

Qualifying Comments of Aaron S. Robertson, Democratic candidate for State Assembly, 83rd District:

2 & 4) We live in a free-market society. As such, choices should be available, including in the realm of education. Healthy competition in education, as in any other field/industry, will ensure that innovation and progress are always occurring. At the same time, however, we mustn't abandon by any means our public schools, as the overwhelming majority of students throughout our state and country receive their educations through them.

7) An adult citizen should be allowed to carry a concealed firearm so long as s/he does not have a felony conviction and so long as s/he agrees to participate in an established system of accountability that would include periodic background checks, periodic continuing education requirements (such as a safety course(s)), and of course, a permit.

After tragedies such as Columbine, Virginia Tech, and Crandon, not to mention the daily occurrences of violent crimes throughout our state and country like murders, rapes, and armed robberies, the issue of concealed firearms needs to be given fair and full consideration. Citizens who are both law-abiding and trained should be allowed to carry a concealed firearm in order to protect themselves, their loved ones and friends, and other innocent bystanders from these atrocious crimes and senseless tragedies.

8) The current state statute that criminalizes abortion should remain intact because, should Roe v. Wade ever be reversed, state and local authorities will be able to prosecute in place of the federal authorities, who will most likely lack the resources to adequately enforce the federal ban.

9) I do not accept the argument that a required form of photo identification for voting purposes will disenfranchise the elderly, minorities, and those deemed economically disadvantaged. A State of Wisconsin-issued photo ID card can be obtained from any Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Service Center at an extremely affordable price. A photo ID requirement is necessary to combat voting fraud.

12) I oppose a universal state healthcare plan for two reasons. The first is that I currently pay under \$50 per month for health coverage. My coverage is not tied to an employer, meaning that I will still have it if I am ever unemployed, laid off, etc. I am happy with this coverage. If a plan such as the proposed Healthy Wisconsin initiative is passed, that \$50 per month will, without a doubt, sharply increase, as it calls for a percentage to be taken from each paycheck.

The second, yet most important reason here is that, should a plan such as the Healthy Wisconsin initiative be passed, all Wisconsin taxpayers would be contributing toward the cost of each abortion conducted in the state. It is alarming enough that Wisconsin taxpayers are already collectively funding all abortions performed for state employees.

Signed and dated: *Aaron S. Robertson, 6/23/08*