

**QUESTION 7**

How do you think the federal government can best protect our “unalienable rights” to “Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness” cited in the Declaration of Independence?

**By regulating the commerce in hydrocarbons, requiring the costs of damage to public health be internally accounted by economic entities (corporations) engaging in such commerce [ Art I, Sec 8, Cls 1 and 3 ].**

Other \_\_\_\_\_

**ISSUE SUMMARY:** Members of Congress take the following oath on their first day in office:

*“I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign or domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So help me God.”*

**QUESTION 8**

How faithfully do you think most members of Congress honor this oath that they take upon assuming office?

- Not at all       Not much       Some       Very Closely       Not Sure

**Few members defend the constitution against the executive violations called "signing statements". Only one senator voted against the "USA Patriot Act" permitting jailing of American citizens indefinitely without trial [ Amendment VI ].**

**QUESTION 9**

How important do you think it is that members of Congress uphold their oath to support and defend the Constitution?

- Very Important       Important       Not Important       Not Sure  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

**QUESTION 10**

When Members of Congress violate the boundaries established by our Constitution, what do you think are the reasons? *(Mark as many answer options as you think apply, and/or add your own.)*

- Ignorance. They just don't know what the Constitution says.
- Political Parties. They will do whatever their party's leadership tells them, regardless of what the Constitution says.
- Lobbyists. They are more interested in serving powerful special interests than in following the Constitution.
- Voters. They care more about being popular and getting re-elected than in following the Constitution.
- Media. They are more concerned about looking good for the media than they are concerned about supporting and defending the Constitution.
- Ideology. They will try to change our society to suit their ideology even if it means violating the Constitution.

**Personal profit. The revolving door between congress and the private sector enables members to gain wealth after leaving congress, by voting in favor of the interests of private entities (corporations) during their terms.**

Additional Comment \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE CONTINUE** 