

## **Republican Primary is about Taxes.**

Virginia's voters, and it will be exceedingly few, go the polls on Tuesday, June 14<sup>th</sup> for Primaries. Both Republicans and Democrats have contests. If you choose the GOP primary, you will choose Party candidates for Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General, or call it Governor and two wannabe Governors.

I've met five of the six candidates on numerous occasions. I've heard them speak at length in Q and A as well as their canned stump speeches. All five are fine fellows, but I support three for election.

Jerry Kilgore for Governor. George Fitch could be George Washington for all I know. He is the one fellow I never met. But, he got in the race after Kilgore sewed up support from every Republican from State Sen. John Chichester and U.S. Sen. John Warner on one end pro-tax, big government, country club corner of the Republican big tent to former Gov. Jim Gilmore and George Allen of the smash mouth, grassroots corner. If Fitch were a serious candidate, he would have been so a year or more ago.

The only reason to vote for Fitch is as a protest vote on Kilgore's campaign planks. The problem is your vote won't specify your quarrel and will get lost when the political shamans try to read your votes like animal entrails messages for the future.

Kilgore's campaign says transportation problems will be solved by regional transportation authorities with new taxing authority. Their schemes will be put before The People in referendums. Oh joy, to have to kill the tax vampire every year at the polls. No, thank you. Virginians voted against regional governments twice in the past 7 years. Don't make us do it again by voting against Kilgore or not showing up in November.

Additionally, Kilgore's plan to cap property taxes is wrong-headed. Property taxes are set by local governments – who are the most responsive to voter passion. Property taxes are a problem the voter resolves in his city or county.

Finally, Kilgore promises not to increase taxes except in extraordinary circumstances. I wish I had a definition of 'extraordinary'. Hope it isn't the same 'extraordinary' as in the conditions that will allow the Democrats to filibuster in the Senate.

Kilgore comes from a political family in the Fighting Ninth District of Southwest Virginia.

If you want to share your concerns about his issues, please write or call his campaign. You can get the information at [www.jerrykilgore.com](http://www.jerrykilgore.com). Politicians tend to ignore email because it can be spammed.

Bill Bolling for Lieutenant Governor. I can't find enough superlatives about this guy. Bill isn't a life long politician. He isn't a lawyer. I should stop there with 'enough said'.

Bill Bolling looks like 'everyman' in middle age, but he has a keen mind and knows the issues inside and out. He comes from humble origins. He has lived the miracle of hard work and capitalism, the healing and hope of personal Christian faith, and the timelessness and truth of traditional values - our Conservative Judeo-Christian-based Virginia values.

Bolling fought the needless taxes that resulted in over a billion dollar surplus. You can trust Bill Bolling.

Bob McDonnell for Attorney General. He and his wife grew up in NoVa as I did. After serving in the active Army, he went to law school and made Virginia Beach his home. He continued to serve in the Reserves to retirement. Bob was on the wrong side of the Transportation Tax Scam of '02, but has seen the error of his decision. He won't support tax increases and voted against the sham of '04.

Sean Connaughton and Steve Baril supported the Tax hikes. They will raise your taxes again. They are supported by the same people, big money, big power, big government clients, including the tax-and-spend Republicans, who supported tax increases in '02 and '04. The same Republican state senators who raise your taxes, take special interest money, take gifts and make junkets with lobbyists, support Connaughton and Baril. They, too, call themselves Conservatives, but they aren't.

There isn't much discussion of social issues. All the candidates claim to be pro-life, pro-family, pro-Second Amendment, etc. - name your Conservative litmus test. Bolling spoke out against benefits, like scholarships, for illegal (as in NOT legal) immigrants in Virginia. McDonnell spoke about the growing gang and meth-amphetamine drug problems.

Please vote for Kilgore, Bolling and McDonnell on June 14<sup>th</sup>. Come celebrate Flag Day and the Army's birthday patriotically. The Army, founded in 1775, preceded and enabled the Nation. 'This We'll Defend'.

James Atticus Bowden