QUESTIONNAIRE

Making Ends Meet

How Should We Spread Prosperity and Improve Opportunity?

NOW THAT YOU'VE HAD a chance to participate in a forum on this issue, we'd like to know what you are thinking. Your opinions, along with those of thousands of others who participated in these forums, will be reflected in a summary report that will be available to all citizens, including those who took part in the forums, as well as officeholders, members of the news media, and others in your community.

1. Do you agree or disagree with the statements below?

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Not Sure
a. College students should assume the lion's share of the responsibility for paying for their own education.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
b. If Congress cut corporate taxes, American companies would stop moving jobs and facilities overseas.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
c. Americans who work hard and spend their money wisely will prosper even in today's economy.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
d. The most important problem in our economy is the growing gap between the very rich and everyone else.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
e. There is not enough government help for people who suffer job losses, serious health problems, or other unforeseen financial disasters.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
f. Small businesses are, and always have been, the main engine driving the economy.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

2. Do you favor or oppose each of these actions?

	Strongly Favor	Somewhat Favor	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose	Not Sure
a. We should raise the unemployment tax that businesses pay so we can extend the length of job benefits, EVEN IF this would cut into companies' profits or raise prices.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
b. We should raise the minimum wage, EVEN IF this would cause some small businesses to lay off employees.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
c. More workers should organize or join unions to improve workers' pay and benefits, EVEN IF this makes it harder for US manufacturers to compete with foreign companies in Asia and Latin America.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
d. We should cut taxes to allow individuals and companies to keep more of what they earn, EVEN IF this means spending cuts in health care, defense, education, and other important government programs.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

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(Question 2 continued from previous page)

	Strongly Favor	Somewhat Favor	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose	Not Sure
e. We should bite the bullet and take steps to stabilize Social Security, EVEN IF future beneficiaries have to sacrifice in the form of later retirement, reduced benefits, or higher payroll taxes.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
f. Banks should make more loans available to small businesses, EVEN IF these are much riskier and lead to more defaults, as we saw in the housing crisis.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

3. Are you thinking differently about this issue now that you have participated in the forum? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, how? _____
_____
_____

4. In your forum, did you talk about aspects of the issue you hadn't considered before? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please explain. _____
_____
_____

5. What could citizens, working together, do in their own communities to address this problem? _____
_____
_____
_____

6. Not including this forum, how many National Issues Forums have you attended?

☐ 0   ☐ 1-3   ☐ 4-6   ☐ 7 or more   ☐ Not sure

7. Are you male or female?   ☐ Male   ☐ Female

8. How old are you?

☐ 17 or younger   ☐ 18-30   ☐ 31-45   ☐ 46-64   ☐ 65 or older

9. Are you: ☐ African American   ☐ Asian American   ☐ Hispanic or Latino

☐ American Indian or Native American   ☐ White/Caucasian   ☐ Other (please specify) _____

10. Where do you live?   ☐ Rural   ☐ Small Town   ☐ Large City   ☐ Suburb

11. What is your ZIP code? _____ What state do you live in? _____

12. What issue would you like to see covered in a future forum? _____

Please give this form to the moderator, or mail it to National Issues Forums Institute, 100 Commons Road, Dayton, Ohio 45459.