



# New York 2012 Electoral Questions

## TOBACCO CONTROL

Smoking is the single largest cause of cancer incidence and death in New York State. Yet over the past four years, funding for New York's tobacco control program has been cut in half and is now only 16% of the level CDC recommends for New York.

**Would you support incrementally increasing Tobacco Program Funding in New York to the CDC-recommended level of \$254 million per year (about 10% of tobacco revenues)?**

## ACCESS TO CARE

More than 2.5 million New Yorkers lack health insurance. These uninsured individuals are less likely to get recommended cancer screenings and are more likely to be diagnosed with cancer at later stages. For example, uninsured women diagnosed with breast cancer are 2.5 times more likely to have a late stage diagnosis than women enrolled in private health insurance.

**Would you support creation of a consumer-friendly health exchange that will offer affordable health insurance to the uninsured?**

## MEDICAL TRANSPARENCY

Increasingly, consumers are facing the prospect of enormous health care costs that they did not expect. Many individuals are

required to receive their care from doctors who belong to their insurer's provider network, and are not covered in the event that part of their care is delivered by a provider who, unbeknownst to them, is not a part of the patient's plan network.

**Would you support legislation that ensures that consumers are not facing significant "surprise" financial medical costs when using in-network providers at facilities in which some of the care is delivered by out-of network providers?**

## CANCER SCREENINGS

For those without health insurance, getting access to life-saving cancer screening hinges on access to New York's Cancer Services Program, which provides screening for breast, cervical and colorectal cancer to underinsured and uninsured men and women in every county. Yet at current funding levels, the Cancer Services Program is able to help fewer than 20% of the women who should get a screening mammogram but can't get it because they lack insurance coverage.

**In order to ensure continued access to these screenings, would you support maintaining state funding for the Cancer Services Program at the current level (\$26.7 million annually)?**



Make cancer an election issue.



**CANCERvotes**  
www.CancerVotes.org

*This year, nearly 1.6 million Americans will hear "you have cancer." On behalf of these patients and their families, the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) encourages all Americans to ask the presidential candidates where they stand on important cancer issues.*