EmpowerU 8th 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 8th 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 8th 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? YES

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.

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Ohio 8th Congressional District Candidate Survey

1. What federal government agency/department, if any, warrants elimination? Why?
   Dept. of Education, should be local

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?
   A balance is needed with as much freedom/safety as possible.

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

4. Should the U.S. create a path to citizenship for people who have entered the country illegally?
   Yes, issue temporary visas or green cards

5. Can this be justified while avoiding unequal treatment of those pursuing citizenship or naturalization via the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service?
   Yes, illegal immigrants are mostly the desperate poor.

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?
   Avoid foreign entanglements, US self-interest is first priority: No 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?
   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?
   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?
   There is no reason for the Dept. of Educ.
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 ___________________________ Date 1-22-2016

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