

2010 SPPACE Questionnaire

DEBBIE WARE

Candidates for the North Carolina General Assembly State House of Representatives – District 107

1. What are the top three issues facing your district and how would you address them?

#1 **unemployment** – with unemployment over 12% in my district, we must have jobs created for every level. Reducing taxes on small business and allowing immediate tax breaks for equipment purchases would be a start.

#2 **spending** - is out of control in Raleigh, personal tax should be reduced in every bracket. NC is the highest taxed state in the southeast.

#3 **safety** - repeat offenders are like a revolving door here in Mecklenburg and in Raleigh. We are releasing parolee's / and criminals on bail ie the student president young lady that was murdered. All of residents/taxpayers of my district demand safety for their families at home, work and play.

2. In 2007, the North Carolina General Assembly authorized counties, subject to voter approval, the ability to impose an additional general fund revenue source (a .4% land transfer tax or a .25% sales tax). To date, the transfer tax has been defeated in every county where it has been considered. Would you support legislation to repeal the transfer tax option?

YES

3. Would you support a local bill enabling Mecklenburg County to impose a real estate transfer tax or impact fee?

NO

4. Because North Carolina is facing an estimated \$3 billion shortfall, comprehensive tax reform for the state continues to be at the forefront of discussion in the General Assembly. The prevailing thought is to “broaden the base and lower the rate”. This means taxing items, services, transactions, etc. that are currently untaxed and either reducing the rate or eliminating altogether the taxes on items, services, transactions, etc. that are taxed at a high rate. Are you in agreement with this concept? Please explain your answer.

NO, money is not the problem, spending beyond our means is the problem.

- 5. There are over 20 different environmental agencies in the State of North Carolina that regulate water, air quality and land use. Would you support the consolidation of these departments? Please explain your answer.**

Unsure about this issue, but my first thought is NO, bigger is not better, and for sure not cost effective.

- 6. Do you support giving North Carolina's Counties the authority to hold a "Pennies for Progress" referendum similar to South Carolina's? (South Carolina's program is a 1/4 cent sales tax dedicated to a specific list of projects that sunsets after a period of time or when the projects are completed.) Please explain your answer.**

NO, our General Assembly has yet to let a tax "sunset".

- 7. Would you consider changing the current NCDOT funding formula to make it more equitable for the growing urban areas? If so, what would you propose?**

YES, after being in eastern NC, it is easy to see 4/6 lane highways with no cars, while Charlotte is choking on its growth.

- 8. Would you support a Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) tax as a means to pay for road construction and/or maintenance?**

NO, if the General Assembly would spend ALL of the gas tax money on roads, it would be more than enough.