

PC 1998

MARKING INSTRUCTIONS

- Use a No. 2 pencil.
- Fill in the circle completely.
- Erase cleanly any marks you wish to change.
- Do not make any stray marks on this form.

Please mark only one answer per question. Choose the single answer that best represents your opinion.

CORRECT MARK



INCORRECT MARKS



1. How would you describe your party affiliation?

- Strong Democrat
- Democrat, not so strong
- Independent, closer to Democrats
- Independent
- Independent, closer to Republicans
- Republican, not so strong
- Strong Republican
- Other party (please specify) _____

2. How would you describe your own political philosophy?

- Extremely liberal
- Liberal
- Slightly liberal
- Middle-of-the-road
- Slightly conservative
- Conservative
- Extremely conservative
- Other (please specify) _____
- Not sure

3. How active have you been in campaigns for each of the following types of offices during the past five years?

	Democratic Campaigns			Republican Campaigns		
	Very active			Very active		
	Active			Active		
	Not active			Not active		
Presidency	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
U.S. Senate	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
U.S. House of Representatives	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Governor	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other Statewide offices	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
State Legislative races	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
County races	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Local races	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

4. Which of the following positions have you held within the past five years for either the Democratic or Republican party? (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)

	DEM	REP
Member or chair of <i>local</i> party committee	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Member or chair of <i>state</i> party committee	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Delegate to state or national convention	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Member of national committee	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paid campaign position	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other political position	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5. Do you currently hold an appointive political office?

- Yes. What office? _____
- No

6. Do you currently hold an elected political office?

- No. Please go to question #19.
- Yes. What office (e.g., secretary of state, state representative, district attorney, city councilperson, sheriff, etc.)? _____

7. Is this elected office a paid position?

- Yes
- No

8. How much time do you spend conducting the business of this elected office?

- Full time, all year
- Full time, part of the year
- Part time, all year
- Part time, part of the year

9. How many additional terms do you expect to serve in your current office?

- None
- 1-3 terms
- 4-5 terms
- 6 or more terms

Please continue on the back of this page

What is the constitutional length of the term of office for the office you currently hold?

- 0-2 years More than 4 years
 3-4 years Life tenure

11. How long have you held this office?

- 1 year or less 5 to 7 years
 2 years 8 to 10 years
 3 to 4 years More than 10 years

12. Are you currently in the majority party, or the minority party in the institution in which you serve?

- Majority Party Nonpartisan elections
 Minority Party Not applicable

13. Did you hold an elective office before your current office?

- No, this is my first elective office.
 Yes, I previously held an elected office.

What office did you hold?

14. Do you currently hold a leadership position that is related to the office you occupy?

- No, I do not hold a current leadership position. (please go to question #15)
 Yes. What is this leadership position?

15. Approximately how many of the constituents of your current office live in your U.S. House district?

- Under 20,000 150,001 - 200,000
 20,001 to 50,000* Over 200,000
 50,001 - 100,000 Not sure
 100,001 - 150,000

16. Will you be up for reelection in 1998?

- Yes No

17. At this time, what would you say your plans are once you leave your current office?

- Return to private life.
 Seek an appointive governmental office.
 Seek another elective office.

What office do you expect to seek?

18. Please rate the following characteristics of the elected office that you currently hold.

- Not sure
 Extremely high
 High
 Somewhat high
 Fair
 Somewhat low
 Low
 Extremely low

- a. The difficulty of winning your party's nomination
- b. The difficulty of winning the general election
- c. The effectiveness of your office in making public policy.
- d. The prestige your office has with the general public
- e. The opportunities your office provides to help you to secure other elective or appointive office
- f. The opportunities for advancement to leadership positions in your current political institution
- g. Your desire to advance to a leadership position in your current political institution
- h. The overall value of this office to you

19. Now thinking about your current participation in politics, please indicate the importance of each of the following reasons for your involvement.

- Not sure
 Extremely important
 Important
 Somewhat important
 In between
 Somewhat unimportant
 Unimportant
 Extremely unimportant

- a. To influence public policy generally
- b. To advance my political career
- c. To make business contacts
- d. To make social contacts
- e. To fulfill my civic duty
- f. My dedication to a particular candidate
- g. The excitement of politics
- h. My concern about a particular issue
- i. My attachment to the party and my support of it
- j. My interest in serving the public

Please continue on page 5

Please indicate your opinion on each of the following issues.

Not sure
Strongly oppose
Oppose
Somewhat oppose
Indifferent
Somewhat favor
Favor
Strongly favor

- a. Eliminate government subsidies for agriculture
- b. Increase funding for fighting crime
- c. Expanded federal role in managing the economy
- d. Vouchers to increase school choice
- e. Increase regulation to protect the environment
- f. Limit imports to protect American jobs
- g. Affirmative action to increase representation of minorities ...
- h. Federal flat tax system
- i. Shift control for domestic programs to the states
- j. Increase funding for education.
- k. Regulate the availability of abortions

21a. Which level of government do you think is best to deal with the following issue areas?

Not sure
Federal
State
Local

- a. Managing the economy
- b. School choice
- c. Environment
- d. Affirmative action
- e. Health care
- f. Funding of education
- g. Fighting crime
- h. Agriculture
- i. Abortion

21b. Which of these issue areas is most important to you personally? (MARK ONLY ONE)

- a c e g i
- b d f h not sure

21c. Which of these issue areas is most important to the constituents in your U.S. House District? (MARK ONLY ONE)

- a c e g i
- b d f h not sure

21d. Which of those issue areas do you believe most divides the voters in your U.S. House district? (MARK ONLY ONE)

- a c e g i
- b d f h not sure

21e. Which of those issue areas do you believe most unites the voters in your U.S. House district? (MARK ONLY ONE)

- a c e g i
- b d f h not sure

22. In general, how would you rate each of the institutions listed below.

Not sure
Extremely high
High
Not so high
Toss-up
Not so low
Low
Extremely low

A. Effectiveness in making public policy

- a. Your state legislature
- b. The U.S. Senate
- c. The office of Governor in your state
- d. The U.S. House of Representatives
- e. Your state judicial system
- f. Your local government
- g. The Democratic party
- h. The Republican party

Please continue on the back of this page

Continued

Not sure
Extremely high
High
Not so high
Toss-up
Not so low
Low

B. The popular prestige of:

- a. Your state legislature ○○○○○○○○○○
- b. The U.S. Senate ○○○○○○○○○○
- c. The office of Governor in your state ○○○○○○○○○○
- d. The U.S. House of Representatives ○○○○○○○○○○
- e. Your state judicial system ○○○○○○○○○○
- f. Your local government ○○○○○○○○○○
- g. The Democratic party ○○○○○○○○○○
- h. The Republican party ○○○○○○○○○○

C. The attraction to you personally for a political career in:

- a. Your state legislature ○○○○○○○○○○
- b. The U.S. Senate ○○○○○○○○○○
- c. The office of Governor in your state ○○○○○○○○○○
- d. The U.S. House of Representatives ○○○○○○○○○○
- e. Your state judicial system ○○○○○○○○○○
- f. Your local government ○○○○○○○○○○
- g. The Democratic party ○○○○○○○○○○
- h. The Republican party ○○○○○○○○○○

23. In general, how difficult is it for the average potential candidate to get elected to each of the following offices?

Not sure
Extremely difficult
Difficult
Somewhat difficult
So-so
Somewhat easy
Easy
Extremely easy

- a. The state assembly (lower house) in your district ○○○○○○○○○○
- b. The state senate (upper house) in your district ○○○○○○○○○○
- c. The U.S. Senate seat from your state ○○○○○○○○○○
- d. The office of Governor in your state ○○○○○○○○○○
- e. U.S. House seat from your district ○○○○○○○○○○
- f. Your county commission ○○○○○○○○○○
- g. Your city council ○○○○○○○○○○

24. How would you characterize your interest in holding elective office?

- I have absolutely no interest in holding elective office at any time. (go to question #29)
- I am unlikely to ever seek elective office, but it is a possibility.
- I am open to the possibility of seeking elective office, but I have no immediate plans to do so.
- I am interested in seeking elective office.
- I am actively investigating the possibility of seeking elective office.
- I am currently holding an elected office.

25. What is your best estimate of the chance that you will seek your party's nomination or run as an independent candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives in:

Not sure
Extremely likely
Likely
Somewhat likely
Toss-up
Somewhat unlikely
Unlikely
Extremely unlikely

- a. the 1998 election ○○○○○○○○○○
- b. the next 3-4 terms ○○○○○○○○○○
- c. the foreseeable future ○○○○○○○○○○

26. If you were ever to run for the U.S. House of Representatives, in which party would you run?

- Democratic Party
- Republican Party
- Other (please specify) _____

27. If there is a chance that you may run for the U.S. House of Representatives, are you likely to run for the seat in the district in which you currently reside or in some other district?

- I definitely will not run.
- If I run, it will definitely be in this district.
- If I run, it will probably be in this district.
- If I run, it may or may not be in this district.
- If I run, it will probably be in another district.
- If I run, it will definitely be in another district.

Please continue on page 7

28. Please give your best estimate of how likely it is that you would win:

A. Your party's nomination for Congress if you were to seek it:

Not sure
Extremely likely
Likely
Somewhat likely
Toss-up
Somewhat unlikely
Unlikely
Extremely unlikely

- a. in 1998
- b. the next 3-4 terms
- c. the foreseeable future

B. The general election for the seat if you were to win your party's nomination:

- a. in 1998
- b. the next 3-4 terms
- c. the foreseeable future

29. Please rate the following characteristics of your current incumbent U.S. House Member:

Not sure
Extremely strong
Strong
Somewhat strong
Fair
Somewhat weak
Weak
Extremely weak

- a. The support the incumbent has from voters in his/her own party in the district
- b. The incumbent's personal integrity
- c. The support the incumbent has from voters in the opposite party in the district ..
- d. The support the incumbent has from his/her own national party
- e. The support the incumbent has from his/her own state party

29. Continued:

Not sure
Extremely strong
Strong
Somewhat strong
Fair
Somewhat weak
Weak
Extremely weak

- f. The incumbent's ability to stay in touch with the district ..
- g. The incumbent's dedication to serving the public
- h. The incumbent's name recognition in the district
- i. The incumbent's ability to raise money to fund his/her own campaign
- j. The incumbent's grasp of the issues
- k. The incumbent's ability to find solutions to problems
- l. The incumbent's public speaking abilities
- m. The incumbent's legislative accomplishments in the House ..
- n. The incumbent's ability to bring federal funds to the district
- o. The incumbent's ability to provide constituency services .
- p. The incumbent's ability to work with other political leaders
- q. The support from interest groups outside the district
- r. The overall strength of this incumbent

30. Please indicate which of the above qualities, except overall strength (choice r), you see as most important for an incumbent to possess in order to be reelected (MARK ONLY ONE).

- a d g j m p
- b e h k n q
- c f i l o Not sure

Please continue on the back of this page

31. In general, at which level of government are most important policy decisions usually made?

- Local (mayor, city council, county commission)
- State (state legislature, governor)
- Federal (president, Congress, federal courts)
- Not-sure

Please answer question 32 regardless of whether you have ever considered running for elective office or not.

32. How would you rate yourself on the following:

Not sure
 Extremely strong
 Strong
 Somewhat strong
 Fair
 Somewhat weak
 Weak
 Extremely weak

- a. Current name recognition in the district
- b. Ability to raise money to fund your own campaign
- c. Ability to fund your own campaign personally
- d. Potential support from voters from your own party in the district
- e. Potential support from your own national party
- f. Ability to find solutions to problems
- g. Potential support from voters of the opposite party in your district
- h. Ability to work with other political leaders
- i. Public speaking abilities
- j. Dedication to public service
- k. Potential support from interest groups outside the district
- l. Your overall strength as a potential candidate

33. Please give your best estimate of how likely each of the following is:

Not sure
 Extremely likely
 Likely
 Somewhat likely
 Toss-up
 Somewhat unlikely
 Unlikely
 Extremely unlikely

- a. The incumbent U.S. Representative in your district will run for reelection in 1998
- b. The incumbent U.S. Representative in your district will win the primary election in 1998 if he/she runs
- c. The incumbent U.S. Representative will win the general election in 1998, if he/she wins the primary
- d. The incumbent U.S. Representative will leave office within the next 3-4 terms
- e. The incumbent U.S. Representative will face a strong primary challenger for the party's nomination in 1998
- f. The incumbent U.S. Representative will face a strong challenger in the 1998 general election campaign
- g. The Democrats will win control of the U.S. House of Representatives in 1998

34. How much of the time do you think you can trust the following institutions to do what is right?

Never
 Almost never
 Only some of the time
 Most of the time
 Just about always

- The federal government
- Your state government
- Your local government

Please continue on page 9

35. Please rate the following characteristics of the U.S. House district in which you live:

Not sure
Extremely strong
Strong
Somewhat strong
Fair
Somewhat weak
Weak
Extremely weak

- a. The overall strength of the Republican party organization in your district
- b. The overall strength of the Democratic party organization in your district
- c. The strength of the Republican U.S. House candidate in the 1996 general election
- d. The strength of the Democratic U.S. House candidate in the 1996 general election
- e. The strength of the primary challenger who came closest to the Republican nominee in the 1996 primary (if applicable) ...
- f. The strength of the primary challenger who came closest to the Democratic nominee in the 1996 primary (if applicable) ...
- g. The economic outlook of the district

36. Some districts lean towards one party or the other. What is the partisan distribution of your congressional district?

- Strongly Democratic
- Democratic
- Somewhat Democratic
- Balanced
- Somewhat Republican
- Republican
- Strongly Republican
- Not sure

37. In general what do you see as having the most important influence on voters in your district as they make their choice among U.S. House candidates?

- Party loyalty
- Candidate characteristics
- Positions on issues
- Not sure

38. How would you describe the political philosophy of each of the following individuals and groups:

Not sure
Extremely conservative
Conservative
Slightly conservative
Middle-of-the-road
Slightly liberal
Liberal
Extremely liberal

- a. Democratic primary voters in your U.S. House district
- b. Republican primary voters in your U.S. House district
- c. All voters in your U.S. House district
- d. The incumbent Representative in your U.S. House district ...
- e. All voters in your state
- f. All voters in your current office district (if you hold an elective office)

39. Please indicate which of the following organizations or groups (if any) has contacted you about running for the U.S. House of Representatives. (MARK AS MANY AS APPLY).

- I have not been contacted by anyone about running for the U.S. House.
- My national political party committee
- A national congressional campaign committee (NRCC, DCCC)
- The state political party
- The political party in the district or county
- Other community leaders
- Members of my family have encouraged me to run
- National, state, or local interest groups

40a. About how politically active is your spouse?

- Very Active
- Somewhat Active
- Inactive
- Not Married

40b. What is your spouse's party affiliation?

- Democrat
- Republican
- Independent
- Other _____
- Not married

Please continue on the back of this page

Please indicate how you think the following political conditions may affect candidates for the U. S. House in your district in 1998:

Not sure
 Strongly favor Republicans
 Favor Republicans
 Somewhat favor Republicans
 Toss-up
 Somewhat favor Democrats
 Favor Democrats
 Strongly favor Democrats

- a. National political conditions ...
- b. State political conditions
- c. Local political conditions

42. Please indicate how the following factors would influence your interest in running for the U. S. House. Please answer this question even if you have no interest in running for the U.S. House.

Not sure
 Makes no difference
 Somewhat discourage
 Discourage
 Strongly discourage

- a. Lost personal and family privacy
- b. The negative impact on my political career if I were to lose
- c. Loss of leisure time
- d. Enduring negative advertising attacks
- e. Separation from family and friends
- f. The need to raise large amounts of money
- g. Lost income
- h. Lack of assistance from my political party
- i. The possibility of serving in the minority party
- j. Having to give up my current career ...

43. People react very differently when they face a risky financial or career decision. In general, would you say that you are:

- Very comfortable taking risks
- Somewhat comfortable taking risks
- Neither comfortable nor uncomfortable taking risks
- Somewhat uncomfortable taking risks
- Very uncomfortable taking risks
- Not sure

44. How long have you lived in the community that is now your home?

- Less than 5 years
- 6-10 years
- 11-20 years
- More than 20 years

45. What is your sex?

- Male
- Female

46. What is your race?

- White
- Black/African-American
- Asian-American
- Hispanic/Latino
- Native American
- Other (please specify) _____

47. How much formal schooling have you completed?

- Grade school or less/0-8 years
- Some high school/9-11 years
- Graduated high school/12 years
- Some college/13-15 years
- College graduate
- Graduate or professional school

48. What is your age?

- Under 30
- 30-39
- 40-49
- 50-59
- 60-64
- 65 and older

49. What was your approximate family income last year - before taxes?

- Under \$30,000
- \$30,000-\$49,999
- \$50,000-\$69,999
- \$70,000-\$89,999
- \$90,000-\$119,999
- \$120,000-\$199,999
- Over \$200,000

50. What is your current marital status?

- Never married
- Married
- Divorced/separated
- Widow/widower

What is your religious preference?

- Catholic
- Jewish
- Protestant
- No religious preference
- Other (please specify) _____

52. How religious do you consider yourself?

- Very religious
- Fairly religious
- Not very religious
- Not religious at all
- Not sure

53. Do you have any children living at home?

- No

Yes. How many? _____

What ages are the children? (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)

- 0-5 yrs.
- 6-12 yrs.
- 13 and older

54. Have you served on active military duty for at least 6 months?

- Yes
- No

55. In general, which of the following categories best describes your primary employment situation? (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)

- Self-Employed
- Professional
- Management
- Education
- Sales
- Clerical
- Labor
- Homemaker
- Retired
- Not presently employed
- Other (please specify) _____
- Medical Professional
- Legal Professional
- Other Professional
- Farming or Ranching
- Legislator
- Political Office Holder
- Other Public Service

56. Please indicate on the following scale how much flexibility in managing your time you have in your current employment.

- Extremely flexible
- Flexible
- Somewhat flexible
- Somewhat inflexible
- Inflexible
- Extremely inflexible
- Not sure

57. Please indicate the state and number of the U.S. Congressional District in which you live.

State: _____

District Number: _____

58. Please indicate the date you are completing the survey: _____

Month		Day		Year	
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Thank you very much for filling out the questionnaire. Please use the enclosed postage-paid envelope to return the questionnaire as soon as possible.