2014 Campaign Reform Questionnaire

Candidate Name:  
Gene McLaurin

Party Affiliation:  
Democrat

Office Sought:  
NC Senate

District:  
District 25

Campaign Address:  
905 Fayetteville Rd, Rockingham, NC 28379

Campaign Phone:  
(910) 995-7965

Campaign Email:  
electmclaurin@gmail.com

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genemclaurin.com

Please indicate your position on the following issues by marking yes, no, or undecided. If you need to explain your position, you may elaborate. 

Responses should be returned by email to melissa@ncvce.org or postmarked by September 26th and mailed to PO Box 10402, Raleigh, NC 27605.

1. Do you think the rising cost of campaigns in North Carolina pushes candidates to spend too much of their time fundraising?

   X Yes  ___ No  ___ Undecided

Voter-Owned Elections

2. Until 2013, North Carolina had a law allowing statewide judicial candidates and some Council of State candidates to qualify for public campaign funding or “Voter-
Owned Elections” - if they refuse special interest funds, adhere to spending limits, and prove their grassroots support by obtaining a large number of small contributions from N.C. voters. 80% of candidates used this program in N.C. from 2004-2012.

a. Did you support this program?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

b. Will you vote to implement a new Judicial “Voter-Owned Elections” public campaign funding law?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

3. Do you support reviving and expanding the public financing option for Council of State offices?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

4. Would you support the creation of a “Voter-Owned Elections” public financing option for state legislative races?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ Undecided

5. Several cities, including Raleigh, Wilmington, and Greenville, have passed resolutions for state authority to explore local public campaign financing options. If elected, would you support passage of a state law that would give North Carolina
counties and cities the authority to create local “Voter-Owned Elections” or public financing programs for local candidates, as an alternative to the current privately financed campaign finance system?

Yes  No  Undecided

Disclosure

6. The U.S. Supreme Court ruling *Citizens United v. FEC* allows corporations and unions to create political groups to sponsor independent expenditures that directly support or oppose candidates. Would you support new disclosure and reporting requirements for these groups that require:

a. Increased disclosure of the income sources and the expenses of independent groups that spend money directly opposing or supporting the election of candidates?

Yes  No  Undecided

b. Public attribution of the independent group’s top five donors in each political advertisement the group sponsors?

Yes  No  Undecided

Money in Politics

7. Do you support or oppose an amendment to the U.S. Constitution to reverse the *Citizens United* Supreme Court decision?

Yes  No  Undecided
8. If you have any other ideas for addressing money-in-politics problems please list them below.

I strongly opposed the 2013 legislation that allowed the blackout period to be extended, allowing out-of-state corporations to influence our elections through advertisements and other expenditures without having to claim ownership.