



# VOTE SMART

## The Political Courage Test 2018 Pennsylvania Edition

Candidates are strongly encouraged to complete the Political Courage Test online at:  
<https://secure.votesmart.org/candidate>

Please indicate your positions on the following issues. You will be recognized for your Political Courage if you submit answers to the questions asked below. If you would like to provide a more detailed response, please do so in the "Other or expanded principles" section (all responses must be under 100 words).

The Political Courage Test must be signed and returned to our office by 11:59 pm CST the day of the deadline.  
1153 24<sup>th</sup> Street Des Moines, IA 50311 - [politicalcourage@votesmart.org](mailto:politicalcourage@votesmart.org)

**I, \_\_\_\_\_, am willing to tell citizens where I stand on the issues I may face if elected. I have demonstrated my Political Courage by indicating my position on the following issues.**

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**District:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Abortion & Reproductive Issues:

a) Do you generally support pro-choice or pro-life legislation? **Pro-Choice**  **Pro-Life**   
b) Should abortion be legal when the pregnancy resulted from incest or rape? **Yes**  **No**   
c) Do you support the prohibition of public funds for organizations that perform abortions? **Yes**  **No**   
d) Other or expanded principles: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Budget, Spending, & Tax Issues:

Budget Stabilization: Indicate which of the proposals you support (if any) for balancing Pennsylvania's budget. **Yes**  **No**

a) Reducing state employee salaries AND/OR pensions? **Yes**  **No**   
b) Instituting mandatory furloughs AND/OR layoffs for state employees? **Yes**  **No**   
c) Reducing benefits for Medicaid recipients? **Yes**  **No**   
d) An income tax increase on any tax bracket? **Yes**  **No**   
e) Other or expanded principles: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Campaign Finance & Government Reform Issues:

a) Do you support any limits on campaign contributions to state candidates? **Yes**  **No**   
b) Do you support the regulation of indirect campaign contributions from corporations and unions? **Yes**  **No**   
c) Do you support the use of an independent AND/OR bipartisan commission for redistricting? **Yes**  **No**   
d) Do you support requiring a government-issued photo identification in order to vote at the polls? **Yes**  **No**   
e) Do you support allowing early voting in Pennsylvania? **Yes**  **No**   
f) Do you support reducing the size of the Pennsylvania General Assembly? \_\_\_\_\_  
g) Other or expanded principles: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Crime & Public Safety Issues:**

a) Do you support capital punishment for certain crimes? Yes  No   
b) Do you support the legalization of marijuana for recreational purposes? Yes  No   
c) Should a minor accused of a violent crime be prosecuted as an adult? Yes  No   
d) Do you support the enforcement of federal immigration laws by state and local police? Yes  No   
e) Should school safety meetings be made available to the public? Yes  No   
f) Other or expanded principles:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Economic Issues:**

a) Do you support state government spending as a means of promoting economic growth? Yes  No   
b) Do you support lowering state taxes as a means of promoting economic growth? Yes  No   
c) Do you support reducing state government regulations on the private sector? Yes  No   
d) Do you support expanding access to unemployment benefits? Yes  No   
e) Do you support requiring welfare applicants to pass a drug test in order to receive benefits? Yes  No   
f) Do you support an increase of the minimum wage of Pennsylvania? Yes  No   
g) Do you support increasing state funding for road repairs?  
h) Other or expanded principles:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Education Issues:**

a) Do you support adopting federal education standards in Pennsylvania? Yes  No   
b) Do you support state funding for charter schools? Yes  No   
c) Should immigrants unlawfully present in the United States who graduate from Pennsylvania high schools be eligible for in-state tuition at public universities? Yes  No   
d) Do you support providing virtual charter school alternatives to all K-12 students? Yes  No   
e) Other or expanded principles:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Environment & Energy Issues:**

a) Do you support state funding for the development of renewable energy (e.g. solar, wind, thermal)? Yes  No   
b) Do you support state government regulation of greenhouse gas emissions? Yes  No   
c) Do you support increasing state funding for clean drinking water initiatives? Yes  No   
d) Other or expanded principles:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Gun Issues:**

a) Do you generally support gun-control legislation? Yes  No   
b) Should background checks be required on gun sales between private citizens at gun shows? Yes  No   
c) Should teachers be allowed to bring guns into the classroom? Yes  No   
d) Should a license be required for gun ownership? Yes  No   
e) Other or expanded principles:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Health Issues:**

a) Should the state government increase funding for treatment facilities to combat opioid abuse? Yes  No   
b) Do you support Medicaid expansion through Pennsylvania's health care programs? Yes  No   
c) Do you support requiring individuals to purchase health care insurance? Yes  No   
d) Do you support legislation that grants citizens the right to choose to die through euthanasia? Yes  No   
e) Do you support eliminating religious exemptions for vaccinations? Yes  No   
f) Other or expanded principles:  

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**Social Issues**

a) Do you support the inclusion of sexual orientation in Pennsylvania's anti-discrimination laws? Yes  No   
b) Do you support the inclusion of gender identity in Pennsylvania's anti-discrimination laws? Yes  No   
c) Do you support greater efforts by Pennsylvania state government in closing the pay gap between men and women? Yes  No   
d) Other or expanded principles:  

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**Legislative Priorities:** *In the following area, on an attached page, or via e-mail, please explain in a total of 100 words or less, your top two or three priorities if elected. If they require additional funding for implementation, please explain how you would obtain this funding.*

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