



## EmpowerU 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Candidate Interview/forum

### Format

Approximately two hours are planned for this forum: 90 minutes of question and answer, posed by the panel and 30 minutes of select questions from the audience. The forum opens with each candidate introduced by the moderator (EmpowerU is working to secure a professor of political science with knowledge of the 8<sup>th</sup> district to serve as moderator.)

Each participant is asked to provide a short bio/introduction (paragraph) to be read by the moderator. A three-minute closing opportunity will be afforded each candidate to offer any comments/qualifications and/or explain why they would be the best choice to represent the voters of the 8<sup>th</sup> district.

Questions will be posed by a panel consisting of three individuals—each versed in a specific area of government policy.

Candidates will have up to two minutes to answer each question. A timekeeper will use paddles to alert when 30 seconds remain (yellow) and when time expires (red). Note, this forum is not a debate, rather a candidate interview for the congressional seat.

The moderator has the discretion to ask the panelists if they have a follow-up to a candidate's answer. They may also comment or ask a question to clarify a response.

**If an invite is issued, will you be able to participate in the candidate's forum at Lakota Freshman School on February 24?** CANNOT ATTEND ON THAT DATE

*Please sign, date and return the attached survey by 1/22 to acknowledge consent to inclusion of responses in the voter guide and agreement with the format of the forum.*

Campaign Email BILL@BILLBEAGLE.COM FB FACEBOOK.COM/BILLBEAGLE

Twitter TWITTER.COM/BILL-beagle Website WWW.BILLBEAGLE.COM

Candidate Phone 937-581-8771

Candidate Email BILL@BILLBEAGLE.COM

Campaign mgr. Phone 740-586-2522

Campaign mgr. Email DANI@BILLBEAGLE.COM



## Ohio 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Candidate Survey

1. What federal government agency/department, if any, warrants elimination? Why?
2. The federal government is charged with protecting American's freedoms while also keeping America safe. Is it possible to keep America safe while protecting the privacy and freedom of the individual citizen in an increasingly dangerous world? If both freedom and safety are in conflict, what should be the top priority?
3. Should there be term limits in the House of Representatives? If yes, how many? If no, why not?
4. Should the U.S. create a path to citizenship for people who have entered the country illegally?
5. Can this be justified while avoiding unequal treatment of those pursuing citizenship or naturalization via the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service?
6. What is the proper role of the United States when it comes to the internal affairs of other countries? Should foreign policy serve the national interests of the United States or is there a role for nation building?
7. Do you support a voucher or tax credit program whereby parents are given the right to choose which school receives the tax dollars allocated for their child?
8. Do you support the common core standards mandated by the U.S. Department of Education? Should curriculum and standards be set at the federal level.
9. What is the proper role of the US Department of Education as it pertains to the individual state's ability to govern themselves and local control of education?



10. The recent Congressional omnibus bill funded organizations and programs that many Americans claim violates their core values and raised Constitutional issues. Is any item currently being funded in the federal budget that would require you to vote against a "must pass" budget even if in doing so, it forced a closure of some percentage of the federal government.
11. How would you avoid the necessity of passing last minute Omnibus bills?  
Could/Should budget votes be separated so that controversial subject matter not be included in a must pass bill?
12. How would you describe the job of a U.S. Representative in the House?
13. Please Identify one **current** House and one Senate member who most closely aligns with your personal political ideology and/or view of governance.  
Please explain why you have chosen these two people?

**Please complete your responses on separate sheets and attach to this form.**

Signed *Ben Braf* Date *1-27-16*

**Please return your responses to this survey by January 22, 2016**

*(SEE ENCLOSED)*



## Bill Beagle EmpowerU Survey Responses

### 1. What Federal government agency/department, if any, warrants elimination. Why?

*The Department of Education.* In 1980, Ronald Reagan and the Republican Party advocated eliminating the Department of Education. In fact, the Republican Platform read, "...the Republican Party supports deregulation by the federal government of public education, and encourages the elimination of the federal Department of Education." In 1996, the GOP platform read, "the Federal government has no constitutional authority to be involved in school curricula or to control jobs in the market place. This is why we will abolish the Department of Education, end federal meddling in our schools, and promote family choice at all levels of learning."

I couldn't agree more and we need to get back to our principles of limited government and follow-through on these unfulfilled promises that were made decades ago to the American people. Our children's education is far too important to be dictated by out-of-touch federal bureaucrats in Washington. I fundamentally believe in local control and that our children's education needs to be driven at the local level. Yes, some administrative functions may need to be transferred to other agencies - federal grant administration, for example - but eliminating the Department of Education is the right thing to do and will save taxpayers billions of dollars.

### 2. The federal government is charged with protecting American's freedoms while also keeping America safe. Is it possible to keep America safe while protecting the privacy and freedom of the individual citizen in an increasingly dangerous world? If both freedom and safety are in conflict, what should be the top priority?

Yes, it is possible to keep America safe while protecting the privacy and freedom of the individual citizen. Unfortunately, the rights of American citizens that are guaranteed to them under the US Constitution are being sacrificed by the federal government in its efforts to protect our country. This must stop. If both freedom and safety are in conflict, we must err on the side of protecting the Constitutionally defined rights of law-abiding American citizens.

### 3. Should there be term limits in the House of Representatives? If yes, how many? If no, why not?

During my time in the State Senate, I have found that institutional knowledge plays an important role in the crafting of sound laws and helps guard against the undue influence of lobbyists, many of whom have spent more years Capitol Square than the legislators. However, too many politicians, especially in Congress, serve with a sense of entitlement and complacency that is a downright disservice to their constituents. With or without term-limits, we need to do more to empower those that want to serve their community to declare for public office, even against entrenched incumbents like I did back in 2010, and give voters a real choice to get rid of the second-rate politicians that continue to hold office just because they always have. As a member of Congress, I will take my direction from the people of the 8th District I serve and I look forward to working on legislation that addresses their priorities and concerns, including pursuing a constitutional amendment regarding congressional term limits if a majority of my constituents demand it.

### 4. Should the U.S. create a path to citizenship for people who have entered the country illegally.

NO



**5. Can this be justified while avoiding unequal treatment of those pursuing citizenship or naturalization via the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service?**

NO

**6. What is the proper role of the United States when it comes to the internal affairs of other countries? Should foreign policy serve the national interests of the United States or is there a role for nation building?**

This a complex issue. I am not an isolationist and in general, I believe that the United States has and must maintain its leadership role in world affairs. However, my views tend to be that we should let other countries tend to their own internal affairs, unless the situation is such that particular events and situations have the potential to be destabilizing to countries or regions, or even threaten our national security interests. So yes, our foreign policy should first and foremost serve our national interests. Our nation's track record at "nation building" has been a very mixed bag, especially under this President.

**7. Do you support a voucher or tax credit program whereby parents are given the right to choose which school receives the tax dollars allocated for their child?**

YES

**8. Do you support the common core standards mandated by the U.S. Department of Education? Should curriculum and standards be set at the federal level?**

See my answer to Question #1 above regarding my thoughts about the federal government governing our children's education. In short, no.

**9. What is the proper role of the US Department of Education as it pertains to the individual state's ability to govern themselves and local control of education?**

See my response to Question #1 above. No role. Individual states, localities and especially parents need to be the driving force in our children's education.

**10. The recent Congressional Omnibus bill funded organizations and programs that many Americans claim violates their core values and raised Constitutional issues. Is any item currently being funded in the federal budget that would require you to vote against a "must pass" budget even if in doing so, it forced a closure of some percentage of the federal government?**

I always take a thoughtful approach when considering any legislation, be it omnibus or single subject. For the purposes of this survey, I am not comfortable cherry picking an item among the myriad of funding issues contained in this legislation and saying today that it would cause me to vote "no". That's not to say that I wouldn't, I just have not had the opportunity to consider and fully weigh the implications of a "yes" or "no" vote with respect to the scenario you have laid out.

**11. How would you avoid the necessity of passing last minute Omnibus bills? Could/Should budget votes be separated so that the controversial subject matter not be included in a must pass bill?**

I don't believe that Congress has passed a budget without omnibus votes since 2001. This is a prime example of just how broken our budgeting process is and these omnibus votes too often lead to more waste, government spending and ill-advised policies. In an ideal world, important policy priorities should be considered separately and stand or fall on their own merits. However, in the current dysfunctional environment and with this President, I do not believe that "controversial subject matter" should not be included in so-called "must pass" bills, just so those bills can pass. As we have all witnessed during the past eight years, sometimes this has the only way for Republicans to ensure that the rights of American citizens are protected, that their values are upheld, and good, conservative public policy has any chance of being made.

**12. How would you describe the job of a U.S. Representative in the House?**

The primary job of a U.S. Representative is to serve the people. Yes, leadership is involved, but my view is that my job is to not just be responsive to my constituents, but to actually be led by them, and guided by their ideas and concerns. Very simply, what I need to be is a reflection of a majority of my constituents and what I need to do on their behalf is vote and pursue policy objectives that reflect their wishes. Nothing more, nothing less.

**13. Please identify one current House and one Senate member who most closely aligns with your personal political ideology and/or view of governance. Please explain why you have chosen these two people.**

I don't believe that I can answer this question, as I have not fully examined all of the political ideologies of many of the current House and Senate members and their views may change at any given time. I have my own views and beliefs, which I have articulated above, and I will always stand up and fight for what I believe in.