

**NORTH CLACKAMAS COUNTY CHAMBER
QUESTIONNAIRE – STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

The North Clackamas County Chamber of Commerce is made up of more than 600 businesses, representing more than 26,500 employees, located in the Clackamas County and Metro area. We may be considering endorsing in your current race, and need to know more about your beliefs to assist us in making our recommendations. Please complete the following questionnaire and return promptly.

Responses to these questions may be the basis of the topics at the Candidates' Issues Events at which you may be invited to speak. Questions at the issues event may include any of the following.

Responses to this questionnaire will also be posted on the Chamber's website, www.yourchamber.com.

Please return this by email to ceo@yourchamber.com before Monday, March 1, 2010.

Please limit your response to each question to no more than 100 words.

Name Patrick Sheehan

Office Sought (and District) HD 51 Party Affiliation(if applicable) Republican

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1.) **What are the major issues facing the office you are seeking and how will you respond to those issues if elected?**

Creating new jobs for Oregonians.

The role of state government is to provide an environment in which businesses can thrive and grow. Instead of being punished for successes, businesses should be rewarded for creating jobs and employing Oregonians.

Legislative incentives for startup, growth and expansion opportunities can help businesses to survive and then flourish as they hire more people and increase production.

We need to make it easier for small businesses to work with state agencies by simplifying the bureaucracy for contracting and permitting. Suffocating taxes, fees and regulations prevent businesses from creating jobs and need to be reviewed regularly to determine if they are doing what they were intended to do or if they are simply standing in the way of success for Oregon's small businesses.

Education first, not last.

Public schools are being held hostage in Oregon. The largest budget item and supposedly the most important, education most often is the last item to be funded by our State Legislature.

If we are serious about education being important to Oregon's future and the future of its

children, we need to fund education before anything else in the state budget.

Our priorities in education should be providing funding for classrooms, supporting school choice and local control, and rewarding excellent teachers and student populations. Education needs to move to the front of the classroom and be recognized for its importance to our economy and our future.

Keeping Oregonians safe.

Measure 11's mandatory minimum sentences help prosecutors keep violent criminals off the street. We need to protect Measure 11 as it falls under attack from the Governor and the Legislature to keep violent offenders behind bars and away from your family.

Once criminals are behind bars, they need to serve their time. Too often, thanks to soft politicians, criminals are being released after serving less than half their sentences. This is unacceptable. Prisoners need to do their time with reasonable incentives for good behavior and rehabilitation - not automatic sentence reductions. Releasing prisoners early and without merit mocks the suffering of victims and put your family in harm's way.

Rural Issues

I support protecting family farms by reforming the death tax. I oppose unnecessary intrusion like the "tree cutting permit" being discussed by Clackamas County. I believe we need to give property owners more control over zoning and land use regulations.

Re-thinking health care.

A government solution for health care is the wrong direction. Instead, a culture shift is needed in those who provide and receive care. Some of the factors contributing to the current crisis are:

- * Over consumption of diagnostic medicine - Doctors are sued or disciplined for missing obscure and unlikely diagnoses, and often prescribe unnecessary tests to avoid the trouble or to appease a patient's requests. Additionally, hospital imaging policies at the patients' end-of-life provides little diagnostic benefit for the terminally ill, and serve only to protect the legal interests of the hospital. This is nothing the government can or should be involved with regulating, but we as Oregonians need to come together to shift the culture to something more sustainable.

- * Out-of-control lawsuits - Our current system actually encourages lawsuits against medical professionals when juries award outrageous sums to patients and their families. Everyone deserves protection for malpractice and adequate health care but our current system rewards trial lawyers not patients.

- * "All-access" Insurance - Instead of being used as it was originally intended, as a protection against an unlikely eventuality, health insurance is now thought of as taking care of everything. We don't use car insurance to pay for new tires or windshield wipers but we want health insurance to pay for every doctor visit and bottle of aspirin.

There needs to be a balance between health care as a right and health care as a responsibility of the individual.

As a state government, we need to rethink "Cadillac" health insurance benefits for public employees, and offer choice and portability in plans offered.

A voice for citizens.

Wading through the bureaucracy of state government to accomplish anything can be intimidating, frustrating and confusing. As government agencies grow, it becomes easier for Oregonians to become caught in the system's inefficiencies and confusing regulations and requirements.

As a representative of the people of my district, I will encourage constituents to contact my office when they feel stuck or become intimidated in dealing with a state agency.

I will use my oversight to try and correct the immediate problem for my constituents and address the bigger picture through legislative oversight. We need state agencies to be efficient and effective with our tax dollars and remember they are providing a service to Oregonians.

2. What should the legislature do in response to the economic downturn to support job development and the greater demands placed on social services?

The legislature needs to stop raising and/or creating taxes and fees on the private industries that create jobs.

Our Legislature is focusing workforce development almost solely on "green" jobs, which are heavily subsidized by the government. These industries would likely not incubate in the free market because of problems with affordability, viability and sustainability, yet millions are being spent developing a workforce to repair windmills and winterize homes. This focus needs to shift and return workforce training to sustainable, traditional industries and natural resources.

The Legislature needs to focus on creating an environment in which businesses can thrive – which means lower taxes, less regulation and more free enterprise.

The greater demands placed on social services cannot be funded by shrinking population of taxpayers. To create a more healthy business environment that creates jobs, the tax on gross receipts for businesses needs to be repealed. I support reducing or eliminating the capital gains tax on in-state assets to encourage investment in infrastructure and job creation.

3.) What do you view as the long-term solution to the broken, unbalanced funding system of the state?

I support Rep. Thatcher's Core Functions legislation which identifies spending priorities so we fund education and public safety first. It's a remarkably simple solution that works in other states.

4.) Can you give an example of a way in which you have supported a business position in the past?

Since 1997, I have owned and operated Crazy Fingers Design Group Inc., an advertising agency with a focus on interactive communication, strategy and design. Today, I work with dozens of corporate clients nationwide to develop strategies and deploy solutions that leverage web-based technologies. The goal is to make processes more efficient, strengthen brand images, and achieve a rapid return-on-investment through niche growth categories. I support business positions every hour of every day of my working life. This is a skill set which is directly applicable to the State Legislature. It's time we ran the legislature like a business – and always remember our goal is to serve the customer, not vice-versa.

5.) List briefly the three top reasons voters should elect you to this position.

1. I have made a career out of being a tireless advocate for business – a skill set that is directly applicable to the state legislature.
2. I am a principled conservative with an analytic mind, goal-oriented strategy and realistic expectation.
3. My integrity is my most prized possession, and I intend to use it to restore your faith in the legislature.

6.) List briefly your biographical information limited to age, former/current elected positions, years in State/region/County/district, community involvement.

Age: 35

Elected Positions: Precinct Committee Person, Oregon Republican Party

Years in State/region/County/district: 30 year Oregonian split among Beaverton, Portland and Clackamas, 7 years in District 51.

Community Involvement: I have served in the following capacities over the past 12 years:

- Member of the Business Advisory Committee for Clackamas Community College
- State Judge for DECA (High School Marketing Club)
- Business mentor for Clackamas High School students studying interactive design
- Technology Committee Chair, Beaverton Chamber of Commerce
- Member of the Beaverton Education Foundation
- Volunteer for several grassroots political organizations including Freedomworks, Common Sense for Oregon , Taxpayers Association of Oregon, Americans for Prosperity, Oregon 912, and the Clackmas County Republican Party
- Active in a fraternal human service organizations