Appendix A: Additional Plots

House Responsiveness, 2010–12

2010, Challenger

2010, Incumbent

2012, Challenger

2012, Incumbent

District MRP Mean

Candidate Score

House Responsiveness, 2010–12

2010, Challenger

2010, Incumbent

2012, Challenger

2012, Incumbent

District MRP Mean

Candidate Score
Appendix B: Policy Questions Used to Scale Voters and Candidates

Please indicate your positions on the following issues (YES/NO). (RANDOMIZE QUESTION ORDER WITHIN SECTIONS)

2.1 Economy/Redistribution (6)
1. Do you support making President Bush’s tax cuts permanent?
2. Increase the minimum wage.
3. Do you support providing direct financial assistance to homeowners facing foreclosure?
4. Reduce government regulations on the private sector in order to encourage investment and economic expansion.
5. Increase funding for state job-training programs that re-train displaced workers and teach skills needed in today’s job market.
6. Increase state funds to provide child care for children in low-income working families.

2.2 Abortion (6)
1. Abortions should always be legally available.
2. Prohibit the late-term abortion procedure known as partial-birth abortion.
3. Should abortions be illegal after the first trimester of pregnancy?
4. Prohibit public funding of abortions and public funding of organizations that advocate or perform abortions.
5. Do you support federal funding to create lines of stem cells from new embryos?
6. Require clinics to give parental notification before performing abortions on minors.

2.3 Social (4)
1. Do you support voluntary prayer in public schools?
2. Should California recognize marriages between same-sex couples?
3. Do you support abstinence-only sexual education programs?
4. Legalize physician assisted suicide in California.


2.4 **Criminal Justice (6)**
1. Support the use of the death penalty in California.
2. Decriminalize the possession of small amounts of marijuana.
3. Allow doctors to prescribe marijuana to their patients for medicinal purposes.
4. Ease state restrictions on the purchase and possession of guns.
5. Minors accused of a violent crime should be prosecuted as adults.
6. Should citizens be allowed to carry concealed guns?

2.5 **Environment (5)**
1. Enact environmental regulations even if they are stricter than federal law.
2. Use state funds to clean up former industrial and commercial sites that are contaminated, unused or abandoned.
3. Encourage further development and use of alternative fuels to reduce pollution.
4. Support the U.S. re-entering the Kyoto treaty process to limit global warming.
5. Support opening a select portion of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge for oil exploration.

2.6 **Education (4)**
1. Allow parents to use vouchers to send their children to any private or religious school.
2. Provide state funding to increase teacher salaries.
3. Do you support a merit pay system for teachers?
4. Is the tenure process for public school teachers producing effective teachers?

2.7 **Foreign Policy (5)**
1. Do you support a policy of pre-emptive military strikes against countries deemed to be a threat to U.S. national security?
2. Do you support using military tribunals to try suspected terrorists when ordinary civilian courts are deemed inappropriate or impractical?
3. Should law enforcement agencies have greater discretion to monitor domestic communications, to prevent future terrorist attacks?
4. Should the United States commit troops to United Nations peacekeeping missions?
5. Should the United States support the creation of a Palestinian state?
2.8 Health (4)
1. Implement a universal health care program to guarantee coverage to all Americans regardless of income.

2. Do you support requiring individuals to purchase health care insurance?

3. Do you support monetary limits on damages that can be collected in malpractice lawsuits?

4. Implement a government-financed single-payer national health care system similar to that of Canada

2.9 Affirmative Action/Immigration (6)
1. Should race, ethnicity or gender be taken into account in state agencies’ decisions on public employment?

2. Support affirmative action in public college admissions.


4. Do you support the enforcement of federal immigration laws by state and local police?

5. Establish English as the official national language.

6. Decrease the number of legal immigrants allowed into the country.