

For Immediate Release  
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### **80-20 Ohio Chapters Endorse Governor Ted Strickland**

Ohio, Oct. 15, 2010—Today, the four Ohio chapters of the 80-20 Initiative endorsed the re-election bid of Ohio Governor Ted Strickland against challenger John Kasich.

80-20 is a national, nonpartisan, Political Action Committee dedicated to winning equal opportunity and justice for all Asian Americans through a swing-bloc vote, ideally directing 80% of the Asian-American community's votes and money to candidates endorsed by 80-20. (Hence, the name "80-20" was created.) Ohio has four 80-20 chapters covering the state.

The Strickland endorsement follows a process in which 80-20 Ohio Chapters sought to engage with both gubernatorial candidates, Strickland and Kasich. By Oct. 15, 80-20 only received a response to our questionnaire from Gov. Ted Strickland. A representative of Kasich's campaign indicated that Mr. Kasich would refuse to answer the questionnaire. Governor Strickland, however, provided immediate affirmative written responses to 80-20's five questions as follows:

1. If you are elected/re-elected to be the Ohio governor this year, will you promote and ensure equal opportunities and equal justice for Asian Americans, and protect Asian-American rights (including fighting against discrimination or racism against Asian Americans in Ohio)?
2. If elected/re-elected, will you solicit and consider for appointment qualified Asian Americans to boards of trustees for Ohio public universities and institutions of higher education, and report back to 80-20 and other Ohio Asian-American organizations, at the end of each year you serve in office, your progress with such appointments?
3. If elected/re-elected, will you make it a top priority of your administration to break down barriers and hire, promote, and/or appoint more qualified Asian Americans for state government employment and political appointments?
4. If elected/re-elected, will you ensure fair and open contract opportunities for Asian-American businesses?
5. If elected/re-elected, will you make it a top priority of your administration to hire and/or promote qualified Asian-American employees to executive and senior administrative or senior-managerial levels, thus breaking the glass ceiling for such Americans?

Northwest Ohio Chapter President Dr. Y.T. Lee said, “Because Mr. Kasich refused to respond to the questions that Governor Strickland quickly answered favorably, Governor Strickland is clearly more dedicated to equal justice and opportunity for Asian Americans. So we **support Mr. Ted Strickland and will encourage thousands of Asian-American voters in Ohio to support him.**”

Added Northeast Ohio Chapter President Anthony Yen, “We are disappointed that Mr. Kasich refused to respond whether he will seek equal justice and equal opportunity for Asian-Americans. In 2010, these should not have been difficult questions for candidates to say ‘yes’. Kasich’s refusal to answer at all is quite disturbing. 80-20 will encourage Asian-Americans to donate monies, time, or other resources and cast votes for Governor Strickland.”

The mission of 80-20 Ohio Chapters of Asian Americans (see website as follows: [http://www.80-20initiative.net/about/chapters\\_oh.asp](http://www.80-20initiative.net/about/chapters_oh.asp)) is the same as that of its parent (national) organization, 80-20 Initiative: <http://www.80-20initiative.net/>, which is to win equal justice and opportunity for all Asian Pacific Americans (APAs). In execution, 80-20 Ohio Chapters focus on politics at the state and local levels, seeking to remove any political and institutional barriers that prevent Asian Americans in Ohio from enjoying the equal justice and opportunity in workplaces to which all Americans are entitled.

Currently there are four 80-20 chapters in Ohio: 80-20 Northwest Chapter based in Toledo and Bowling Green whose president is Dr. Y.T. Lee ([liyueting@yahoo.com](mailto:liyueting@yahoo.com)); 80-20 Southwest Chapter based in Dayton and Cincinnati whose president is Dr. Munsup Seoh ([mseoh@siscom.net](mailto:mseoh@siscom.net)); 80-20 Northeast Chapter based in Cleveland and Akron whose president is Dr. Anthony Yen ([zhaozhou98@yahoo.com](mailto:zhaozhou98@yahoo.com)); and 80-20 Central Chapter based in Columbus and Athens whose acting president is Dr. Jung Jing ([jjing@columbus.rr.com](mailto:jjing@columbus.rr.com)).