



## COSE Questionnaire

### Candidate Information:

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Candidate name:	Josh Mandel		
Committee name:	Citizens for Josh Mandel		
Office sought:	State Representative	District or county:	17th House District
Committee manager:	Jonathan Petrea		
Committee treasurer:	Brendan Doyle		
Party affiliation:	<input type="checkbox"/> Democrat	<input type="checkbox"/> Republican	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Committee Address:	2119 Cottingham Drive	City Lyndhurst, OH	Zip: 44124
Expected campaign budget:	\$	Amount raised to date:	\$
Telephone:	216-647-7575	Fax:	
Email:	josh@joshmandel.com	Website:	www.joshmandel.com
City of residence:	Lyndhurst	Number of years:	4 years

Educational Background (please include year of completion and degree(s) or certificate(s) received):

B.A., 2000, The Ohio State University -- J.D., 2003, Case Western Reserve University School of Law

Public offices held or which you were a candidate for (please include years of service):

Lyndhurst City Council, January 1, 2004 - Present.

Memberships and affiliations (please list all honors, awards or distinctions received):

Josh Mandel served as an Intelligence Specialist in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves, having graduated first in his class from Marine Corps Boot Camp and first in his class from Marine Corps Intelligence School. His Marine Corps duty includes service in Iraq with the 1st Marine Division, where he operated in the Al Anbar Province, from Fallujah to the Syrian border. While in Iraq, Josh was awarded the Navy & Marine Corps Achievement Medal for "superior performance of his duties."

Endorsements received:

### Candidate Questionnaire:

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1) As a candidate, what are your top three policy issues?

1. Growing our economy.
2. Providing tax relief.
3. Restoring Integrity to government

2) What are the top three *economic* issues or projects that you intend to support? How do you relate these to the needs of the small business community?

1. Lower taxes.
2. Reduce red tape and foster a business-friendly environment.
3. Facilitate skill training for 21st century jobs.

3) Many of Ohio's business attraction and retention incentive programs including tax credits, heavily favor medium- and large-size businesses over smaller ones. Do you believe that similar incentives should be extended to smaller businesses? If so, how would you accomplish this goal? See: O.R.C. §5725.32, O.R.C. §781.15.1

Yes. We need to help and attract small businesses by lowering tax rates and decreasing government red tape so that they may grow into medium and large-sized businesses.

4) The Commercial Activity Tax (CAT), enacted by H.B.66, will continue to be phased in between now and 2009, yet discussions about amending this provision to exempt specific industries are already taking place. Do you believe that changes are needed (please explain) or should the state withhold such exemptions until the full impact of this tax cut can be assessed?

We need to be very watchful of the new Commercial Activity Tax. First, the exemption for small businesses must be retained. Second, I support the principle behind the broad base and low rate and think that practical consequences of the CAT must be carefully evaluated as time goes on.

5) What is your position on universal health care programs as proposed in the Ohio Health Care Plan? See: H.B. 263

H.B. 263 suggests funding health care through additional employment taxes and additional income taxes. I am against additional taxes.

6) What is your position on legislation that mandates specific areas of coverage in health care insurance (i.e. mental health parity, diabetes or cervical cancer coverage)? Explain.

Health coverage should be both fair and flexible. As a small business owner, I understand the challenges that small business owner's face in today's health care environment.

7) What is your position regarding the recently enacted workers' compensation reform? In your answer, please also address your opinion on amending it in order to grant employers the right to choose the provider who reviews work related injuries. See: S.B. 7

I think that our workers' compensation system is in need of more reform.

8) How do you propose to address the flight of young professionals (brain drain) from the Northeastern Ohio region? Please elaborate.

The key to attracting young people is attracting jobs for young people. By lowering taxes and decreasing government red tape, businesses will be able to create more jobs. It is no secret that young professionals will be the life-blood of tomorrow's economy and that we need them in Northeastern Ohio today. I am a young professional and a small business owner and I have a passionate interest in this topic.

9) Do you support legislation that establishes income tax credits for individuals who attain science and engineering degrees in Ohio in an effort to reduce the above-mentioned flight? See: H.B. 359  
Yes.