

Jim Spurlino Empower U Candidate Survey

1. I would support eliminating the IRS as we know it. We need to reform the entire tax code by instituting a fair and simplified flat tax. I would also support drastically reduced roles for the Department of Education and the EPA. Educational standards must be determined at the local level and the EPA should immediately end its unconstitutional politically-motivated regulations that kill jobs.
2. The Fourth Amendment to the Constitution guarantees our right to be safe from government intrusion into our lives – unless a judge finds probable cause that a crime has been committed. The mass collection of our personal information – including cell phone data – is an unchecked abuse of government power. People who aren't American citizens are a different case – they don't enjoy the same constitutional rights we do. But, under President Obama, federal power to intrude into the private lives of law-abiding Americans has become a very serious concern. We must strike a responsible balance. Security is of utmost importance, but let's not trample our basic rights in that pursuit.
3. We've seen the troubles of term-limits here in Ohio. Professional politicians swap jobs and line up for the next one on the ladder. It's happening in this very race. I trust the voters will reject professional politicians in favor of those with private-sector accomplishments.
4. Whenever illegal immigrants come into contact with law enforcement, they must be arrested and deported. Those that remain must be held responsible for breaking the law. Finally, we must secure our border once and for all. That will solve many immigration and national security problems.
5. Yes, if we enforce our current laws and hold law-breakers accountable for their actions.
6. I believe in applying the timeless principles of Generals Schwarzkopf and Powell:
 - a. Is the conflict in America's best interests?
 - b. Are there clear objectives and goals?
 - c. How can we achieve those objectives and goals with overwhelming force and minimal casualties?Those questions are best answered by our military leaders. I will support them without applying a political agenda to their decisions.
7. Every parent should be able to choose where their child is educated. We must support policies that give parents the opportunity to pick the best school for their child. Lottery systems are unfair, arbitrary and often fail both the school and the student.
8. No, I oppose Common Core. Educational standards must be kept at the local level.
9. The US Department of Education should have a drastically reduced role or it should be eliminated all together – if possible.

10. I don't read the congressional record every day, but I can tell you that any item in conflict with the Constitution qualifies in my book.
11. Yes, budget bills should be separated and we should move to zero-based budgeting. It will improve accountability and it will reduce spending.
12. A representative should be someone who has humility, integrity, and a record of accomplishment to build coalitions in Congress that solve the nation's problems.
13. Congressman Brad Wenstrup has been a strong, principled conservative and I think he has done a decent job. Senator Rob Portman has been a strong leader so far. I don't agree with them on everything, but I admire their conservative values and their ability to get results.