

Candidate Name: Johnny Isakson

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Party Affiliation: Republican

Education: Bachelor of Business Administration, University of Georgia, 1966

Political Experience:

Member, U.S. Senate, 2005-present; Member, U.S. House of Representatives, 1999-2005; served 17 years in the Georgia Legislature; served three years as chairman of the Georgia Board of Education

Military Experience: Georgia Air National Guard, 1966-1972

Other:

Married to Dianne for 42 years, three children and nine grandchildren

Businessman; Former President of Northside Realty for 20 years

Former Sixth-grade Sunday School teacher for 30 years; Former Chairman, Cobb Chamber of Commerce; Former Member, Georgia Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors; Former Member, National Association of Realtors Executive Committee; Former President, Realty Alliance; Former Member, Riverside Bank Board of Directors; Former Member, SunTrust Advisory Board; Former Director, Salvation Army Board; Founder, Leadership Cobb

The Fraternal Order of Police is the world's largest organization of sworn law enforcement officers, with more than 325,000 members in more than 2,100 lodges. We are the voice of those who dedicate their lives to protecting and serving our communities.

We are committed to improving the working conditions of law enforcement officers and the safety of those we serve through education, legislation, information, community involvement, and employee representation. No one knows the dangers and the difficulties faced by today's police officers better than another officer, and no one knows police officers better than the FOP.

The Fraternal Order of Police is a non-profit organization.

**Please answer the following 10 questions. Create as much additional space as you need for your responses.**

1-What do you consider the most important function of the federal government?

The primary and most important function of the federal government is to provide for the security of our nation.

2- What is your position on the Employer-Employee Cooperation Act (H.R. 413) that provides basic collective bargaining rights for public safety officers employed by states or their political subdivisions? This bill, along with the FOP, does not support any legislation that allows strikes or work slowdowns.

H.R. 413 would provide collective bargaining rights for some public safety workers who are employed by states and localities.

I believe every worker should have workplace grievance procedures to air their differences with management, but I do not believe public employees entrusted with the public health, safety and welfare should be allowed to strike. As presently written, this bill is not strong enough on that point. Moreover, the legislation as currently structured does not guarantee public safety workers the right to a secret ballot when voting on unionization issues.

As the ranking member on the Senate Employment and Workplace Safety, I will always work for fair and equitable treatment of all employees, whether public or private.

3-We understand the economic situation that Georgia, along with the nation, is currently experiencing. How have you supported budget issues and funding of federal grants necessary for law enforcement agencies in Georgia?

I have consistently supported appropriate funding levels for federal grants for law enforcement – including the COPS program, the Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (Byrne/JAG) program and the Law Enforcement Technology and Interoperability Grants program – while balancing the imperative to focus on our nation’s long term fiscal problems.

#### 4-Please explain your overall vision for Homeland Security and protecting America.

The September 11th terrorist attacks against the United States provided a stark reminder that America must be able to defend itself against a broad range of threats, including potential terrorist attacks from nuclear, chemical or biological weapons as well as missile attacks.

Thankfully, our nation’s strong response to the September 11th terrorist attacks and our military performance in Afghanistan and Iraq have sent the message to the rest of the world that America will not waiver when it comes to defending this nation.

It is important to continue to work with all nations to root out terrorism and encourage stable democracies around the world. I will continue to support efforts to see that America stays on course to defend freedom and democracy for all nations. We need only note the recent arrests of terror suspects in Colorado and New York to realize that the agents of terror sponsored by al-Qaida and the Taliban will still do anything to destroy our country.

#### 5-Where do you stand on the death penalty?

I support the use of capital punishment.

#### 6-What is your stance on illegal immigration in Georgia and the United States, and what are your ideas for addressing the issue?

I have always drawn a clear distinction between legal and illegal immigration, and those people who come to our country legally should be welcomed. At the same time, the defense of our nation begins with securing our borders, and ending the opportunity for illegal entry. I support a comprehensive border security plan to combat illegal immigration, drug and alien smuggling and violent activity on the Southwest border. I do not believe in offering amnesty or any special pathway to citizenship for individuals who are here illegally, and I believe that immigrants should pursue citizenship by getting in line and complying with the same rules that are already in place for any other immigrants.

I also wholeheartedly support the 287(g) program in which local law enforcement are authorized to arrest and detain illegal aliens, and I am disappointed that the administration has changed this program dramatically to reduce its effectiveness. I am also dismayed at the administration’s action in suing the state of Arizona over its efforts to handle illegal immigration.

I have been working hard to address one of the most important domestic issues in the United States. I will continue my efforts because I believe it is absolutely critical to our state and to this nation that we secure the borders and restore credibility to our immigration system.

### 7- What makes you the best candidate for this office?

My public service has always been about the future, and I run today to work to preserve the bright promise of America for our children and grandchildren. My experience as a small businessman for over 30 years combined with the Georgia values and conservative principles that have guided me through more than two decades in public office are what we need in Washington to address the difficult challenges facing our state and our country.

In fact, I first ran for office because I was concerned about the direction our country was taking: too much debt; too much spending; and too high taxes. As our county faces a similar path today, I continue to focus on reducing reckless spending and reducing our tax burden, as these elements are critical for our economy to rebound from this recession and flourish in the long-term. My goal is to continue to fight for these conservative principles while preserving the security of our nation.

### 8- What legislation have you introduced or sponsored that has been beneficial to Georgia law enforcement?

I have worked on many items of legislation during my years in the Georgia Legislature and in the U.S. Congress to support law enforcement's role to help provide security for our communities and nation. Several recent items of legislation that I have introduced are set forth below.

I co-introduced the *Stalkers Act of 2010* (S. 3727), which updates federal anti-stalking laws to address the new technology predators are using to harass their victims and provide prosecutors with the necessary tools to combat the growing threat of cyberstalking.

I co-introduced the *Effective Immigration Enforcement Partnerships Act of 2008* (S. 2717), which sought to facilitate the formation of effective enforcement partnerships with state and local law enforcement by:

- Clarifying their authority to enforce federal immigration laws during their normal course of duty
- Expanding the 287(g) program to every state
- Offering a basic training course for all state and local law enforcement officers
- Compensating state and local entities for immigration enforcement related expenses
- Expanding the National Crime Information Center's Immigration Violators File to include: (1) aliens against whom a final order of removal has been issued; (2) aliens who have signed a voluntary departure agreement; (3) aliens who have overstayed their authorized period of stay; and (4) aliens whose visas have been revoked

I co-introduced legislation to create a *Rural Policing Institute* (S.560) administered by the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) at Glynco, Georgia. This rural-focused law enforcement training institute would assist rural agencies that have tight budgets and small staff by bringing critical training to them rather than requiring their officers to take time off from protecting communities to attend training sessions out of town. This legislation has been enacted and the Rural Policing Institute is up and running at FLETC.

I co-introduced "*Masha's Law*," which dramatically increased the penalties for anyone who downloads child pornography off the Internet and fixed then current law to allow adults to sue those who download images of them taken when they were children. This legislation was amended into and enacted as part of the *Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006* (H.R. 4472).

I have cosponsored legislation and supported funding to deal with the methamphetamine problem. In addition, I was proud to help launch the Georgia Meth Project in Georgia earlier this year. The methamphetamine problem is one of local law enforcement's biggest challenges across our state, and it is critical that we combat this problem at all levels.