

Elections Questionnaire

Email *

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Name *

Charlie Crist

Age

66

Gender

Male

Female

Other

Hometown

St. Petersburg

Party Affiliation

- Republican
- Democrat
- No Party Affiliation (NPA)
- Green Party
- Libertarian
- Other

Office I'm running for:

Governor

History of public service:

U.S. House of Representatives (2017-current), Governor (2007-2011), Attorney General (2003-2007), Education Commissioner (2001-2003), State Senator (1992-1998)

Your Twitter handle:

@CharlieCrist

Do you believe climate change is real?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know / unsure

How much do you think human activity, such as the burning of fossil fuels, contributes to global climate change?

- A great deal
- Some
- Not much
- Not at all

How much, if at all, do you think global climate change will affect Florida?

- A great deal
- Some
- Not much
- Not at all

Which of these statements comes closest to your view, even if neither is exactly right?

- Stricter environmental laws and regulations will hurt the economy and are not worth the cost
- Stricter environmental laws and regulations are worth the cost

Which of these statements comes closest to your view about the MOST EFFECTIVE WAY to increase reliance on renewable energy sources, even if neither is exactly right

- Government regulations are necessary to encourage businesses and consumers to rely more on renewable energy sources
- The private marketplace will ensure that businesses and consumers rely more on renewable energy sources, even without government regulations.

Do you favor or oppose EXPANDING each of the following sources of energy in our country?

More offshore oil and gas drilling in U.S. waters

- Favor
- Oppose

More near-shore oil and gas drilling in the Gulf of Mexico off the west coast of Florida

- Favor
- Oppose

More nuclear power plants to generate electricity

- Favor
- Oppose

More coal mining

- Favor
- Oppose

More solar panel “farms”

- Favor
- Oppose

More “fracking” for oil and natural gas

- Favor
- Oppose

Right now, which ONE of the following do you think should be the more important priority for addressing America’s energy supply?

- Developing alternative sources, such as wind, solar and hydrogen technology
- Expanding exploration and production of oil, coal and natural gas
- Both should be given equal priority

Do you believe Florida utilities depend too much on fossil fuels for electricity?

- Yes
- No

Florida [trails the nation](#) in energy efficiency measures. Would you favor or oppose legislation directing the Public Service Commission to set efficiency targets?

- Favor
- Oppose

Do you favor or oppose cutting the credits given the owners of rooftop solar systems for the excess energy they send to the grid, a practice called net metering?

- Favor
- Oppose

Do you favor or oppose expanding the use of solar panels on state buildings?

- Favor
- Oppose

Florida is one of the only states that does not allow power purchase agreements, where a third-party developer installs, owns and operates an energy system on a customer's property and sells the electricity at a fixed price. Do you favor or oppose allowing PPAs in Florida?

- Favor
- Oppose

Do you believe the Florida Legislature should mandate the creation of an energy independence plan for the state?

- Yes
- No

Do you favor or oppose lowering the taxes on electric vehicles?

- Favor
- Oppose

If there's anything you'd like to add, please share it with us here.

My record on addressing issues regarding clean and renewable energy is clear. When I was governor in 2007, I signed a series of executive orders aimed at reducing greenhouse emissions and setting ambitious goals for renewable fuels for electric utilities. Unfortunately, the state abandoned those goals and now does not have any targets for reducing emissions, conserving electric power or converting to renewable energy. In Congress, I helped introduce a major climate bill, the Energy Innovation & Carbon Dividend Act, that aimed for a 40 percent reduction in carbon emissions in 12 years and a 90 percent reduction by 2050. I support the significant investment in fighting climate change and accelerating the transition to clean energy in the Inflation Reduction Act.

Florida is ground zero for climate change and the impacts of rising sea levels, increasingly destructive storms and warmer temperatures. When I am governor, I will again insist on ambitious goals to reduce carbon emissions and convert to renewable, clean energy. I will work to build a green economy that creates jobs and focuses on new technologies and strategies aimed at addressing climate change. I will insist the Legislature allocate our investments in fighting climate change based on science and that we prioritize communities that have legacy impacts through decades of neglect -- and I will veto spending that does not meet those requirements. Unlike Gov. DeSantis, who vetoed a \$75 million facility at the University of South Florida in St. Petersburg that would house the Interdisciplinary Center of Excellence in Environmental and Oceanographic Sciences, I will invest in research and technology aimed at making Florida more sustainable and resilient. Unlike Gov. DeSantis, I will empower local communities to adopt sustainable, resilient policies and policies aimed at discouraging the use of fossil fuels and encouraging the use of clean energy. I will also lead an effort to add 1 million solar roofs in Florida and have a program that will enable every property owner to benefit from clean energy. Climate change is not just an existential threat. It's an opportunity. These policies will create millions of good-paying jobs, lower energy costs, clean the air and water, and make America energy independent and energy secure.

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