



John Kerry (D)

**Economy:** Kerry wants to cut taxes for businesses that create jobs in America to prevent outsourcing, cut taxes for middle-class incomes and cut the national deficit in half to create a balanced budget.

**Education:** Kerry would offer a College Opportunity Tax Credit for up to \$4,000 of tuition for every year of college, establish a National Education Trust Fund to increase school funding, reform the No Child Left Behind Act and implement a "School's Open 'Til Six" after-school program.

**Health care:** Kerry plans to give every American access to the health-care plans available to members of Congress and reduce prescription drug prices by allowing the re-importation of safe prescription drugs from Canada.

**Environment:** Kerry would enact a Conservation Covenant with America to ensure balanced protection for public lands and enhancement of national parks, reform the Clean Air Act, work to curb emissions and acid rain, and implement a "Restore America's Waters" campaign to restore waterways.

**Reproductive rights:** Kerry plans to promote increased stem-cell research, require insurance plans to cover contraception, fight for a meaningful Patients' Bill of Rights to guarantee women direct access to their obstetrician-gynecologists and only nominate individuals to the federal bench who will uphold the right to privacy and the right to choose.

### U.S. PRESIDENT

The president acts as commander in chief of the armed forces and the chief executive of the federal government. As commander in chief, the president can send troops into combat. As chief executive, he enforces laws, treaties and court rulings. He prepares the national budget, proposes bills to Congress and approves or vetoes acts of Congress. The president also appoints federal officials, Supreme Court justices and ambassadors to other nations, and can grant pardons for federal crimes.

**Economy:** Bush plans to focus on reforming education to build a skilled work force, simplifying the tax system, fostering small business growth, promoting home ownership and lessening energy dependence.

**Education:** Bush wants to reform high schools by funding extended state assessments of reading and math skills, strengthening the Head Start program and other services for pre-kindergarten and child-care services, and increase outreach to minority students.

**Health care:** Bush plans to implement a billion-dollar campaign to extend coverage for children, work to create a tax credit for low-income families to purchase health insurance, and allow small businesses to band together to get better rates from insurance companies. He also wants to open or expand health centers in rural areas.

**Environment:** Bush would work to pass the Clear Skies Initiative to reduce power-plant emissions of sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides and mercury. He also plans to push for caps on general mercury emissions, implement programs to restore wetland habitats and conserve water, and will seek to promote environmentally sound domestic oil production in 1 percent of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

**Reproductive rights:** Bush wants to provide funding for adult embryonic stem-cell research without further destruction of human embryos and pass a law banning all human cloning. He also plans to defend the ban on partial-birth abortion, prevent federal funding for abortion and support parental notification of decisions by minors who seek abortions.



George W. Bush

## NATIONAL CANDIDATES

★ AMERICA VOTES 2004 ★

# ELECTIONS UNRAVELED

The Emerald is featuring these candidates because of the impact of their decisions and their involvement in issues pertaining to the University community. The issues were chosen based on relevance to the position. The arrangement of the candidates and issues is intended to allow for easy comparison.



Ron Wyden

**Education:** Wyden supports Federal Pell Grants and HOPE Scholarship tuition tax credits.

**Health care:** Wyden would work to pass legislation to ensure an affordable drug benefit for all seniors on Medicare.

**Economy:** Wyden plans to increase transportation funding for Oregon and fight to close loopholes and tax breaks for companies that outsource jobs.

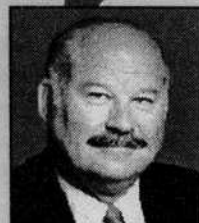
### U.S. SENATE

U.S. senators work to pass legislation through Congress and are responsible for confirming presidential appointments, including federal judges and cabinet secretaries. Senators also ratify international treaties and are charged with trying presidents and federal justices who are impeached by the House of Representatives.

**Education:** King plans to support legislation to remove the federal government from education and promote competition through the voucher systems, charter schools and home schools.

**Health care:** King would support tort reform legislation to reduce frivolous malpractice lawsuits, legislation that encourages privatization of health insurance and expansion of Health Savings Accounts.

**Economy:** King would support a national sales tax to replace federal taxes on income and property, work to eliminate the Internal Revenue Service, support a freeze on all non-defense discretionary spending and oppose any law, regulation, or tax policy that rewards and encourages businesses to outsource jobs.



Al King



Jim Feldkamp

**USA PATRIOT Act:** Feldkamp, a former FBI agent, supports the USA PATRIOT Act. He says it gives the United States the tools to hunt terrorists and still have "strong judicial oversight."

**Health care:** Feldkamp says improving businesses and the economy allows employers to provide better insurance packages for their employees. He also supports putting caps on lawsuit settlements and reforming the courts to stop frivolous lawsuits against health-care providers.

**Higher education:** Feldkamp supports Pell grants, saying that hard-working students who aren't from affluent families should receive them. He also said improving the economy is key to correcting problems in higher education.

### U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Members of the U.S. House of Representatives sponsor, debate, alter and vote on bills in the U.S. House of Representatives. Those bills are later approved by the U.S. Senate and president before they become laws. There are 435 representatives in the House, all of whom are elected by the approximately 600,000 constituents in their districts. All members must serve on two or more House committees.



Peter DeFazio

**USA PATRIOT Act:** DeFazio voted against the USA PATRIOT Act. He says "secret, warrant-less searches through library and bookstore records put our constitutional freedoms at risk," and endanger our civil liberties.

**Health care:** DeFazio wants a basic insurance package for every American, with the government helping those who can least afford it to pay for coverage. He also supports allowing the importation of FDA-approved drugs to drive down pharmaceutical costs.

**Higher education:** DeFazio wants to expand Pell Grants and give federal loan subsidies to students, rather than lenders. He also supports giving tax breaks to students with college debts.



Bill Bradbury

**Fair and honest elections:** Bradbury says he has a history of combating election and campaign fraud. He found thousands of ballot petition signatures for presidential candidate Ralph Nader invalid because of procedural problems, a decision that prevented Nader from appearing on the Oregon ballot. Bradbury also eliminated all punch-card ballots in the state.

**Economy:** Bradbury cites his history of safeguarding tax dollars as a prime reason for his re-election. Bradbury says he will continue to audit public schools. He says these audits lead to a more efficient use of tax dollars.

**Jobs and education:** Bradbury disapproves of using resources from the public education system to fund private schools, citing a need to focus on efficient spending. Bradbury says the school system will improve if we continue to use audits to closely regulate how public schools use tax dollars.

### SECRETARY OF STATE

The secretary of state acts as the state's chief auditor, working with government agencies to ensure public dollars are well-used and that government records and public information are easily accessible. The secretary of state also oversees the election process and serves on the State Land Board with the governor and state treasurer.

**Jobs and education:** Close says she will use her position on the State Land Board to efficiently manage school funding and ensure our natural resources benefit schools. She sponsored a bill in 2003 that would amend the Oregon Constitution to increase the amount of taxes spent on higher education.

**Fair and honest elections:** The Close campaign has been critical of Bradbury's handling of the Nader ballot petition, saying Close will protect the initiative system and treat all petitioners equally. Close plans to strengthen the election process by investigating any complaints of fraud or other forms of misconduct.

**Economy:** Close wants to use financial and performance audits to maximize efficiency in the spending of tax dollars. She voted for a 2003 bill that gave tax breaks and special credits to businesses that invest in research and development.



Betsy Close

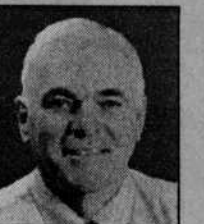
### ATTORNEY GENERAL

The Oregon attorney general works as the state's lawyer, in charge of ensuring the Department of Justice works efficiently and effectively. The attorney general makes hiring decisions for state attorney personnel, provides legal direction for all attorneys in the Department of Justice and directs and reviews the actions of the department's operating divisions.

**Crime and safety:** Connolly supports mandatory prison time for methamphetamine users and distributors, an increase in jail capacity and police force, and a strengthening of anti-drug law enforcement teams.

**Economy:** Connolly favors reducing state regulations on businesses, citing regulation as the reason the state's unemployment rate is so high. He also favors cutting government spending to reduce taxes and regulating the number of lawsuits facing businesses and medical professionals.

**Same-sex marriage:** Connolly is critical of Myers' stance on same-sex marriage, saying it hasn't been strong enough. Connolly supports a ban on gay marriage.



Paul Connolly

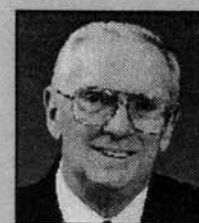
## STATE CANDIDATES

### STATE LEGISLATORS

Members of Oregon's state Senate are elected for four-year terms and serve on the state's legislative assembly and on different interim committees and task forces when the legislature is not in session. With the state House of Representatives, the senators create, amend and repeal laws by proposing, discussing and voting on different bills.

### STATE SENATE

DISTRICT 4

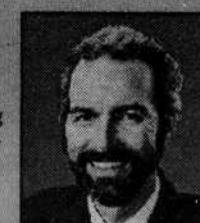


Norm Thomas

**Education:** Thomas said he is not "well-versed" in issues of higher education but that he would become better informed when he is elected.

**Environment:** Thomas supports using the state's natural resources to help boost the logging industry and Oregon's economy, while still protecting endangered species. Thomas said we should log new-growth timber and roll back rules restricting human access to forests. The state should clean out dry fuel from burned areas and salvage what it can, he said.

**Health care:** Thomas said the most effective way to address high health-care costs is to create health-care savings efforts, which would depend on how the state budget is used. He does not support state funding of contraception and says contraception should be "left up to the family."



Floyd Prozanski

**Education:** Prozanski proposes solving the state's higher education funding woes by establishing a "dedicated funding source" such as an endowment to be used exclusively

for higher education. He wants to increase the minimum corporate income tax and put some of the revenue toward education.

**Environment:** Prozanski said he supports the Northwest Rural Employment and Forest Restoration Act, which would require the thinning of second-growth timber and protect old growth, because it would help stifle forest fires.

**Health care:** Prozanski voted for reduced costs for prescription drugs and the creation of a bulk purchasing program for prescription drugs to lower the health-care costs.

### STATE HOUSE

DISTRICT 8



Paul Holvey

**Health care:** Holvey wants to fight cuts to the Oregon Health Plan and work for accessible and affordable health care. He also supports a woman's right to choose.

**Economy:** Holvey wants to provide living-wage jobs for working families and a level playing field for Oregon businesses. He also proposes a series of tax reforms that will re-establish tax fairness for Oregonians.

**Environment:** Holvey wants to protect roadless areas and practice sustainable forestry. He said he is concerned about land management and will work to prevent water contamination.

**Education:** Holvey wants increased state funding for higher education. He wants to fully fund K-12 education and strengthen already successful job training and workforce development.



Bill Young

**Health care:** Young says doctors and patients must be put in charge of health-care decisions.

**Economy:** Young wants to eliminate wasteful government spending. He says local businesses must be given the flexibility to create better-paying jobs.

**Environment:** Young wants to protect the environment for future generations and propose incentives that encourage the development of reliable alternative energy programs.

**Education:** Young wants to match stable school funding with accountability for administrators to meet achievement standards. He also wants to work toward maintaining affordability in higher education.