

## Jerry Fowler Candidate Survey

1. Do you oppose government regulation of greenhouse gas emissions?

Yes I am adamantly opposed to government regulating greenhouse emissions based upon politicized "science". The underlying agenda is to enrich individuals like Al Gore and Franklin Raines with the ultimate goal of establishing a "global governance". Additionally, the last thing any American needs in this economy is to be hit with a tax on energy that will "necessarily cause electricity rates to skyrocket."

2. Would you support repealing the Obama Health Care Bill, including the individual mandate?

The individual mandate quite simply is unconstitutional, but the Health Care bill should be repealed in its entirety. Having worked for what is now the leading US supplier of healthcare information technology solutions, I can safely write that this is exactly the wrong way to improve quality and reduce costs and actually has the opposite effect. If one watched and listened closely to the Bi-Partisan Health Care summit, it could be heard that the President indicated that everyone had worked really over the past year and then corrected himself and said over the last 50 years to implement health care reform. This is interesting because you can listen to a YouTube audio made in 1961 by then private citizen Ronald Reagan, speaking out against socialized medicine.

3. Should Congress continue to use the "general welfare" clause to regulate aspects of our lives, such as agriculture and education, that are traditionally under the authority of the private sector, state, and local government?

Absolutely not and I believe the blanket use of the general welfare clause is a gross distortion of the enumerated powers of Congress. James Madison called this concept a "misconstruction" in Federalist No. 41. Excerpts from this paper include ""But what color can the objection have, when a specification of the objects alluded to by these general terms immediately follows, and is not even separated by a longer pause than a semicolon? ... For what purpose could the enumeration of particular powers be inserted, if these and all others were meant to be included in the preceding general power? Nothing is more natural nor common than first to use a general phrase, and then to explain and qualify it by a recital of particulars." James Madison also wrote in Federalist No. 45, "The powers delegated by the proposed Constitution to the federal government are few and defined. Those which are to remain in the State governments are numerous and indefinite." In addition, the 10th Amendment reinforces the notion

of limited government reserving the remainder of powers to the States and the people respectively.

4. Do you support a “border enforcement first” policy for defending America’s borders?

Absolutely, a constitutional republic is based on the rule of law and we need to enforce the immigration laws that are on the books. It is an immigration and a national security issue.

5. Should we promote free trade agreements that allow Americans to sell goods in foreign markets, even if it may cost American jobs?

I am leery of free trade agreements, if examples of those types of agreements include GATT and NAFTA. In general, I believe in free trade and free markets but we should carefully consider a cautious implementation especially with the potential to lose American jobs, as our current unemployment rate is abysmal. My view is similar to Thomas Jefferson who is quoted as favoring "peace, commerce, and honest friendship with all nations; entangling alliances with none."

6. Does the War on Terror demand more of a military response or a law enforcement response?

I believe that it should be a law enforcement response at this point, I believe our current military responses are only increasing international resentment against the United States.

7. Would you pledge to return federal spending levels to the level of 2007 or earlier?

Yes I would, we need to downsize the federal government and restore the proper limited powers originally intended by the U.S. Constitution. This would mean reducing the head count and the potential elimination of federal agencies entirely over time. I would want to avoid drastic increase in the unemployment rate but federal spending levels need to be reduced drastically in very short order.

8. Did you sign the Americans for Tax Reform’s “No Tax Pledge?”

No I haven't seen the American's for Tax Reform "No Tax Pledge.", but I would be interested in reviewing it for possible signing.

9. Are there any circumstances under which you would vote for a program similar to TARP or other federal bailouts?

Under the free market (*laissez-faire*) principle I believe that more harm than good is done when the government attempts to pick winners in the market. I also believe that TARP and stimulus money are failed Keynesian policies that allow the unconstitutional expansion of government and increase the enslavement of federal debt.

10. Do you believe the government is eroding the Founders' vision of faith, family, and culture and, if so, how?

Yes I do, there are a number of examples I could cite but here are two: "separation of church and state" and the progressive income tax. The "separation of church and state" as currently advocated by those who wish to remove any religious influence (except secular humanism) from public displays and all walks of life is another misconstruction of the letter from Thomas Jefferson to the Danbury Baptists. This ideology is in direct violation of the 1st Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. Another indirect violation of the 1st Amendment is the tax code as embodied in the 501(c)3 section of the IRS. Congress established the IRS in 1913 and the IRS created the code that limits the topics of discussion that religious leader (pastors, ministers, priests, etc) can engage in and still retain their 501(c)3 classification. As such Congress has indirectly abridged the freedom of speech of religious leaders with IRS regulations, and directly prohibited the free exercise of religion by passing the recent hate crimes legislation.

11. Would you commit to solid, informed congressional oversight if you were in Washington, D.C. — not random acts of after-sight or political grandstanding? If so, give us at least two areas in which you would want to better learn and ask questions of our government to seek the effectiveness of programs, curtail the growth of the federal largesse, or properly oversee the enforcement of current laws?

I believe the current annual budgeting is in shambles. There are a number of items which need to be addressed to reduce waste and federal spending. In Federalist # 58, James Madison writes of the U.S. House of Representatives as alone holding "This power over the purse..." of all branches of the federal government. However, now the House in addition to the Senate and the President all work on separate budgets that are delivered late and then the budget reconciliation process is used to merge all three budgets while thousands of earmarks for special interests are thrown in the process without any review or approval. I believe the budgeting process rules need to be modified to return to

a single budget that is owned by the House with Senatorial and Presidential input considered but not binding. Federal largesse can be improved by adding sunset laws to all existing programs and by controlling the size of the budget based upon the previous year's surplus or deficit and the amount of national debt.