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AOPA PRESIDENTIAL QUESTIONNAIRE 2008

1. What is your experience with general aviation? How have you personally used general aviation?
2. As an elected official, can you cite actions you have taken to support general aviation?
3. General aviation airports are an important part of the national air transportation system but are often faced with the threat of closure or limits on access. How will you support general aviation airports as part of the national airport system?
4. Airlines and the current Administration have proposed replacing the current system of fuel and ticket taxes to fund the FAA with a user fee-based system assessing fees on each component of a flight. What is your view of how to fund the aviation system?
5. Recognizing that both aviation users and the general public receive significant benefits from a safe and efficient air transportation system, Congress has funded the FAA through an appropriation that combines funding from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund (aviation taxes) and the General Fund. Do you support continuing to fund approximately 25 percent of the FAA's budget with General Fund dollars?
6. Industry observers, think tanks, and some airlines have proposed a variety of management structures for the FAA's air traffic control system. Do you believe air traffic control is a fundamental government function or should be spun off to the private sector?
7. There has been a lot of discussion about aviation and the environment. Given that pilots are very sensitive to anything affecting the cost of flying, how would your environmental policy address these concerns?
8. On the issue of homeland security, the challenge facing policymakers is finding the right balance between security, individual rights, and the economic viability of the general aviation industry. What are your views on general aviation security?
9. What specific qualifications will you look for when nominating a FAA Administrator?