

2010 candidate questionnaire

NAME: **Hank Johnson**

PARTY: Democratic

SEEKING: U.S. Congress, District 4



1. Why are you seeking your office?

Simply because I'm not done yet. We are starting to see America moving in the right direction. The signs are positive. But I know it has been a long hard struggle for many people. And I urge them to hold on – things are getting better and I want to finish the job.

We've made tremendous progress. When George W. Bush left office in 2008, this economy was shedding 800,000 jobs a month. A month! In just the first quarter of 2010, we've created more than 400,000 jobs in the U.S. and 84,000 in Georgia since 2009. We've made progress (100).

2. What do you expect to accomplish if elected?

As the newest member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, I expect to make my third term about helping Atlanta and the state of Georgia get on the right track as far as transportation issues are concerned and ensure that we receive the funding we need to grow and prosper.

Recently the state received just \$750,000 for studies on high-speed rail when billions of dollars were being distributed to more progressive-minded places such as Charlotte, N.C. Much of my focus will of course be metro Atlanta and projects in my district such as the Clifton, I-20 East and I-285 corridor (100).

3. What distinguishes your candidacy?

My record is second to none. I have a long record of serving as an effective legislator. As the Southeast Regional Whip and Chairman of the Courts and Competition Policy subcommittee in the Judiciary, I have demonstrated the kind of leadership needed to not only get things done, but do it in a way that puts Georgians first.

4. What are the key issues in your race?

Jobs and the economy, health care reform, transportation, education.

5. Pick one issue. Expand on how you will address it.

Jobs and the economy: As Southeast Regional Whip in Congress, it is my responsibility to ensure that critical legislation has the support it needs from Members of Congress who represent the Southeast. In that capacity, I championed passage of President Obama's Recovery Act.

The Recovery Act has created more than 84,000 jobs in Georgia since 2009. It has created jobs at road improvement projects on Covington Highway, South and North Hairston Roads, Sigman Road, Chamblee-Dunwoody Parkway, Briarcliff Road, and Shallowford Road. It has created jobs at Goodwill Industries of North Georgia, which is training workers for green jobs that will (100).

6. Give a 100 word summary of your background.

I'm an attorney by training – a criminal defense attorney specifically. I was a magistrate judge in DeKalb County for more than six years, and a DeKalb County Commissioner for more than five. As a Congressman, I'm on three key House committees – Armed Services, Judiciary and as I mentioned earlier Transportation and Infrastructure. And I'm Chairman of the Judiciary Subcommittee on Courts and Competition Policy. I've been married to the beautiful Mereda Davis Johnson for 30 years and we have two children Randi and Alex. I live with my wife in Lithonia, Ga.