Candidate Name: Jane Hipps

Party Affiliation: Democratic Party

Office Sought: NC Senate: District 50: Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Jackson, Macon, and Swain

Campaign Address: Friends for Jane Hipps, PO Box 1557, Waynesville, NC 28786

Campaign Phone: (828) 734-3564

Campaign Email: info@hippsforsenate.com

Campaign Website: www.hippsforsenate.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?

___X__ Yes _____ No _____ Undecided

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

___X__ Yes _____ No _____ Undecided
3. Do you support reviving and expanding the public financing option for Council of State offices?

___X___ Yes _____ No _____ Undecided

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

___X___ 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?

___X___ 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?

___X___ Yes _____ No _____ Undecided

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

___X___ Yes _____ No _____ Undecided

**Money in Politics**

7. Do you SUPPORT an amendment to the U.S. Constitution to reverse the Citizens United Supreme Court decision?

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

I support stronger disclosure rules as well as a common sense approach to reforming campaign financing in a way that reduces the role of special interests and corporate groups without adversely impacting private donors.