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Responses to the 1998 Congressional National Political Awareness Test

Other Information for Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon: [Biographical Data](#); [Campaign Finances](#); [Performance Evaluations](#); [Voting Record](#)

Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon Candidate for U.S. Senate, Missouri Party: *Democrat*

Responses to the 1998 Congressional National Political Awareness Test

Select an Issue Category:

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Please Note

The 1998 Congressional National Political Awareness Test (NPAT) asks candidates which items they will **support** if elected. It does not ask them to indicate which items they will **oppose**. If a candidate does not select a response to any part or all of any question, it does not necessarily indicate that the candidate is opposed to that particular item.

Through our extensive research of public polling data, we discovered that American voters were concerned with what candidates would support when elected to office, not what they were opposed to. That is why the NPAT is a **positive** questionnaire, asking only what a candidate supports, not what he or she is opposed to.

Abortion

Response from Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon:

Indicate which principles you support (if any) concerning abortion.

- a) Abortions should always be legally available.
- b) Abortions should be legal only within the first trimester of pregnancy.
- c) Abortions should be legal only when the pregnancy resulted from incest, rape, or when the life of the woman is endangered.
- d) Abortions should be legal only when the life of the woman is endangered.
- e) Abortions should always be illegal.
- f) Abortions should be limited by waiting periods and notification requirements as decided by each state government.

- g) Prohibit the late-term abortion procedure known as "partial-birth" abortion.
- h) Prohibit public funding of abortions and public funding of organizations that advocate or perform abortions.
- i) Other

*No evaluations by special interest groups are available for Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon.
Responses on other issues (top of page).*

Budget and Spending

Response from Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon:

1) Indicate what levels of federal funding you support for the following categories. Select one number (level) only.

- a) AIDS programs -- Slightly Increase
- b) Arts funding -- Maintain Status
- c) Education (K-12) -- Slightly Increase
- d) Environmental programs -- Maintain Status
- e) Foreign aid -- Slightly Decrease
- f) Housing projects -- Slightly Increase
- g) Job training programs -- Greatly Increase
- h) Law enforcement -- Greatly Increase
- i) Medicaid -- Maintain Status
- j) Medicare -- Maintain Status
- k) NASA -- Slightly Decrease
- l) Student loan programs -- Slightly Increase
- m) Welfare -- Slightly Decrease
- n) Other
- o) Other
- p) Other

2) Indicate what levels of federal funding you support for the following defense-related categories. Select one number (level) only.

- a) Armed Forces personnel training -- Maintain Status
- b) CIA appropriations -- Slightly Decrease
- c) Defense plant conversion -- Slightly Increase
- d) Development of new weapons -- Slightly Decrease
- e) Military hardware -- Maintain Status
- f) Military space shuttle missions -- Slightly Decrease
- g) National Missile Defense Program -- Slightly Decrease
- h) Pay for active duty personnel -- Slightly Increase
- i) Other

3) Do you support amending the U.S. Constitution to require an annual balanced federal budget?

YES No Undecided

4) Indicate how you would apply the expected federal budget surplus.

- a) Social Security
- b) Medicare

- c) Tax cuts
- d) Federal debt reduction
- e) Other

*No evaluations by special interest groups are available for Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon.
Responses on other issues (top of page).*

Campaign Finance Reform

Response from Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon:

Indicate which principles you support (if any) regarding campaign finance reform.

- a) Remove all legislative limits on campaign financing.
- b) Establish spending limits on congressional campaigns.
- c) Provide public funding for federal candidates who comply with campaign spending limits.
- d) Support legislation that would increase the federal limits on individual contributions.
- e) Strengthen and enforce legislation that encourages full and timely disclosure of campaign finance information.
- f) Prohibit Political Action Committee (PAC) contributions to candidates for federal office.
- g) Provide free or low-cost television advertising to candidates who agree to voluntary campaign spending limits.
- h) Ban the unregulated campaign contributions known as soft money.
- i) Pass legislation banning issue advocacy commercials by outside groups within 60 days of an election.
- j) Prohibit non-U.S. citizens from making contributions to federal campaigns.
- k) Other

*No evaluations by special interest groups are available for Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon.
Responses on other issues (top of page).*

Crime

Response from Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon:

Indicate which principles you support (if any) to address crime.

- a) Broaden use of the death penalty for federal crimes.
- b) Increase spending to build more federal prisons.
- c) Impose "truth in sentencing" for violent criminals so they serve full sentences with no chance of parole.

- d) Fund programs to provide prison inmates with vocational and job-related skills and job-placement assistance when released.
- e) Expand funding for community policing programs.
- f) Increase penalties for the possession of any illegal firearms.
- g) Prosecute youths accused of a felony as adults.
- h) Increase funding for local Boys & Girls Clubs and other independent organizations in communities with at-risk youth.
- i) Reduce prison sentences for those who commit non-violent crimes.
- j) Deport all permanent resident aliens convicted of a felony.
- k) Other

*No evaluations by special interest groups are available for Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon.
Responses on other issues (top of page).*

Drugs

Response from Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon:

Indicate which principles you support (if any) concerning illegal drugs.

- a) Increase penalties for selling illegal drugs.
- b) Impose mandatory jail sentences for selling illegal drugs.
- c) Impose capital punishment for convicted international drug traffickers.
- d) Strengthen current laws dealing with non-controlled substances, including inhalants and commercially available pills.
- e) Increase funding of federally-sponsored drug education and drug treatment programs.
- f) Decriminalize the use of marijuana for medicinal purposes.
- g) Increase funding for border security to stop the flow of illegal drugs into the U.S.
- h) Other

*No evaluations by special interest groups are available for Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon.
Responses on other issues (top of page).*

Economy and Employment

Response from Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon:

1) Indicate which principles you support (if any) regarding the economy and employment.

- a) Provide tax credits for companies that move job-creating industries into areas with high unemployment.

- b) Increase funding for national job-training programs that re-train displaced workers or teach skills needed in today's job market.
- c) Reduce government regulations on the private sector in order to encourage investment and economic expansion.
- d) Establish empowerment zones in areas with large numbers of unemployed people.
- e) Eliminate any federal programs designed to reduce unemployment.
- f) Increase the minimum wage.
- g) Pass legislation that encourages employers to offer their employees the options of flex-time scheduling, comp-time and unpaid leave to attend to their family responsibilities.
- h) Provide tax credits for businesses that provide on-site child care.

2) Indicate which principles you support (if any) regarding affirmative action and discrimination.

- a) The federal government should consider race and sex in making government contracting decisions.
- b) The federal government should continue affirmative action programs only if such programs do not include quotas.
- c) The federal government should discontinue affirmative action programs.
- d) The federal government should prosecute cases of discrimination in the public sector.
- e) The federal government should prosecute cases of discrimination in the private sector.
- f) The federal government should include sexual orientation in its anti-discrimination laws.
- g) Other

*No evaluations by special interest groups are available for Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon.
Responses on other issues (top of page).*

Education

Response from Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon:

1) Indicate which principles you support (if any) concerning education.

- a) Support national standards and testing in reading and math.
- b) Allow parents to use vouchers to send their children to any publicly funded school.
- c) Allow parents to use vouchers to send their children to any participating school: public, private or religious.
- d) Allow parents to use tax-free savings accounts to send their children to any publicly funded school.
- e) Allow parents to use tax-free savings accounts to send their children to any participating school: public, private or religious.
- f) Support creation of more charter schools where teachers and professionals receive authorization and funding to establish new schools.

- g) Give all federal education funding to states in the form of block grants and allow them to spend it as they see fit.
- h) Support voluntary teacher testing and reward teachers with merit pay.
- i) Increase funding for block grants to states to help them hire additional teachers.
- j) Other

2) Do you support amending the U.S. Constitution to guarantee the right to religious expression and voluntary prayer in public places, including schools? *No answer given.*

*No evaluations by special interest groups are available for Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon.
Responses on other issues (top of page).*

Environment

Response from Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon:

Indicate which principles you support (if any) regarding America's environment and natural resources.

- a) Require the state to fully compensate citizens when environmental regulations limit uses on privately owned land.
- b) Strengthen the Clean Water Act.
- c) Change the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to limit the number of habitats eligible to be designated as endangered.
- d) Increase fees charged to ranchers who graze cattle on federal lands.
- e) Revise the 1872 mining law to increase the fees charged to mining companies using federal lands.
- f) Encourage development of alternative fuels to reduce pollution.
- g) Strengthen emission controls on all gasoline or diesel powered engines, including cars and trucks.
- h) Increase federal taxes on gasoline and diesel fuels to promote conservation and alternative fuel development.
- i) Promote the selling of pollution credits between nations to encourage industries to decrease pollution levels.
- j) Impose stricter national air quality standards.
- k) Adhere to the United Nations treaty regarding global climate change.
- l) Strengthen the restrictions on clear-cutting on federal lands.
- m) Other

*No evaluations by special interest groups are available for Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon.
Responses on other issues (top of page).*

Federalism

Response from Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon:

Indicate which level of government that should have primary responsibility for the following services. Select one level only.

- a) Border security -- Federal Government
- b) Civil rights enforcement -- Federal Government
- c) Education -- Local Government
- d) Environmental cleanup -- State Government
- e) Job training -- State Government
- f) Law enforcement -- Local Government
- g) Low-income housing -- State Government
- h) Medicaid -- Federal Government
- i) Medicare -- Federal Government
- j) Transportation infrastructure (highways, roads, bridges) -- State Government
- k) Welfare -- State Government
- l) Other

No evaluations by special interest groups are available for Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon.

Responses on other issues (top of page).

Foreign Policy

Response from Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon:

1) Indicate which principles you support (if any) regarding Bosnia/former Yugoslavia.

- a) The U.S. should lift the arms embargo against Bosnia-Herzegovina.
- b) The U.S. should maintain a military presence in Bosnia-Herzegovina with a certain deadline for withdrawal.
- c) The U.S. should maintain a military presence in Bosnia-Herzegovina without a certain deadline for withdrawal.
- d) Other

2) Indicate which principles you support (if any) regarding the Middle East.

- a) The U.S. should resolve future disputes with Iraq through diplomatic means.
- b) The U.S. should take unilateral military action if Iraq does not comply with all accepted UN resolutions.
- c) The U.S. should take military action against Iraq only as part of an international effort.
- d) The U.S. should not continue to play a prominent leadership role in the peace process between Israel and Palestine.
- e) Other

3) Indicate which principles you support (if any) regarding the United States-United Nations relationship.

- a) The U.S. should contribute more funding and troops to United Nations peacekeeping missions.

- b) The U.S. should contribute less funding and troops to United Nations peacekeeping missions.
- c) The U.S. should participate in UN peacekeeping missions only when vital U.S. interests are involved.
- d) The U.S. should not commit military troops to UN peacekeeping missions.
- e) The U.S. should withdraw from the UN completely.
- f) The U.S. should pay its debt to the United Nations.
- g) Other

4) Should the U.S. have diplomatic and trade relations with Cuba?

Yes NO Undecided

5) Should the U.S. recognize and extend full diplomatic relations to Taiwan?

YES No Undecided

*No evaluations by special interest groups are available for Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon.
Responses on other issues (top of page).*

Gun Issues

Response from Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon:

Indicate which principles you support (if any) concerning gun issues.

- a) Ban the sale or transfer of all forms of semi-automatic weapons.
- b) Increase federal restrictions on the purchase and possession of firearms.
- c) Maintain federal restrictions on the purchase and possession of firearms.
- d) Ease federal restrictions on the purchase and possession of firearms.
- e) Repeal federal restrictions on the purchase and possession of firearms by law-abiding citizens.
- f) Favor allowing citizens to carry concealed firearms.
- g) Require manufacturers to provide child-safety locks with firearms.
- h) Other

*No evaluations by special interest groups are available for Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon.
Responses on other issues (top of page).*

Health Issues

Response from Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon:

1) Indicate which principles you support (if any) regarding health issues in America.

- a) The federal government has no responsibility in providing health care.
- b) Implement a universal health care program to guarantee coverage to all Americans regardless of income.
- c) Implement a government-financed, single-payer national health care system similar to that of Canada.
- d) Support health care strategies focused on prevention, including health education and natural medicines and remedies.
- e) Support legislation to define and enforce the rights of insured patients, including greater access to specialists and emergency rooms, wider choice of health care providers, and appeal mechanisms when claims are denied.
- f) Allow small business owners, the self-employed and workers whose employers do not provide health insurance to have the same deductibility for health costs as corporations and large employers.
- g) Expand eligibility for tax-free medical savings accounts, which would be taxed if used for any purpose other than medical costs.
- h) Establish limits on the amount of damages awarded in medical malpractice lawsuits.
- i) Allow states and local communities to use federal funds for needle-exchange programs to combat the spread of HIV.
- j) Classify nicotine as a drug and cigarettes as drug delivery devices, which should be regulated by the Federal Food and Drug Administration.
- k) Provide citizens age 55-65 the option of purchasing Medicare health coverage.

Other

No evaluations by special interest groups are available for Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon.

Responses on other issues (top of page).

Immigration

Response from Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon:

Indicate which principles you support (if any) regarding immigration.

- a) Decrease the number of immigrants allowed into the country.
- b) Increase the eligibility of legal immigrants for certain social programs (i.e. HUD housing, food stamps).
- c) Require the Immigration and Naturalization Service to reduce to six months the time between applying for citizenship and taking the oath of allegiance.
- d) Provide extra federal aid to states with higher numbers of immigrants for necessary medical and social services.
- e) Prohibit states from passing laws that deny human services (medical care, education) to illegal immigrants or their children.

- f) Children of illegal immigrants, born in the United States, should not automatically receive U.S. citizenship.
- g) Increase the immigration quota for computer scientists and other information technology workers.
- h) Establish English as the official and recognized language of the United States government.
- i) Other

*No evaluations by special interest groups are available for Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon.
Responses on other issues (top of page).*

Morality and Ethics

Response from Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon:

The American people have consistently mentioned the decline of morals and ethics in America as a major problem facing the country. On an attached page, in fifty words or less, explain what you will do as a member of Congress to address this concern.

Responses on other issues (top of page).

Social Security

Response from Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon:

Indicate which principles you support (if any) regarding Social Security.

- a) Allow workers to invest a portion of their payroll tax in private accounts which they manage.
- b) Allow workers to invest a portion of their payroll tax in private accounts which are managed by the government.
- c) Invest Social Security's assets collectively in stocks and bonds instead of U.S. Treasury securities.
- d) Increase the payroll tax to finance the program in its current form.
- e) Invest a portion of the budget surplus into the Social Security trust fund.
- f) Increase the minimum age that determines when retirees are able to receive full Social Security benefits.
- g) Lower Social Security's annual cost-of-living increases.
- h) Limit Social Security benefits based on recipients' other income and assets.
- i) Require individuals to pay the Social Security tax on income above \$68,400, which is currently exempt.
- j) Other

No evaluations by special interest groups are available for Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon.

Responses on other issues (top of page).

Taxes

Response from Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon:

1) Indicate the levels you support concerning taxes in the following categories. Select one number (level) only.

Income Taxes:

- a) Retiree income over \$40,000 -- Slightly Decrease
- b) Family income less than \$25,000 -- Greatly Decrease
- c) Family income \$25-75,000 -- Slightly Decrease
- d) Family income \$75-150,000 -- Maintain Status
- e) Family income over \$150,000 -- Maintain Status

Other Tax Issues:

- f) Alcohol taxes -- Slightly Increase
- g) Capital gains taxes -- Slightly Decrease
- h) Charitable deductions -- Slightly Increase
- i) Child tax credit -- Slightly Increase
- j) Cigarette taxes -- Slightly Increase
- k) Corporate income taxes -- Slightly Increase
- l) Earned Income Tax Credit -- Slightly Increase
- m) Estate taxes -- Greatly Decrease
- n) Medical expense deductions -- Slightly Increase
- o) Mortgage deductions -- Maintain Status
- p) Other
- q) Other

2) Do you support replacing the U.S. income tax structure with a flat income tax?

Yes NO Undecided

3) Do you support eliminating the Internal Revenue Service? *No answer given.*

4) Do you support instituting a national sales tax?

Yes NO Undecided

5) Should a married couple filing jointly pay the same taxes as if they were an unmarried couple filing separately?

YES No Undecided

6) Do you support requiring a super-majority vote in both houses of Congress to raise taxes?

YES No Undecided

7) Other

No evaluations by special interest groups are available for Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon.

Responses on other issues (top of page).

Term Limits

Response from Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon:

1) Do you support amending the Constitution to limit the number of terms which members of Congress can serve?

YES No Undecided

If you support term limits, how many terms should each serve?

Senator (# of 6 yr. terms)

"2"

Representatives (# of 2 yr. terms)

"4"

No evaluations by special interest groups are available for Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon.

Responses on other issues (top of page).

Trade

Response from Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon:

1) Do you support the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)?

YES No Undecided

2) Do you support broadening NAFTA to include other countries in the western hemisphere?

Yes No UNDECIDED

3) Do you support the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)? *No answer given.*

4) Do you support the World Trade Organization (WTO)? *No answer given.*

5) Do you support imposing tariffs on products imported from nations that maintain restrictive trade barriers on American products?

YES No Undecided

6) Should a nation's human rights record affect its "most favored nation" trading status with the United States?

YES No Undecided

7) Do you support granting the President "fast-track" authority?

YES No Undecided

No evaluations by special interest groups are available for Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon.

Responses on other issues (top of page).

Welfare and Poverty

Response from Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon:

Indicate which principles you support (if any) regarding poverty and the welfare system.

- a) Provide tax incentives for companies to hire and train homeless people who want to work.
- b) Increase funding of homeless shelters and low income housing projects.
- c) Increase funds for housing assistance for welfare recipients who need housing to get or keep a job.
- d) Provide homeless families with apartment vouchers they can use to supplement the cost of an apartment.
- e) Continue to give states and local governments responsibility for welfare programs through block grants.
- f) Eliminate federal funds for welfare programs at the federal, state or local levels.
- g) Maintain current welfare-to-work requirements in order for states to qualify for block grants.
- h) Convert government-funded low-income housing projects into private housing, managed and owned by the residents.
- i) Require that unwed teenage mothers live with a parent or guardian (if possible) and attend school to receive benefits.
- j) Other

No evaluations by special interest groups are available for Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon.

Responses on other issues (top of page).

Legislative Priorities

Response from Jeremiah W. 'Jay' Nixon:

Please explain what your two main legislative priorities will be if elected. Please explain how you would obtain any additional government funding needed to implement these priorities.

Responses on other issues (top of page).

See Also:

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