

Candidate for United States Senate

Tom Coburn

Party: Republican

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Vocation: Medical Doctor

Question #1: List your academic and professional credentials, specific accomplishments and volunteer activities. State why you are running and what qualifies you for this office. (100 words total)

Education: Muskogee Central High, Oklahoma State University (Accounting), and the University of Oklahoma (M.D.). Professional Experience: Manager, Ophthalmic Division of Coburn Optical Industries; Family Doctor, delivered thousands of babies; Member of the U.S. House of Representatives (1995-2001). As a U.S. Senator since 2005, I have led the fight against reckless spending and lack of transparency. I have offered more amendments to cut wasteful spending than any other senator and have blocked billions in new spending. I am seeking a final term to continue the fight to rein in federal spending and to champion the principles set forth in our Constitution.

Question #2: What do you see as the most important issues facing your office and staff? (200 words or less)

The national debt, \$13.2 trillion, is projected to double in five years and triple over the next decade. This is not sustainable under any circumstance and if left unchecked will result in a dramatic loss of liberty and opportunity. We cannot be the first generation of Americans to leave our children a nation worse off than the one we inherited. The health care law, passed earlier this year, will result in lower quality health care for millions of Americans and will severely limit innovation. Rather than addressing the real problem—the spiraling costs of health care—Congress passed legislation that will not only fail to contain costs, but will significantly grow the size of the federal government and place bureaucrats between a patient and their doctor. The law should be repealed. The federal government has no more important responsibility than our national defense. We must equip our soldiers with the tools they need to win and ensure they receive the very best care available when they return home. We must also root out waste, fraud, and abuse that siphon resources away from our soldiers and into the hands of powerful special interests in Washington.