



## 2018 Gubernatorial Questionnaire (Brent Roske)

*Please limit your response to each question to 200 words or less.*

1. **Clean Water:** Iowa has a clean water crisis, and runoff from factory farms is a major cause. **Do you support a moratorium on new or expanding factory farms until there are fewer than 100 polluted waterways, and local control of factory farms?**

**YES – I’m the only candidate who has said that I won’t sign any other bill until water quality is addressed**

**(<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/news/politics/2017/06/03/iowa-democrats-rap-reynolds-branstad-peoples-picnic-boone/364304001/>)**

2. **Immigration:** Last year, the Iowa Legislature proposed legislation that would pit our law enforcement agencies against our immigrant and refugee friends and neighbors. **Will you ensure that no law enforcement agency in Iowa will be deputized under Immigration and Customs Enforcement?**

**YES**

3. **Raising the wage:** Living wages are good for workers, our families, our business and our communities. **Do you support a statewide living wage of at least \$15/hour for all Iowa workers?**

**YES and nationwide**

4. **Healthcare:** Everyone has the right to quality healthcare but Iowans are receiving worse healthcare than ever. **As governor, will you implement a state-level program that guarantees universal, high-quality healthcare to all Iowans?**

**Yes – it’s time for Single Payer. My letter in DMReg:**

**<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/opinion/readers/2017/06/11/shopping-health-services-u-s-intentionally-complicated/377727001/>**

5. **Climate:** Climate change is happening before our eyes and is becoming even more urgent by the day. What is your plan to transition Iowa to 100% clean energy that benefits all Iowans?

I think more important than getting Iowa to 100% is using the pulpit of the Governorship to teach other states that wind power is attainable while growing Iowa's capacity. Climate change is real and I've served on the Producer's Guild Green council for 5 years as well as won an EMA (Environmental Media Award) for an NBC campaign on the environment as well as wrote and directed the CBS special 'Eco-Hollywood'.

6. **Money in Politics:** Our pay-to-play system of financing elections means that corporate special interests can buy off elected officials. Will you push for a small dollar donor/public financing system to get big money out of politics?

**YES – we have an oligarchy and the normal high cost of getting elected is one of the reasons why. More on this here:**

**<http://www.thegazette.com/subject/news/government/politics/iowa-gubernatorial-hopeful-to-make-splash-on-sharknado-week-20170726>**

7. **Racial Justice:** Recent history shows that Iowa's new Stand Your Ground bill will be used to target communities of color. Will you work to repeal the Stand Your Ground law in Iowa?

**The Des Moines Chief of Police is against Stand Your Ground which informs my decision to also be against. The expanding of the 'Castle Doctrine' isn't necessary and the stats showing that 'Stand Your Ground' rulings favor Caucasians is irrefutable.**

8. **Higher Education:** Communities across Iowa, the US, and the world face increasingly oppressive levels of student debt as tuition rates are pushed ever higher. Will you support legislation to make Iowa's public colleges and universities tuition free for all students?

**YES – the high cost of college is a national disgrace. Bernie Sanders went to Brooklyn College for free. A college degree is basically mandatory for today's work force so we need to do all we can to get our young people the education they deserve and at a price they can afford. Making money off of students is immoral and starting recent grads with such high debt loads handicaps the rest of their career.**

9. **Budget:** Governors Branstad and Reynolds have created a state revenue crisis with their corporate handouts, including the 2013 commercial property tax deal that they passed with the support of legislative Democrats. Do you pledge to roll back this corporate tax break and close other corporate tax loopholes?

**Not necessarily. The state of Iowa needs revenue and we need to work to get more new businesses to come here. Social programs need to be funded. The goal would be**

to use TIF (tax incentive financing) as sparingly as possible, to woo new business but realize revenue quicker, unlike the 10 year horizon for the fertilizer plant in Weaver, IA. We need Big Tech to keep coming and building – not just Big Ag.

10. **Agriculture:** Just as workers need a livable minimum wage, farmers need a livable minimum price. As governor, what would you do to ensure that farmers get a fair price for their crops?

Des Moines' own Henry Wallace talked about the concept of the 'ever normal granary' which helped feed people in times of need as well as stabilize pricing. The bigger question is how do we keep the 2 business models of 1) Family Farming and 2) Big Ag cohesive so there's money to be made in both practices. 89% of Iowa land is used for farming, but the average age of the Iowa farmer is 57 years old. We don't want our state to turn into one big auto-harvested field. Less than half of ISU and U of I graduates say they're sticking around after graduation and only 15% of those say they'll stay in a rural setting. Just like Lt. Gov. Patty Judge I think the RFS (renewable fuels standard) is one way to keep the plows turning.

Finally, here is Oscar winner Richard Dreyfuss' endorsement of my run:

"The people of Iowa might look for years for a candidate as bright, committed, and independent in truth and behavior as Brent Roske. I have no doubt in the decency of Brent, in the fierceness of his desire to serve, and for his ability to be truly bi-partisan in his approach. Brent Roske doesn't have a petty bone in his body. He loves the idea of America - almost Jimmy Stewart in "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington" - and we're going to need many more of his kind in the present and upcoming turmoil of the next few years.

Brent Roske is smart enough to serve the people of Iowa from a truly Independent perspective. I have no doubt that his native intelligence and ability to listen and learn, coupled with his real life sense of common decency, will serve Iowans well and show the other states how our system can work for the benefit of all. He is a refreshing reminder of the type of person who could be running our government.

Brent is an outsider to be proud of. He brings with him an informed citizen's knowledge, a willingness to learn and a Joy of Combat like FDR. You could do a great thing bringing him into the Iowa State Capitol." - Oscar winner Richard Dreyfuss

<http://www.hollywoodreporter.com/rambling-reporter/richard-dreyfuss-endorses-candidate-iowa-governors-race-997059>