

MERIDIAN TEA PARTY
2011 CANDIDATE/INCUMBENT QUESTIONNAIRE

Candidate/Incumbent Name: TERRY C BURTON

Office aspired to/Currently holding: SENATE Dist. 31

Campaign Point of Contact/Title: Terry C Burton

Campaign Address: 101 Rew St Newton, MS. 39345

Campaign Phone - and - Fax: 601-693-6695 (FAX is same)

Campaign email address: terrycburton@live.com Website Address: _____

Education/Degrees/Certificates held: Newton High School 1974

Military Experience/Highest Rate or Rank Held/ Occupational Specialty: NONE

Business/Industry Experience/Highest Position held: Managed Radio Stations in Newton Falls
Years of Service: _____ # Of Employees Managed: _____

Own Business Experience: Owned (Jointly) Radio Stations in Newton & Meridian
Years of Service: 30 years in Industry # Of Employees Managed: Dozens

Own Business Experience: currently own my own PR Consulting Co.
Years of Service: 35+ # Of Employees Managed: Dozens over the years

If elected to office, what will be your three top priorities? 1) Get a handle on the budget

2) Avoiding disaster in our Medicaid budget as a result of the ill-
3) Doing something at the state level about illegal aliens.

Simply put, what qualifies you for this office? I have worked and/or owned

Businesses in all 3 counties in the district, I served as Mayor of Newton, MS
I know this district better than anyone else in the race and know
the philosophy and desires of the constituents.... especially having served
several terms already.

How would you describe your political views?
Very Conservative - Conservative - Moderate - Liberal - Very Liberal - Socialist - Other

Please comment: Very Conservative especially on Fiscal Issues
Solid voting record on Gov Control / PRO-life / States Rights /
Family Values issues. Patriotic issues are others I have a solid record
on Pledge of Allegiance in schools, etc.

What are the most important values and ethics you believe in and demonstrate as a leader? Integrity,
Truthfulness, willingness to take on the tough issues and
willingness to take a stand that may not be popular, but
one that you know is right.

Identify three of your most important leadership accomplishments:

① Authored several pieces of legislation protecting senior citizens
② Standing Firm on Reforms to Medicaid Program
③ Creating consensus in a divided Senate on a Senate Redistricting Plan that passed the senate 44-7.

What is the proper role of government?

Provide for the public safety and comfort of the citizenry.
Protect those who cannot protect on their own for themselves.
Promote a quality of life with limited government interference.

Are ethics as important as economics in elections?

Yes Indeed

Leaders often deal with conflict. Describe a recent significant conflict you have had to handle, what was the outcome? Are you satisfied with the outcome? Could you have handled it better? How?

I mentioned above the Senate Redistricting Issue. As Chairman

my job was to produce a plan that met all federal and state constitutional and statutory requirements and then build a coalition to pass the plan. We brought together Republicans, Democrats, various caucuses including the Black Caucus and passed the plan 44-7.

What is your position with regard to the statement "... to the people's right to keep and bear arms?"

It means what it says. No government should interfere with anyone's right to own and lawfully use a firearm.

America's federal deficit has reached an all-time high, being measured in numbers never before expressed to the people. If elected/re-elected, what can you do to reverse this trend locally?

I will sponsor a Senate Resolution Resolving Congress to stop running up the deficit and pay down the debt.
Locally, we can show leadership in our actions in the legislature to let the citizens know we mean business.

How do you feel about the economic outlook of Meridian, Lauderdale County and/or Mississippi?

Short term, we are still in recovery and have some pains to endure. Long term I believe with our location, transportation system, rail and air access we are prime for future economic & jobs growth.

I am not totally satisfied because the plan got tied up with a less than desirable House plan and did not reach the Justice Dept. I don't know what I could have done differently with a House unwilling to work.

The Mississippi Legislature recently tried to pass legislation dealing with illegal immigration (SB2197). What is your opinion about this law and similar laws and/or how should Mississippi be approaching this issue? How do you believe illegal immigration does/will affect this area and specifically your office should you win?

I supported the E-verify legislation And SB 2197. We need to do all we can as a state to help ICE deal with this issue. The illegal Aliens put A strain on our Educational, Social, Mental Health And Health systems as well as our Correctional system. We must get A handle on this.

Are there any tax measures you would advocate to assist in job creation?

Find A way to do away with Inventory Tax without causing local governments to raise Property taxes. Try to Find An option for local gov'ts other than Property taxes that will work and be fair. No increases in state income taxes. Incentives to go into business or expand existing.

Do you believe children would get a better education if parents had the right to choose their children's school?

Yes indeed And I will continue to Fight for this.

Do you support the "Charter School" concept of education? Yes. Authored bills and supported and voted for others to have A true Charter School System

Should teachers be required to pass standards examinations pertaining to the discipline they teach?

yes

What are your views of the current school curriculum, textbooks and educational results in our area and what changes, if any, would you advocate?

Teach the Subject matter not the Testing criteria. Discipline, Discipline, Discipline. Do away with some Administrative overhead.

It has been suggested that the Department of Education (and the office of the Secretary of Education) is an unnecessary extravagance. Should this government agency be abolished and bring control of education back to a state or local level?

Yes Why? We can best determine, at state and local level, how to best serve our children.
No. Why? _____

Are you in favor of seeking funds from the Federal Government for projects in Lauderdale County?

I would compete for funds with other locations IF there are funds coming down and not allow some other state or locality to receive an unfair advantage for some need we might have. In the case of disasters, etc I do believe

IF it is available we should seek it out, when funds are there are too many strings attached.

Does Government at any level create jobs? If so, describe examples:

Only so far as meeting the needs of the citizens, such as ... Education, Public Safety, Law Enforcement etc. Gov't should not be seen as Economic Development,

Do you favor indefinite extension of unemployment benefits for out-of-work people in Mississippi and how should those benefits be funded?

NO!

Should Mississippi's public sector employees be unionized or be able to collectively bargain?

NO!

Comments on any of the above topics you may wish to address further. Thank you for your input.

Thank you for the opportunity

Use this space to explain or describe any issues or beliefs that pertain to the office for which you are running or personal information that you feel is important for voters to know about you or your campaign:

I have a great working relationship with the local officials in Dist. 31 as well as a good rapport with Sen. Carmichael, Sen. Jackson and the House members from Lauderdale Newby & Scott Covatta.

I am very dedicated. I take this job very seriously and have earned a reputation of being one of the hardest working members of the Senate. I have been and my family and I are still, willing to make the sacrifices necessary to perform those duties with honor and dignity... Keeping

Thank you for completing this survey! Meridian Tea Party members are grateful for your responses to our questions and in exchange for returning the completed survey to us, we will extend an invitation for you to participate in our Local Candidates Forum we plan to hold at The Temple Ballroom on a date to be announced.

Please return your completed questionnaire to the address below.

Respectfully,

Meridian, Mississippi Tea Party
P.O. Box 3399
Meridian, MS 39303

www.MeridianTeaParty.com

Email: candidates@MeridianTeaParty.com

this seat
belongs to the
people who
elect me.

Thank you
Again,

Terry
Dunn