



Name JAMES (Jim) ROHAN

Candidate for NYS Assembly 125th DISTRICT

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Candidate's Signature James Rohan

Please return by fax to (212) 541-7301 or by mail to Advocacy, Committee for Modern Courts, 351 West 54th Street, NY, NY 10019 on or before October 12, 2006.

1. As you read in the cover letter to this survey, Legislative action is required to change the way we select Supreme Court justices, would you support a legislative effort to make such changes?

YES NO

Comments

2. Do you support holding public hearings to determine how to best amend our laws governing the selection of Supreme Court judicial candidates?

YES NO

Comments

Because I am not an attorney and the questions you present in your questionnaire are complex, I don't believe they can be answered with "yes or no" answers. However, to be cooperative with your group, I do want to comment.

As legislative action appears to be required, yes, I would expect to participate in helping to shape any changes. In the selection method for Supreme Court judicial candidates, informed opinion should be consulted and public hearings would be appropriate. I would like to hear from the Bar associations and others who are knowledgeable about the judicial system and would favor reforms of the nominating system that bring increased wisdom to it.

I would seriously consider and would like to hear the arguments for an appointive system, but am not prepared to endorse it at this time.

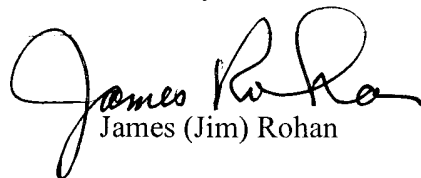
While I do have concerns over the translation of economic power into undue political power, the issue of limiting campaign contributions raises serious issues of political speech, as it requires people through their taxes to support candidates that they may prefer not to elect. I would consider that balance in relation to proposed limitations. Some may pass muster, some may not.

Independent organizations, particularly Bar Associations, have a major role to play in determining the qualifications of potential judicial nominees at all levels. They might do so through appearances and endorsements to the political parties.

All the elements of the court system are important. The justice system must be kept functioning.

I intend to approach the issues your organization raises pragmatically, with an open mind, and to try to provide balance.

Sincerely,



James (Jim) Rohan