

Mark Loewe's responses to League of Women Voters questions, 16 September 2016

Background (150 character limit)

I coauthored a quantum mechanics textbook, taught physics at UT and Texas State U, wrote Texas House Bill 2959 (2009), and do microelectronics R&D.

Education (150 character limit)

PhD Physics, U Texas, Austin. BS Chemistry and BS Physics, Magna Cum Laude, U California, Irvine. Fulbright Kommission support for research, Germany.

An estimated 300,000 people died from gun violence between 2004 and 2014. The number of deaths has multiplied exponentially in the past two years. Do you support or oppose a federal ban on assault weapons and do you support or oppose limits on firearms purchases by someone who is or has been under suspicion of terrorist activities? Why or why not? (600 character limit)

I oppose attempts to vest in Congress any power that invites tyranny and puts liberty at risk, such as power to ban gun ownership by citizens without due process of law. Vigilant, well armed and trained citizens, local police, state forces, and federal forces are, in descending order, important defenses against aggression and tyranny by individuals, organizations, and governments. A gun ownership ban invites aggression and tyranny by individuals, organizations, and governments. Our federal forces, aided by state forces, local police, and citizens must be strong enough to defeat all aggressors.

What role should the federal government play in education and what federal education policies do you support or oppose? Include policies concerning student debt, cost of higher education, and public school financing. (600 character limit)

Our Constitution rightly vests in Congress power to promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts and rightly does not vest power to pay for education, except as necessary and proper to execute vested powers. To attract tens of billions of additional private dollars per year into K-12 education and to empower parents, especially poor parents, to reject mediocre schools and choose safe schools that better serve their childrens' individual needs, abilities, and interests, states should enable voters in school districts to adopt school choice plans similar to a plan that I devised long ago.

Explain your support or opposition to comprehensive immigration reform. What role should the U.S. play in accepting refugees? (600 character limit)

Immigrants, including refugees, should be carefully vetted for dangerous communicable diseases, criminality, inability to support themselves, opposition to the rule of law under our Constitution, and other things that may harm or burden Americans. Congress should not automatically give citizenship to children born to aliens passing through the USA. Congress should remove from jurisdiction of federal courts cases in which illegal aliens not in custody demand giveaways of money, food, shelter, non-emergency medical care, transportation, education, or privileges to vote, work, or stay in the USA.

Some 30 million Americans remain without health insurance. Explain why you would support or oppose changes to the entire piece of legislation that is commonly referred to as the Affordable Care Act. (600 character limit)

Our Constitution does not vest in Congress power to require people to buy anything, including insurance, or to pass a bill for raising revenue that does not originate in the House of Representatives. For these and other reasons, the ACA is unconstitutional. Medical, drug, and insurance cartels want government, by force, to limit competition in cartel favor despite fewer choices, higher costs, and lower quality of service for the public. Some government officials who want power or bribes also want government, by force, to limit competition. I oppose attempts to vest in Congress such powers.

With the Middle East and other countries in turmoil, what should be Americas role in foreign policy? (600 character limit)

We should promote conditions worldwide under which Americans can safely and fairly compete to buy and sell goods and services, promote benefits of individual liberty, goodwill, tolerance, and non-aggression, offer disaster aid, condemn tyranny, punish piracy, and defeat aggressors against us or our treaty allies. We should keep American troops in South Korea to deter North Korean attacks on our now prosperous and free long-time ally and to lower risks that a devastating Korean war will resume. We should urge Communist China to end its immensely dishonorable support of North Korean tyranny.

What other issues do you consider urgent that need congressional action in the next two years? (600 character limit)

Congress can easily avoid and eliminate its give away of hundreds of billions of dollars per year of interest on federal debt, which harms most Americans, enriches creditors, and funds military buildups of some adversaries. Some electronic controls and power infrastructure need urgent hardening to reduce risks that tens of millions of Americans will die after an electromagnetic pulse (EMP). To limit lavish interpretation of laws when federal bureaucrats issue regulations, rules, and policies, Congress should direct bureaucrats to interpret laws to have as little effect as necessary and proper.