

Coach P Interview - 9am Thursday May 3rd

- 1) qualified? Have served 2 terms, 4 years. I as HS teacher for 15 years and track and field coach. I think important to have different backgrounds, as educator important perspective in legislature, I see the families and the impact of policy. Important to have that reflected in every decision.
- 2) pro-business? My track record speaks for itself. Larry follow up - you have bucked party leadership.... I have. I have different relationship with different speakers - Steve vs Richard. Having relationship with staff and speakers to understand which battles to take and not to take, and where there was the give. I didn't feel obligation of teamwork/ partnership with Richard like I did with Steve. So didn't feel obligated to come forward.... And everything was speaker priority under Richard it was bills 1-25 were his and any big PCPs that came through. You either had to do what you thought was right or risk doing a lot wrong. I learned how to be relevant and supportive and influential where I could... as public school teachers, gives credibility to my support of any of his efforts I would be a cheerleader to ensure he was successful. Helped me be effective in spite of some votes I had to take.
- 3) Healthcare - we have a lot of issues. Great hospitals and health care in spite of some variables. A lot of things would be difficult in state with economic constrain of balance budget requirement. Doing better than we did 10 years ago because our economy is better, people have jobs and are insured. When folks lack insurance, and have to go emergency rooms etc stresses the system. Scope issues - Nurse practitioners, PA's, Pharmacists. Lower level providers able to do things that in FL only physicians can do. But that they can do in other states. Big trouble is access and quality of care, but I think we are making progress.
- 4) Education - satisfied, not proper word, but not where we could be. Only talk about the negative sometimes, and we have a great edu system in FL. We have highest Math scores in entire country for 4th grade. (4th and 8th grade studied nationwide). We don't do great for 1% of students - special needs, etc. I do think we provide those families choices so they can find best fit. I support tax credit scholarship. I don't support diagenius effort to make changes to current law. If it were just elimination of cap on tax credit scholarship I probably could have supported it. But there were 26 different criteria ...so it was really for anyone. It was disingenuous effort. Not about bullying. Those who want to advocate for that were almost silenced, and real changes to bill to address it, was blocked by bill sponsor.
- 5) Transportation - we probably did under steve, but hard to say now. There are challenges that we have in brevard and orange, and the port. I worked with port team to get funding for the bridge - whether or not we get fair amount in brevard, I don't know answer to that.
- 6) Save our lagoon. Sales tax, I would have voted for. If you can have dedicated pot of money that is not a bad thing. As member of legislature, I will do everything I can to find amendment 1 dollars to match brevard dollars. complicated, as multi county problem. Ill again sponsor that bill with Debbie Mayfield to try and get state dollars.
- 7) Home rule? Delicate question, I have voted more for home rule and not against. I look at each issue. Try to have good relationship with local elected officials as often as possible. Rita Pritchett and Titusville, I would say I speak to them more than I do folks in Orlando since east part of orange a good deal in unincorporated county areas.
  - 1) Public beach access. I did support that bill. Honest answer... I didn't know what the bill was about when I voted for. Usually we have people, lobbyists, papers raise issues and we talk about them ahead of time. But that was in last full weeks of session, and we rely on colleagues who we trust in committee process. If it hadn't hit the papers or raised controversy, we trust that process.
- 8) TDT - I did not support the legislature changing the use for TDT. I do defend TDT dollars for traditional purposes.

- 9) As history teacher I think about where we are going . If people do remember me, I hope they remember I was accessible to my constituents. that I engaged with them with an open mind. We live, have lived for quite some time, in culture where people are frustrated with politicians. I hope they look back and say we had a good person that represented us and can give them a little faith in the process. I am inclusive and try to listen as much as possible.
- 10) leadership? Everyone's input is important to me. It is all about relationships. Great with steve, not as great with richard. Got to see him outside of chamber and try to get to know him. We live in state with finite resources and everyone wants more. We are in competition with other counties. So I try to make decisions that benefit our communities. Easier with steve, because we fought for same community.
- 11) Opposition research. I have not paid off any attorneys etc.
- 12) Larry - what committees looking for - pushing hard for education 2-12. Wanted higher ed as well but that was promised to someone else. Apropos chair or chair education sub committee. Take a lot of advice from Steve for where I can be most beneficial. Others have different perspective I can learn from. I spend time with Marty cole Eubanks (sp?) a health care professional. I pick her brain. Learn as much as I can.
- 13) Expansion of gambling..... as long as my tourism folks are against it, I am against it. I am local guy and know what it would do for our region. I am not in casino/tourism so I rely on them. Its that simple for me.
- 14) Will you stay on healthcare cmte? I would think they will either push me further into healthcare, or move to edu. But unlikely they let me split between the two. Third term. I keep tabs of who is still with us... fewer and fewer from my class still here, so my vote and position because more valuable.