to prevent the death of the mother.*

(1) Under what circumstances, if any, do you believe that abortion should be legal?

\_\_\_\_\_ Only to prevent the death of the mother (the ARTL position).

\_\_\_\_\_ To prevent the mother's death, in cases of incest committed against a minor, and in reported cases of forcible rape.

\_\_\_\_\_ Other: (please explain) \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE NOTE:** On every question below, a "YES" response indicates agreement with the position of ARTL.

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*In its 1973 rulings in Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton, the U. S. Supreme Court created a "right to abortion" for any reason until "viability" (into the sixth month), and for any "health" reasons – including "emotional" health – even during the final three months of pregnancy. These rulings invalidated the abortion laws that were in effect in all 50 states at the time. In the 1992 ruling of Casey v. Planned Parenthood, the Supreme Court reaffirmed the "core holdings" of Roe v. Wade, but adopted a new standard of review under which any restriction deemed to be an "undue burden" on access to abortion would be struck down.*

(2) Do you support the reversal of the *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton* decisions, so that elected legislative bodies may once again protect unborn children by limiting or prohibiting abortion?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

(3) In the event that the U.S. Supreme Court case, *Roe v. Wade*, which legalized abortion on demand, was overturned, would you support a law that would ban abortion unless the mother's life was at risk?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

*In 2003 the Arkansas General Assembly passed Act 1189 to give women seeking an abortion the right to view an ultrasound test if the abortionist performed one.*

- (4) Would you support the amendment of Act 1189 to require that before an abortion is performed, the abortionist must perform an ultrasound and display the ultrasound images for the mother, so that she may view the images?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

- (5) Would you vote for a law to prohibit abortions for sex-selection?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

*In 2007 Act 353 the Woman's Right to Know Law was amended to include with the definition of informed consent of abortions that no person could force a woman to have an abortion.*

- (6) Would you vote to require that places where abortions are performed post a sign that advises women that it is against AR law to coerce/force a woman to have an abortion against her will?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

*In 2005 the passage of the federal Unborn Victims of Violence Act (Laci & Conner's Law) established that if an unborn child is injured or killed then the assailant may be charged with a second offense on behalf of the second victim, the unborn child. The Arkansas Fetal Protection Act 1273 of 1999 recognizes unborn children twelve weeks and older as victims when injured or killed during a crime against a pregnant woman.*

- (7) Would you vote to amend Act 1273 to recognize the unborn child, regardless of his or her gestational age, as a second victim in crimes against their mother?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

*The proposed Equal Rights Amendment to the federal constitution would invalidate any law or government policy that discriminates "on account of sex." In some states that have already added similar provisions to their state constitutions, courts have used them to invalidate limits on abortion such as limitations on state funding of abortion and laws requiring parental involvement for minor girls seeking abortion..*

- (8) Would you vote against the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) to the Arkansas State Constitution if it does not contain an "abortion-neutral" amendment?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

*Many bills for “health care reform” have included provisions under which state governments require coverage of abortion in certain types of health insurance plans. Often, such bills do not explicitly mention abortion, but they contain mandates that invariably will be construed by courts, and/or by administrative agencies, to include abortion. For example, any legal mandate for coverage of “medically necessary services” or “reproductive health services” will be construed to include elective abortion, unless explicit language is added to prevent this interpretation.*

(9) Would you vote to add strong language to explicitly exclude abortion in any legislation that would define a specific package of health care benefits?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

### **PROTECTION OF HUMAN EMBRYOS**

*The right to life of human beings must be respected at every stage of their biological development. Human individuals who are at the embryonic stage of development should not be used for harmful or lethal medical experimentation. This applies equally to human beings whose lives have begun by means such as in vitro fertilization or by somatic cell nuclear transfer (human cloning), or by some other laboratory technique. Arkansas Right to Life opposes harvesting “stem cells” from living human embryos since this kills the embryos. Note: ARTL is NOT opposed to other research on “stem cells” that are obtained without killing embryos – for example, stem cells harvested from umbilical cord blood and from adult tissue.*

(10) Will you vote for measures to protect living human embryos from being used for medical experiments that would harm or kill them, including so-called “embryonic stem cell research” that would require the killing of human embryos, regardless of the method used to create these human embryos?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

### **EUTHANASIA QUESTIONS**

*The pro-life movement has always sought to protect not only the unborn from abortion, but also the vulnerable born, especially older or disabled people, from euthanasia. The restructuring of the health care and health insurance system is a matter of **central importance to the pro-life movement** because when the government rations health care in a way that makes it illegal or impossible for citizens to choose lifesaving medical treatment, food, and fluids, it imposes a type of involuntary euthanasia.*

(11) Would you vote against any bill that would prohibit or limit the right to spend one’s own money for health care or health insurance?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

*A significant number of hospitals have implemented formal policies authorizing denial of lifesaving medical treatment against the will of a patient or the patient's family if an ethics committee thinks the patient's quality of life is unacceptable, even though the patient and family disagree.*

(12) Would you support preventing involuntary denial of lifesaving medical treatment by providing that if failure to comply with a patient's or surrogate's choice for lifesaving treatment would in reasonable medical judgment be likely to result in the patient's death, a health care provider unwilling to respect the choice for lifesaving treatment must allow the patient to be transferred to a willing provider and must provide treatment pending transfer?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this original questionnaire to:**

Arkansas Right to Life  
P.O. Box 1697  
Little Rock, Arkansas, 72203

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Signature of Candidate

Date

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Please print or type name

Political Party

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Office Sought

District #

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Name of campaign committee and address

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Campaign contact person

Phone