

Jason Call, 90th District

2009 Virginia House of Delegates Candidate Questionnaire:

1. Specifically, what unique qualities and/or qualifications will you bring to the office you seek?

I have over twenty years of experience as a naval officer, minister and educator, and CPA and small business owner. I believe this combination of life experiences has prepared me for service in Hampton Roads.

I understand the demands of military service—something a lot of folks share in Hampton Roads. Serving in local churches and teaching children has taught me the importance of sound education and an effective social safety net. My commitment to education has earned me the recommendation of the Virginia Education Association. As a CPA and business owner, I understand the challenges our businesses and entrepreneurs face in Virginia. I am committed to keeping taxes low and eliminating red tape. This will make Virginia the premier state for business and provide plenty of revenue for roads and schools without raising taxes.

2. What transportation changes or improvements do you advocate and how specifically would you pay for them?

Transportation is a big challenge in Virginia. If we don't face this challenge, businesses might look for other states to settle in or expand in. It is also a quality of life issue for citizens.

We need to prepare the plans, conduct the environmental reviews, and obtain the permits for a third crossing now. This is a long term process. We should anticipate breaking ground during the next economic down-turn, when construction costs will be the lowest.

This demands a long-term perspective and discipline to set aside money for a real rainy day fund once our economy reaches 97% employment again. I have that discipline.

Delegate Glenn Oder has a fine bill to set aside a percentage of port revenues from each region for transportation projects within each respective region. I support this plan.

3. Aside from transportation, what do you believe are two other important challenges facing the Commonwealth? Specifically, what responses do you propose and how will you pay for them?

I believe that the most important issue facing Virginia is the economy. The failure of elected leaders to be frugal and fund a real rainy day fund during the good times has led to painful cuts to education, transportation, arts, and social programs. Common sense in budgeting is needed. I can bring common sense to Richmond. I am not beholden to special interest and donors.

The second issue for me involves education and youth programs. We are losing too many teenagers to drugs, gangs, and pregnancy. I will provide the leadership to mobilize parents, educators, and the community to save our youth. We will make education the priority and not incarceration. I will pay for these programs through efficiency in spending, community

involvement, more of the general fund, and a fixed percentage of offshore energy development revenue.