



LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®

League of Women Voters of Kent and
Northern Portage County

Supplement to May 8, 2018 Voter's Guide:
Statewide and Judicial Candidates

Race

Governor/Lt. Governor
Attorney General
Auditor
Treasurer
Secretary of State
US Senator
Judicial

Party: Page no.

Dem: 2-7, Rep: 8-9, Green: 9
Dem & Rep: 10
Rep: 10, Dem: 10-11
Green: 12, Dem: 12, Rep: 12-14
Dem: 14-15, Rep: 15-16
Green: 17, Dem: 17, Rep: 17-24
24-26

OHIO GOVERNOR & LT. GOVERNOR



Richard Cordray (Dem)
Candidate for Governor

and



Betty Sutton (Dem)
Candidate for Lt. Governor

Richard Cordray

Website <http://www.cordrayforohio.com>

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Twitter @richcordray

Education Grove City High School (1977) Michigan State University, BA in Legal & Political Theory (1981) Oxford University, MA in Economics on Marshall Scholarship (1983) The University of Chicago Law School, JD (1986)

Training and Experience Director, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (2011 – 2017) Ohio Attorney General (elected in 2008 - 2010) Ohio Treasurer (elected in 2006 – 2008) Franklin County Treasurer (elected in 2002 and 2004 – 2006) Solicitor General (appointed 1993 – 1994)

What is the role of the governor’s office and executive agencies in addressing the opioid crisis in Ohio? What measures would you pursue in office?

Richard Cordray Republicans have failed to respond effectively to this epidemic that is ravaging our families and our communities; it now kills about 14 Ohioans every day and costs taxpayers as much as \$8.8 billion each year. My running mate, Betty Sutton, and I have proposed a comprehensive plan to address this crisis, the details of which are described at CordrayforOhio.com. We will start by taking the following steps: 1) immediately declare a “state of emergency” requiring the strategic coordination of federal, state, and local government resources and community-based efforts; 2) protect Ohio’s Medicaid expansion, which supports treatment, and increases capacity for local enforcement and first responders; 3) expand access and funding for prevention and treatment; 4) provide support and resources for families and improve foster and adoptive services; and 5) replace economic despair with broader economic opportunity.

What is the role of the governor’s office and executive agencies in overseeing online and brick-and-mortar community schools? What measures would you pursue in office?

Richard Cordray We will hold charter schools accountable for their performance and for the effective use of public funds—including moving to close failing charters. We believe that charter schools should have to meet the same civil rights, health and safety, and teacher quality standards as traditional public schools. The online “Electronic Classroom Of Tomorrow” (ECOT) is a grotesque scandal, which plundered our public schools and left too many children without the education they deserve. Because of the shameful influence of moneyed interests, ECOT wasted as much as a billion tax dollars and still owes the taxpayers at least an \$80 million refund for its fraudulent use of taxpayer money. Vast resources were siphoned away from our schools and our kids and funneled to cronies and special interests protected by the Ohio Legislature, Ohio Auditor, and Ohio Attorney General. This scandal demands accountability.

Under what circumstances is it appropriate for the state to restrain or check local government decisions?

Richard Cordray As I campaign across the state, I see many heads nod from the rural areas and small and mid-sized towns around Ohio when I detail the relentless war on local governments that

the Republican State Legislature has been waging for years now. This must change. It's wrong, and it will not be our approach to governing. We must support the devoted local public servants I know all over Ohio. They deliver critical services to raise the quality of life in our communities. They simply want a strong framework, steady resources, and good partners in state government who will listen and respond to the needs of their communities. I call that the Ohio way, and it is how we can best address our challenges in this state.

What solutions would you propose to address challenges in the healthcare system?

Richard Cordray Betty and I have proposed a comprehensive plan to ensure accessible and affordable health care for all Ohioans. Our plan has six key elements: 1) protect the Medicaid expansion to keep our health care, which is crucial in providing coverage for families, reducing infant mortality, and battling opiate addiction; 2) improve the exchanges to provide more choice, reduce costs, and ensure access across the state—this will help limit closures of local hospitals and clinics that create community health care vacuums; 3) expand children's health insurance coverage; 4) tackle our opiate addiction crisis, which is ravaging our communities; 5) focus resources for women and children, after the State Legislature has pursued a narrow ideological agenda that has hurt women's health programs and undermined children's health; and 6) invest in Ohio's health care industry, which is one of our strongest areas of job growth.

Describe what you have done to work across political differences to solve problems.

Richard Cordray Betty and I have always prioritized partnering with others to get things done. Today's politics has become dangerously divisive and corrosive. We will deliver results the Ohio Way - by bringing people together, not by stirring conflict, sowing division, or pitting people against one another. We're seeing way too much of that in Washington and in Columbus. It's wrong, and we'll put a stop to it. Betty and I will lead by example. As a state official, I tackled the foreclosure crisis by creating Save Our Homes task forces with local officials - Republicans as well as Democrats - and our great nonprofits to save thousands of people's homes. Likewise, we will listen to and respect others and seek common ground, based on the common good. Ohioans want practical solutions to the challenges we face, not bumper sticker slogans. They want public officials to fight for their principles but work together on behalf of the people. Betty and I have done that and will do that.

Larry E. Ealy (Dem)
Candidate for Governor
Candidate has not responded.

and

Jeffrey Lynn (Dem)
Candidate for Lt. Governor



**Dennis John Kucinich (Dem) and
Candidate for Governor**

Public servant, peace advocate, author, commentator



**Tara L. Samples (Dem)
Candidate for Lt. Governor**

Councilwoman for the City of Akron Ward 5

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Education St. John Cantius High School. BA & MA, Speech & Communication, Case Western Reserve University

Training and Experience Cleveland City Council, Cleveland Municipal Court Clerk, Mayor of Cleveland, radio talk-show host, lecturer, consultant, Ohio State Senator, U.S. House of Representatives (1996-2013), Presidential Candidate (2004, 2008)

What is the role of the governor’s office and executive agencies in addressing the opioid crisis in Ohio? What measures would you pursue in office?

Dennis John Kucinich Cleveland’s VA Hospital has developed an innovative protocol for dealing with the opioid epidemic which emphasizes a multi-disciplinary approach to pain management. The governor’s office will encourage implementation of this model and funding long-term transformation. Focus on treatment and rehabilitation are essential, in hospitals and appropriate medical facilities, not in jails and prisons. We will order that the State Medical Board and State Pharmacy Board, in consultation with national experts on pain management, cooperate to develop new monitoring and reporting protocols for dispensing controlled substances and require continuing medical education on pain management. As governor I will protect Ohioans’ access to medical marijuana, which can be part of the solution to the opiate epidemic. Legalizing and taxing recreational marijuana would provide increased revenues to fund expanded health and mental health programs. Restoring families and communities means: Power To We The People.

What is the role of the governor’s office and executive agencies in overseeing online and brick-and-mortar community schools? What measures would you pursue in office?

Dennis John Kucinich Ohio public educational funding has been subverted by special interest groups and for-profit charter school management companies. Through campaign contributions they have normalized the privatization of public education funding. This has led to the creation of an often substandard, for-profit system "education" system, using and misusing billions of dollars in public funds. I will veto any budget which provides funding for charter schools, unless the charter is approved by the local public school board of education. I will shine a light on the corrupt system that allows millions of taxpayer dollars to flow into the pockets of profiteering private charter operators, and then, into the political campaign coffers of politicians, all at the expense of local taxpayers, Ohio’s children, and quality public education. I will seek to re-establish the right of every Ohio child to be able to attend fully funded, safe, secure, caring and nurturing public schools.

Under what circumstances is it appropriate for the state to restrain or check local government decisions?

Dennis John Kucinich The right of municipalities to take action to protect their citizens is critically important. Home rule is enshrined in the Ohio Constitution and it must be upheld, including assault weapon bans.

What solutions would you propose to address challenges in the healthcare system?

Dennis John Kucinich We affirm that healthcare is a human right. This includes prescription drug, dental, and mental health care. Our Ohiocareplan will provide coverage to all those who need it. This will make our state and our families stronger, provide support to children who are struggling, and bring us closer to a society where our default mode is to take care of each other. Building an Ohiocare system requires systemic thinking about individual needs, insurance, jobs, drug addiction, mental health, community health, education, and jobs. We will encourage a new emphasis on regenerative health care, disease prevention, diet and complementary therapies. We will reorganize the Department of Health into the Department of Health and Non-Violence, and treat domestic violence, spousal abuse, violence in schools, gang violence, gun violence, racial violence, violence against LGBTQI persons and police and community clashes over misuse of power as the public health crises that they represent.

Describe what you have done to work across political differences to solve problems.

Dennis John Kucinich I have always worked across the aisle, in the Ohio Senate and in the US Congress to achieve results.

Bill O'Neill (Dem)
Candidate for Governor
Candidate has not responded.

and

Chantelle C. Lewis (Dem)
Candidate for Lt. Governor

Paul E. Ray (Dem)
Candidate for Governor
Candidate has not responded.

and

Jerry M. Schroeder (Dem)
Candidate for Lt. Governor



Joe Schiavoni (Dem)
Candidate for Governor
State Senator, 33rd District

and

Stephanie Dodd
Candidate for Lt. Governor

Website<http://JoeForJobs.com>

Facebook<http://www.facebook.com/JoeSchiavoniOhio/>

Twitter [@JoeSchiavoni](https://twitter.com/JoeSchiavoni)

Education Boardman High School, Class of 1997 Ohio University, Graduated 2001, Bachelor of Arts in Communications Capital Law School, Graduated 2004, Juris Doctorate

Training and Experience I'm proud to be the only Democratic candidate for Ohio Governor who is a current elected official. I have been a State Senator since 2009, and served as Senate Minority Leader for several years.

What is the role of the governor's office and executive agencies in addressing the opioid crisis in Ohio? What measures would you pursue in office?

Joe Schiavoni Ohio ranks #2 in overdose deaths, yet Governor Kasich's plan is called "Start Talking." That's unacceptable. State leaders must take proactive steps and use available resources to end this crisis.

My plan is based on a bill we're already fighting for at the Statehouse (SB 154). Some highlights: - Provide communities the resources and flexibility to address this issue in their area. -Expand resources for mental health programs, first responders, and children's services. -Expand programs offering inpatient treatment & recovery beds. -Create a database to see open beds across the state. -Fund research to understand and prevent this crisis going forward. -Expand Medicaid coverage/reimbursement rates. -Require insurance companies to cover opioid alternatives. -Support efforts to stop heroin/fentanyl trafficking. -Expand drug courts as an alternative to conviction. - Expand housing/employment opportunities for recovering addicts. We can pay for it using just 10% of Ohio's emergency fund.

What is the role of the governor's office and executive agencies in overseeing online and brick-and-mortar community schools? What measures would you pursue in office?

Joe Schiavoni This has been one of my top priorities in the Statehouse. The Ohio Dept. of Education (ODE) must hold all schools accountable to students, families, and taxpayers, and the Governor must demand they follow through on that commitment.

I've been pushing several bills to better regulate online and for-profit charter schools in Ohio, because part of the problem is a lack of detailed regulation written into state law. But there is a lot the state can do right now to improve education at these schools.

For example, ODE must commit to a full, thorough audit of Ohio's troubled online charter schools as often as is necessary to ensure students are actually logged in and learning. It should have been impossible for ECOT to operate with so little state oversight for well over a decade.

I also believe money plays an important role in this issue. We need to have a real conversation about whether legislators can properly regulate for-profit schools if they take donations from the schools' leaders.

Under what circumstances is it appropriate for the state to restrain or check local government decisions?

Joe Schiavoni There are, of course, certain basic rights that all Ohioans should possess - such as access to education, access to healthcare options, fair treatment under the law, and freedom from discrimination. I believe it's the state's duty to ensure Ohioans have access to these things no matter where they live.

Unfortunately, the current GOP majority has passed several laws restricting local control in areas where they should not meddle. Some examples of these state overreaches include: -Prohibiting communities from raising their own minimum wage. -Banning stricter local gun laws than the rest of the state. -Banning stricter puppy mill regulations than the state's (weak) standards. -A state takeover of some public school districts. -Removing power from elected State Board of Education members.

These laws have nothing to do with providing for basic needs. They're an attempt to force the majority's political agenda onto Ohio communities. As governor, I'll trust and work with local leaders.

What solutions would you propose to address challenges in the healthcare system?

Joe Schiavoni In the Senate, I've been working hard to increase access to providers across the state, especially in underserved areas. My bipartisan bill to expand broadband internet would help rural hospitals treat more patients using telemedicine. And I'm always fighting for state support for healthcare providers like Planned Parenthood, which offer low-cost options in underserved urban and rural areas.

As Governor, I will:

-Protect Medicaid expansion. -Use just 10% of the state's emergency fund to fight the opioid epidemic that is devastating our communities. -Fight any attempt to repeal the ACA. -Work with communities to reduce infant mortality rates. -Encourage bills in Congress that move us toward universal coverage, including Sen. Sanders' Medicare For All bill and Sen. Sherrod Brown's bill to lower the eligibility age to 55. -Make sure Ohio's Insurance, Medicaid, and Health Departments are committed to getting all Ohioans the care they need to live independent, productive lives.

Describe what you have done to work across political differences to solve problems.

Joe Schiavoni As Leader of a 10-23 Democratic minority in the Ohio Senate, I learned quickly how to work across the aisle on issues that shouldn't be political.

To be blunt, people are tired of the BS. They want leaders who can actually get things done. Despite the odds stacked against Statehouse Democrats, I've found ways to successfully push for bills and amendments that matter.

For example, the Statehouse is currently only a few steps away from passing my bipartisan broadband bill, which will help bring reliable internet to thousands more homes and businesses across the state.

I was also one of four legislators (two Ds and two Rs) who negotiated to get state level redistricting on the ballot in 2015. Because of our efforts, and Ohioans' grassroots organization, Ohio's Statehouse districts will be much fairer in 2020.

Politics doesn't have to be complicated. Ohio's leaders should work where we can to strengthen our state and improve quality of life for the people we're elected to represent.



Mike DeWine (Rep)
Candidate for Governor
Ohio Attorney General

and

Jon Husted (Rep)
Candidate for Lt. Governor

Website <http://www.mikedewine.com>

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Education Miami University, 1969, Bachelor of Science in Education (Social Studies) and Ohio Northern University Claude W. Pettit College of Law, 1972, Juris Doctorate

Training and Experience I have served as Ohio Attorney General, U.S. Senator, Ohio Lieutenant Governor, U.S. Congressman for the 7th District, Ohio State Senator for the 10th District, and Greene County Prosecutor.

What is the role of the governor’s office and executive agencies in addressing the opioid crisis in Ohio? What measures would you pursue in office?

Mike DeWine I have a 12-point action plan that includes K-12 prevention education in every school, more drug courts, more resources for law enforcement, and incentives to get the business community involved to help people in recovery get back to work and on with their lives. Additionally, I am very proud of what we have already done in the Attorney General’s office. We have shut down pill mills, putting crooked doctors in jail and taking away licenses from over 100 doctors and pharmacists. We sued the drug companies who played a huge role in creating this epidemic. We started a heroin unit with dedicated and compassionate people who have worked with every county in Ohio to activate local government, the faith-based community, and businesses to fight back against this epidemic. And, we have cracked down on the Mexican drug cartels by seizing \$155 million worth of drugs, 1,200 illegal guns, \$30 million in cash, and enough fentanyl and heroin to kill every man, woman, and child in Ohio 3.5 times!

What is the role of the governor’s office and executive agencies in overseeing online and brick-and-mortar community schools? What measures would you pursue in office?

Mike DeWine The Governor plays a key role in education by providing vision, setting priorities, and creating a budget that advances those priorities. We must do a better job with early childhood education. We need more kids who are Kindergarten-ready, and as kids continue through school, they need quality teachers and wrap-around services that include mental health counselors and school nurses. And then, we need to ensure that every kid who graduates from high school is job- or college-ready. State funding should ensure that every classroom in Ohio is ready to prepare our kids for the real world, and we must hold every school accountable for quality. Today, we have some very high-performing charter schools. But sadly, there are also some that are seriously under-performing. We need to get rid of the ones that aren’t performing and provide incentives to replicate the ones that are. Parents and families deserve a choice, especially when kids are trapped in a failing school system.

Under what circumstances is it appropriate for the state to restrain or check local government decisions?

Mike DeWine While we are a state built on local control, Ohio's Constitution clearly provides that the state, and not local governments, may regulate issues that affect the entire state broadly. For example, our Constitution specifies that the state government is responsible for setting felony criminal penalties, gun regulations, and the minimum wage. For all of these issues, Ohio has a strong interest in a single set of comprehensive regulations. Allowing hundreds of local governments to set their own, differing regulations on these and some other statewide issues would confuse and lead to many problems around the state.

What solutions would you propose to address challenges in the healthcare system?

Mike DeWine The two major challenges facing our healthcare system in Ohio are reducing costs, while assuring access to those most in need, and the opioid crisis. As we re-assess our healthcare system, we need Ohio solutions for Ohio problems. We need a new look at the expanded Medicaid program to assure it is affordable and available for those who need it most, including poor children and seniors. Medicaid expansion, as structured today, however, is not sustainable, and we need to come up with a solution that works for Ohio. The Trump Administration is giving waivers to re-do it, and as Governor, I plan to seek one to design our own program. In that re-design, there will be a work requirement, and we will put a focus on wellness and prevention and getting those addicted to drugs into treatment.

Describe what you have done to work across political differences to solve problems.

Mike DeWine I am a problem-solver and work hard every day to get things done that will make a real difference in the lives of Ohioans. While reasonable people can disagree on issues, they can still find common ground. That's what I tried to do when I was in the U.S. Senate. I frequently worked across the political aisle with the opposing party to get things accomplished. I had a Democrat co-sponsor on several key pieces of legislation that I passed into law, including efforts to test medications for safe use by children, to increase federal funding to fight the global AIDS crisis, and to improve the foster care system for children. I am proud of my efforts to work together with my colleagues to create consensus.

Mary Taylor (Rep) and
Candidate for Governor
Candidate has not responded.

Nathan D. Estruth (Rep)
Candidate for Lt. Governor

Constance Gadell-Newton (Green) and
Candidate for Governor
Candidate was not invited to participate.

Brett R. Joseph (Green)
Candidate for Lt. Governor

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Steve Dettelbach (Dem)

Candidate has not responded.

Dave Yost (Rep)

Candidate has not responded.

AUDITOR

Keith Faber (Rep)

Candidate has not responded.



Zack Space (Dem)

Consultant

Website <http://www.zackspaceforohio.com>

Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/ZackSpaceOhio>

Twitter [@ZackSpaceOhio](https://twitter.com/ZackSpaceOhio)

Education Kenyon College, B.A. Political Science; Ohio State University Moritz College of Law, J.D.

Training and Experience Practicing attorney, private practice and public defense, 1986-2006; Law Director, City of Dover, OH, 2001-2006; United States Congressman, Ohio's 18th District, 2007-2011

What recommendations do you have for making the auditor's office more efficient?

Zack Space I intend to sufficiently fulfill all traditional responsibilities of the Auditor's office. The Auditor's office can focus on materiality and risk-based audits, conducting basic audits and agreed upon procedures where appropriate. I will also recruit a diverse and qualified staff, who represents all of Ohio and understands our local communities, to help accomplish these goals.

I believe I can add tremendous value to the Auditor's office by making it far more dynamic.

Performance audits, for instance, allow the Auditor to make holistic observations about public entities and make thorough recommendations for improvement.

What would you do to ensure that public funds are not misused by government officials and those in a position of public trust?

Zack Space I commend Auditor Yost for creating the Public Integrity Assurance Team ("PIAT"). The PIAT is well known for investigating theft of public dollars. Just as important, if not more so, are PIAT's trainings for local government officials on fraud prevention and combating cybercrime. I will continue to investigate those suspected of stealing public money and expand the training program, so our local governments have the tools they need to avoid becoming victims of crime.

What is the auditor's role in investigating online and brick-and-mortar community schools?

Zack Space The Auditor of State has the authority to audit any entity that uses public monies, including educational institutions. The Auditor must hold online schools and traditional community schools to the same standards. This oversight responsibility has lapsed significantly in recent years, as for-profit online charter schools such as the Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow have scammed taxpayers out of hundreds of millions of dollars by tampering with attendance records. I find it wholly unacceptable that the management firms who operate such for-profit schools could receive millions of dollars that would otherwise have gone to public education, without any transparency or oversight whatsoever. As these firms are taking public monies, they could -- and would -- be declared "unauditable" under my administration, and public funding would then stop. Any entity that receives public money must justify its actions and verify that it is not being wasteful. This is especially true for schools.

What are the essential criteria to consider when drawing legislative district lines?

Zack Space If elected Auditor, I will serve on the Redistricting Commission. I have pledged to wield that power not on behalf of the Democratic or Republican Party, but on behalf of ordinary Ohioans, who have been shut out of that partisan process for over a generation. Members of the Redistricting Commission have a duty to the people of Ohio to only approve legislative (and possibly Congressional) districts that are fair and competitive. In furtherance of this goal, I pledge that I will ensure the Redistricting Commission complies with the Open Meetings Act, bringing a new level of transparency to proceedings.

Robust public debate on the best way to combat gerrymandering is still underway, and given the Supreme Court's expected landmark ruling on gerrymandering cases this summer it may be too soon to declare explicit tools (such as the efficiency gap) that will be useful in preventing gerrymandering.

I believe that drawing competitive districts should be the Commission's top priority.

TREASURER

Paul Curry (Green) Write-in

Candidate was not invited to participate.

Rob Richardson (Dem)

Candidate has not responded.



Sandra O'Brien (Rep)

Former Ashtabula County Auditor

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Education Edinboro University M.A. Bowling Green State B.S.

Training and Experience Years of experience public management & finance

What are the most important functions of the state treasurer and why?

Sandra O'Brien State treasurer, like auditor service, is chief financial officer position, responsible for collecting, disbursing, and investing all state monies.

What are your three goals for improving the efficiency of the treasurer's office?

Sandra O'Brien I will work with fellow teachers promoting financial literacy, bring more agencies into placing public expenditures online & preserve public trust.

How can the treasurer's office influence state fiscal policy?

Sandra O'Brien She can help officials understand the role fiscal policy plays in state issues and monitor developments to ensure proper oversight of public dollars.

How will you ensure transparency and accountability in state finances?

Sandra O'Brien I will bring more government institutions into Treasurer's Open Checkbook program so public can see how their hard-earned tax dollars are being spent.



Robert Sprague (Rep)

State Representative

Website <http://spragueforohio.com>

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Education Duke University, BSA Mechanical Engineering MBA University of North Carolina, emphasis in finance

Training and Experience State Representative - appointed 2011, elected 2012, 2014 and 2016 Auditor, City of Findlay - elected 2008 Treasurer, City of Findlay - elected 2004 Principal, Vasa Capital, Findlay Ohio 2005 Owner, Talus Technology, Atlanta GA 1998 Ernst and Young

What are the most important functions of the state treasurer and why?

Robert SpragueThe Treasurer's power to issue debt is extremely important because it is the intersection between private capital markets and the government. I have a plan to unlock creativity in the private market to help fight the opiate epidemic, infant mortality and other societal ills through the standardization of Social Impact Bonds (SIBs). SIBs foster partnerships between the public and private sectors, where the private market develops new programs, but the public sector only pays if the new programs can be proven to deliver results. This innovative financial tool will bring the private sector to the table in a meaningful way and introduce a new funding stream to the effort to tackle Ohio's most pressing problems. I encourage readers to visit SpragueForOhio.com/vision to find a more detailed overview of how I plan to use the Treasurer's office to make a positive and meaningful difference in the lives of Ohioans.

What are your three goals for improving the efficiency of the treasurer's office?

Robert SpragueAs an international business consultant for Ernst & Young, I was trained to evaluate companies' operations, find efficiencies and improve their internal processes. Once I am elected, I plan to use this experience to do an in-depth evaluation of the office and the programs the Treasurer manages to ensure we are achieving the highest quality outcomes at the most effective cost for taxpayers. Ohio's Online Checkbook and STABLE Account Program are two areas where I believe we can achieve greater fiscal efficiencies and drive down administrative costs by actively working to expand participation in the programs to individuals and entities both in and out of state. As Treasurer, I will also use the knowledge gained in both the private sector and as a member of the Ohio House Finance Committee to keep our office operating costs in-check through regular internal budget evaluations.

How can the treasurer's office influence state fiscal policy?

Robert SpragueAs a member of the House Finance Committee during the last three state budget negotiations, I have a keen understanding of state fiscal policy and the often difficult financial decisions we face. As Treasurer, I believe that I can have an impact by promoting innovative financial tools designed to deliver cost savings. For example, applying the Social Impact Bonds model described above to the heroin epidemic would mean investments in programs that produce

better recovery rates than the programs the state is currently funding. Increasing our recovery rates means healthier Ohioans and could in turn help reduce spending for Medicaid, Child & Protective Services and Corrections, all areas that have been put under increasing pressure as a result of this crisis. By forming strategic partnerships with the private sector, we can improve government efficiency from the outside in and have a lasting, positive effect on how we approach state fiscal policy.

How will you ensure transparency and accountability in state finances?

Robert Spraguel believe increased transparency leads to greater accountability, which is why I created an annual financial report as Auditor of Findlay to help people better understand the City finances. I applaud Treasurer Josh Mandel for taking the first step in giving the public access to how their tax dollars are spent through the creation of Ohio's Online Checkbook. I plan to take this tool to the next level by further expanding the scope and capabilities of the program - creating a SMART Online Checkbook. Drawing upon my private sector experience as a business and financial consultant, I'll empower taxpayers to use the data to benchmark spending, make comparisons across agencies and better identify government efficiencies (or inefficiencies). Furthermore, I will work to increase participation in the program so that all Ohioans have a window into spending at every level of government.

SECRETARY OF STATE



Kathleen Clyde (Dem)

Ohio State Representative

Website<http://KathleenClyde.com>

Facebook<http://RepKathleenClyde>

Twitter [@KathleenClyde](https://twitter.com/KathleenClyde)

Education BA from Wesleyan University JD from The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law

Training and Experience Currently serving fourth term in the Ohio House of Representatives. Served as an election official with the Franklin County Board of Elections. Served as a law clerk for the Ohio Secretary of State and the Ohio Senate.

What is the best way to assure that Ohio's voter rolls are maintained accurately and appropriately?

Kathleen Clyde Automatic voter registration (AVR) is the best way to create and maintain accurate voter rolls. With AVR, the Secretary of State's office would share data with state agencies and could work with counties to register all eligible Ohioans while giving individuals the change to opt out if they wish.

As for voter removal, I support removing deceased voters and those voters who move out of state according to current law. But voters who move within Ohio and voters who don't vote in every election remain eligible to vote and should not be removed from the voter rolls.

What would you do to improve voter turnout in primary and general elections in Ohio?

Kathleen Clyde Voting is the foundation to our democracy and gives every Ohioan the opportunity to have their voice heard. Our state leaders should be encouraging more eligible Ohioans to register to vote and make their voice heard in primary and general elections. That is why I have proposed legislation in the statehouse that would bring automatic voter registration (AVR) to our state. Automatic voter registration would automatically register eligible Ohioans who interact with government agencies, like getting a state-ID, accessing veteran benefits, or turning 18 at an Ohio high school. When more eligible Ohioans are registered to vote, more voices will be heard at the ballot box.

What steps need to be taken to ensure the security and integrity of elections?

Kathleen Clyde Ohio was one of the 21 states that were targeted by foreign cyberattacks in the 2016 cycle. We must do whatever we can to protect our election systems and our democracy from growing threats. That is why I've proposed legislation that would require voter-marked, voter-verified paper ballots, post-election audits and establish a cybersecurity director and advisory council for the Secretary of State's office.

What are the essential criteria to consider when drawing legislative district lines?

Kathleen Clyde For decades now Ohio has seen some of the most gerrymandered districts in the country, where politicians pick their voters instead of the other way around. I am deeply committed to bringing fair districts and fair elections back to Ohio. Secretary of State I would work to ensure the following criteria are followed when drawing state legislative lines: 1. Ensure no map favors one political party over another 2. Each district will be nearly equal in population 3. Minimize the splitting of counties and municipalities and townships 4. Representational fairness



Frank LaRose (Rep)

State Senator

Website <http://www.FrankLaRose.com>

Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/franklarose>

Twitter [@FrankLaRose](https://twitter.com/FrankLaRose)

Education Graduate of Copley High School in Summit County and The Ohio State University with a Bachelor of Science in Consumer Affairs and a Minor in Business Administration.

Training and Experience United States Army Veteran (10 years), State Senator (7 years), Eagle Scout.

What is the best way to assure that Ohio's voter rolls are maintained accurately and appropriately?

Frank LaRose Maintaining accurate voter rolls is essential to protect the integrity of our elections. Federal and state law requires that Ohio's voter rolls be kept up to date. I am monitoring Husted v. A. Philip Randolph Institute, which is pending before the U.S. Supreme Court, and look forward to the Court's ruling which directly relates to this question.

Regardless of the outcome I believe that we can maintain accurate roles while preventing unnecessary burdens on voters. I would work with LWV and other voting rights advocates to develop best practices and procedures for achieving that balance, and ensure there is not a disparate impact on Ohio's diverse communities.

What would you do to improve voter turnout in primary and general elections in Ohio?

Frank LaRose I authored the law to make it easier for Ohioans to exercise their essential right and responsibility to vote by allowing them to use their computer or smartphone and register to vote online (SB 63, 131st General Assembly). Additionally, Ohio voters can easily update their address online. I have also worked to protect Ohioans opportunity to vote early and would continue to advocate that in-person voting begin the day after the close of the voter registration deadline to ensure Ohioans have at least 28 days of in-person voting and have continued opportunities for weekend voting hours. As Secretary of State, I will personally work to encourage more civics education and get young people excited about the power they have as a voter.

What steps need to be taken to ensure the security and integrity of elections?

Frank LaRose To keep our elections secure we need to upgrade our aging voting equipment. I introduced SB 135 last year which would assist counties with funding to update outmoded equipment and ensure new machines are in place prior to the next presidential election. Ohioans deserve to be confident now and in the future that their vote will be cast on a secure and reliable voting machine that includes a voter verifiable paper trail. Additionally, I have introduced legislation to make the current practice of conducting post-election audits a requirement for county boards of elections. The bill requires all county boards of election upgrade to a sophisticated statistical technique called a risk limiting audit which is widely recognized as the best practice in ensuring accuracy. Allowing time for transition and training, the improved post election audit procedure will be required by 2020 in time for the next Presidential election.

What are the essential criteria to consider when drawing legislative district lines?

Frank LaRose Districts should keep communities together by limiting divisions of counties, townships & municipalities. The plan must uphold Voting Rights Act principles. Significant measures must be taken to improve transparency. District lines should be drawn in a bipartisan process which compels statesmen & women to come together to create fair districts, while emphasizing the virtues of compromise & focusing on what is best for all Ohioans. Competition makes us stronger. Parties shouldn't win elections because of modern GIS mapping software & pinpoint-accurate polling data, but because they have better candidates with better ideas. I'm proud of my 7 year track record, working alongside the LWV and thousands of volunteers to bring about redistricting reform & my involvement in crafting both of Ohio's recent reforms. I will carry out my responsibility as a member of the redistricting commission in the same spirit of compromise & bipartisanship with which these reforms were crafted.

US SENATOR (OHIO)

Philena Irene Farley (Green) Write-in
Candidate was not invited to participate.

Sherrod Brown (Dem)
Candidate has not responded.

Timothy A. Pinion (Rep) Write-in
Candidate was not invited to participate.



Melissa Ackison (Rep)
Small Business Owner

Website <http://www.ackisonforussenate.com>
Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/MelissaAckisonforSenate/>
Twitter [@MelissaAckison](https://twitter.com/MelissaAckison)

Training and Experience I'm a wife, a mother, a business owner and a winner. My private sector background in human capital management & organizational design coupled with my experience as a small business owner have prepared me to represent the real needs of all Ohioans

What is the most pressing problem facing the federal government in 2018? What solutions will you offer?

Melissa Ackison Welfare, Medicaid & Entitlement Reform as our TANF is literally designed in a way where our Director of Job and Family Services & our caseworkers are doing "mathematical gymnastics" to accommodate reporting & administrative requirement, versus ensuring the policies are encouraging the most productive work habits. I have studied congressional testimony & met with members of the Governor's cabinet prior to announcing my bid for the Senate & began studying proposed bills when my staffing business was competing with entitlement programs versus productive work habits of Ohio's labor pool. I tie this to educational reform and skills based training coupled with apprenticeship programs in our public schools. I personally utilized these alternatives versus obtaining a 4 year degree. Given the nature of my life and proof that a college pathway isn't the only way to a productive self sustainable life, I will be pushing for parents choice, home schooling rights and local decision making capability

Describe what you have done to work across political differences to solve problems.

Melissa Ackison I would apply the same concepts I utilized to build successful relationships as a business owner as well as the many years where I served in the private sector and was highly respected. I embraced the value of common ground as a leader and understood the power of respectful relationships to achieve a goal. Working for global organizations with a diverse scope of clientele, I learned early on, the value of diversity through opinion and lively debate to collectively achieve a common goal. My career was literally Human Capital management and in business, you don't pick and choose who you work with to resolve issues on behalf of an organization or others who are depending on you. We have lost the ability to negotiate through fact and reason and have transcended into a world of "I'm right and You're wrong". I care deeply for our nation and its people.

What solutions would you propose to address challenges in the healthcare system?

Melissa Ackison This is a topic near and dear to my heart. Not only do I live with one of the world's rarest bone diseases but I have a child with a condition as well, that requires ongoing care. As a small business owner and as a Human Resource Professional prior to owning my own business, the healthcare market is a field I'm intimately familiar with from different perspectives. In the summer of 2017, I was featured with the President and Vice President and actively participated in sessions in Washington as someone who lived the real effects of the ACA and understands more than most (through fact not emotional media bias) that the governments takeover of healthcare didn't work out by not only threatening my business but through failing my family through forced government insurance plans. We need to create patient centered regulations that allow protections for pre-existing conditions and move back to a free market design with competition as well as demanding transparency of healthcare costs.

How would you address immigration policy in the current political climate?

Melissa Ackison I'm the only candidate who has worked on job placement programs in the real world for newly migrated refugees intending on making America their home. A huge component of my role was the creation and integration of the skills training programs to integrate new employees into the workplace. Those same relations with the immigrant community, their elders and leaders actively support my campaign and are vitally important to cultivating refugee and citizenship initiative's through job placement and self sustainability as well as counter terrorism initiatives. There is NO REPUBLICAN candidate who can even pretend to understand this area in the same way that I can. Ending chain migration, the visa lottery program, securing our borders and building a wall as well as merit and skills based parameters to our immigration policy must be present to ensure the safety & security for liberty loving citizens and immigrants who wish to contribute and participate in the American dream.

What will you do to foster trust between you as an elected leader and the voters you represent?

Melissa Ackison I'm running a highly energized and incredibly effective grassroots campaign across the state of Ohio. I have relied on my voice and specific policy failures to create a vision with volunteers from all walks of life and political backgrounds to power this campaign. I inspire packed rooms of people who come to hear me speak at 3-4 events a day and have empowered the people through a campaign that is truly theirs. I have been nicknamed "The Peoples Senator" because I am THE PEOPLE. To pull off what I've been able to achieve despite being outspent 200 to 1, having zero establishment support and doing all of my own fundraising through the Ohio voter only, is nothing short of a miracle and an example of God's grace when you are doing right by others for the betterment of a cause. I'm fueled by the Ohio Voter and owned by no one. People see me, they know me, they believe in me and what we can achieve when we support and love one another. Gods blessings are present and his hand is here



Don Elijah Eckhart (Rep)

Balanced government budgets

Website<http://DoneOnFaith.org>

Facebook<http://DonElijahEckhart>

Twitter @DoneOnFaith

Education M.P.A., Wharton School, 1974. M.A., Christian Theology, Ashland Theological Seminary, Ashland, Ohio, 2013. B.A. Economics/Political Science, Capital University, 1972. Sidney High School, Sidney, Ohio, 1968.

Training and Experience Author, a multi-year project, to be released in 2018. Instructor, Certified Public Manager, Program, 2005-2008. Division Chief, Ohio Legislative Service Commission, 1986-2004. Budget Manager, Montgomery County, Ohio. Budget Analyst, City of Dayton.

What is the most pressing problem facing the federal government in 2018? What solutions will you offer?

Don Elijah Eckhart The top issue facing the nation and the federal government is spiritual. As a Christian, I rely on strong faith, listening to the public, and using analytical skills to reach the best solutions. An unmistakable spiritual problem is the taking of innocent life by abortion, shootings of unarmed blacks, school shootings and all mass killings. These issues reflect a disregard for human life, contrary to God's commandment. Also, we live in a sexually saturated culture which produces a host of problems.

Spiritual problems are apparent in American politics: quest for power, greed, taking money from lobbyists in exchange for favors, disrespect of other persons, attack ads, etc. Discernment of the truth is needed. Here's where my seminary studies can help. Fortunately in America, we have a Constitution and rule of law. However, our democracy depends on well-informed voters and responsible officeholders. My pledge is to uphold my responsibilities to the best that I can, with God's guidance.

Describe what you have done to work across political differences to solve problems.

Don Elijah Eckhart I received a Master's degree at the Wharton School, where I studied policy analysis specifically to help make better decisions in government. After working for two cities, I was the Budget Manager for Montgomery County, Ohio. It took skill and interpersonal relations to negotiate budgets with elected officials of both parties.

Then I worked for 18 years for the nonpartisan Ohio Legislative Service Commission. I coordinated the financial analysis of legislation proposed by both Republicans and Democrats, for both the Ohio House of Representatives and the Ohio Senate. The key to maintaining credibility with legislators was to give truthful information and where estimates were needed, to document our work.

I have been active in ethics and integrity throughout my government positions, as an instructor, and as a seminary student. Being honest and carrying through on commitments are the best ways to maintain trust. As a Christian, I respect all persons even though we may not always agree.

What solutions would you propose to address challenges in the healthcare system?

Don Elijah Eckhart It has only been 50 years ago or so that health insurance was a standard benefit that employees received from many employers. Then large corporations moved facilities out of the country. Conglomerates became the norm. Many employees lost benefits. Many part-time employees work for low wages and no health insurance. These actions put a strain on the economic well-being of workers while many corporate executives were given large salaries and bonuses. Health care is not a constitutional right. However, providing health care is the right thing for corporations to do for employees. This is especially true in light of the huge tax cuts given to corporations in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act enacted in December 2017. Corporations should use their windfalls to invest in their employees in addition to their facilities and markets. Given the above, I would examine the feasibility of modeling a program of health care after Medicare, which relies on payroll taxes by employers and employees.

How would you address immigration policy in the current political climate?

Don Elijah Eckhart Christians know about mercy because we have received mercy from God, and we believe what our Lord Jesus Christ taught about caring for other people. What about people under DACA? Their parents brought them illegally into this country as children, and they consider America their home. As a nation under God, we must reach out to help them, as Jesus taught in the parable of the Good Samaritan. Thus, I support an extension of DACA as a way for these people to become legal. Citizenship could take place later if all requirements are met. The right balance of justice and mercy is also needed to reform our immigration system: grant temporary work permits or visas to immigrants who have not committed serious crimes if they pay a penalty and continue to pay taxes. This would take us a step forward from the current dilemma. Many of these people have been in the United States for decades providing valuable services for the U.S. economy while Congress has done nothing to resolve the situation.

What will you do to foster trust between you as an elected leader and the voters you represent?

Don Elijah Eckhart Most members of Congress are out-of-touch with the middle class. Senators receive a \$174,000 annual salary. I have made this pledge: if elected, I will donate at least \$100,000 of my Senate salary each year for the 6-year term to scholarships for Ohio residents attending technical and trade schools as well as 2-year and 4-year colleges. I am not motivated by money and power. I want to help our country, and I have the skills to do it. I will gladly donate scholarship money for others.

The best way to foster trust is always tell the truth. The key is to be able to say the same thing when in the presence of other people. I want to hear the views of voters and inform them what is happening in Congress. Ways I could communicate include town hall meetings, small group discussions, surveys, newsletters, and email briefings. Residents could call my office or send emails. I would have local offices where residents could seek help with government services and give their input on issues.



Mike Gibbons (Rep)

Businessman

Website<http://www.gibbonsforohio.com/home>

Facebook<http://www.facebook.com/MikeGibbonsOH/>

Twitter [@MikeGibbonsOH](https://twitter.com/MikeGibbonsOH)

Education B.S., cum laude, Economics and Political Science, Kenyon College; M.S., Management, Case Western Reserve University; J.D., Cleveland State University

Training and Experience Senior Managing Director at Brown Gibbons Lang & Company; President & CEO at Underwood, Neuhaus & Company; a Senior Vice President at McDonald & Company Securities, Inc

What is the most pressing problem facing the federal government in 2018? What solutions will you offer?

Mike Gibbons Career politicians – in both parties – beholden to special interests and party bosses that have made it impossible to pass meaningful legislation. We need to replace career politicians with citizen legislators who aren't afraid to tell the truth and stand up to the corrupting influence of the Washington culture. I'm a businessman, not a politician. I'm running against the establishment of my own party, and I support term limits for Congress.

Describe what you have done to work across political differences to solve problems.

Mike Gibbons I'm not a politician, but I work across political differences every day, in my business career, whether by sitting down with union leadership and working to keep jobs in Ohio, or by launching a revolutionary opioid treatment facility. In business, it's all about results.

What solutions would you propose to address challenges in the healthcare system?

Mike Gibbons I believe we need to put the patients back in charge of their own health care. We need to bring down costs, provide better choices, and demand transparency in billing and results.

How would you address immigration policy in the current political climate?

Mike Gibbons I support securing our borders and reforming our system to end chain migration and eliminate the visa lottery. When it comes to DACA recipients, who came here as children, we need to find a way for them to stay in the only country they've ever known. However, I don't believe anyone who came here illegally should have a pathway to full citizenship.

What will you do to foster trust between you as an elected leader and the voters you represent?

Mike Gibbons I am running a grassroots campaign. I've traveled across the state, meeting with voters and holding town halls. Everywhere I go, people ask me to make sure I come back after I get elected, and I tell them I will. I'm a man of my word. I enjoy talking to the people of Ohio, and I look forward to continuing to do so as Senator.



Dan Kiley (Rep)

Professional Money Manager

Website <http://www.KileyForSenate.com>

Facebook <http://www.Facebook.com/KileyForSenate>

Twitter [@KileyForSenate](https://twitter.com/KileyForSenate)

Education Harvard University Certified Financial Planner

Training and Experience Business Leader, Investment Advisor, Technologist.

What is the most pressing problem facing the federal government in 2018? What solutions will you offer?

Dan Kiley The size of our national debt is the most serious problem. I would immediately put a cap back on spending and consider other ways to reduce the debt.

Describe what you have done to work across political differences to solve problems.

Dan Kiley I listen to all points of view and I strive to remain open-minded. I focus on finding similarities instead of differences. Always act as a fiduciary.

What solutions would you propose to address challenges in the healthcare system?

Dan Kiley Continue to embrace new technology to be more efficient and lower costs. Increase the level of wellness education regarding nutrition and exercise.

How would you address immigration policy in the current political climate?

Dan Kiley We are a nation of nations. I welcome legal immigrants. I favor strong border security. A high wall, but with a very wide and welcoming gate.

What will you do to foster trust between you as an elected leader and the voters you represent?

Dan Kiley I will always place their interest ahead of my own. I will limit myself to one term in office. I will provide regular updates on my action plan.



Jim Renacci (Rep)

Business entrepreneur and Congressman of Ohio's 16th Congressional District

Website <http://jimrenacci.com>

Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/JimRenacci/>

Twitter [@jimrenacci](https://twitter.com/jimrenacci)

Education Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Training and Experience My range of experience in both public service and the private sector, where I created over 1,500 jobs and employed over 3,000 people across Ohio, has rendered me uniquely qualified to effectively serve Ohioans.

What is the most pressing problem facing the federal government in 2018? What solutions will you offer?

Jim Renacci While we've seen tremendous progress and growth in our national economy over the past year, many Ohio families continue to struggle and our state has one of the highest unemployment rates in the nation. Advancing a pro-growth, common sense conservative agenda to foster further economic growth and boost manufacturing will be a top priority of mine. The health of our economy impacts more than just our wallets—it directly affects the sense of hope and opportunity that Ohioans, particularly young Ohioans, feel about their futures. When a feeling of hopelessness persists, as it does in many communities across our state, some young people turn to drugs, including opioids. We need Ohioans to feel more confident and optimistic, and I believe this can be done by adding more and better paying jobs to our economy.

Describe what you have done to work across political differences to solve problems.

Jim Renacci My first year in Congress I started the Bipartisan Working Group, which still meets on a weekly basis. The group consists of both Republican and Democrat lawmakers, and it's one of my favorite times of the week. This time is set aside to present an opportunity to actually speak with our colleagues about issues that are important to our districts without partisan politics. Over the years, the group has worked on various pieces of legislation, numerous which have been signed into law.

What solutions would you propose to address challenges in the healthcare system?

Jim Renacci I support the full repeal and replace of Obamacare. Under Obamacare, Ohioans have seen their premiums increase and their choices for coverage decrease. We must replace Obamacare with common sense policies that take the federal government out of our health care decisions and increase competition within the marketplace.

How would you address immigration policy in the current political climate?

Jim Renacci Our immigration system is in desperate need of reforms including ending chain migration and the diversity visa program. I will support a merit-based immigration system so we bring in the best and brightest from around the world that have the skills we need to strengthen our country in a 21st Century economy. It's vital that we uphold our responsibility to our citizens to protect our borders and hold sanctuary cities accountable for failing to cooperate with federal law enforcement officials. We are a country of laws and it is important they are properly enforced.

What will you do to foster trust between you as an elected leader and the voters you represent?

Jim Renacci Fostering trust between the public and their government is one of the key reasons I first ran for Congress in 2010 after spending the previous 30 years in the business world. At the time, like many Americans, I was dismayed by the rapid expansion of the size and scope of government into every corner of our lives--from our healthcare choices to our small businesses to our politicians in Washington. When I ran, I vowed to ensure people in my district were represented by a public servant who has actually had to live and work under the law and regulations our government enacts and that's precisely what I've done.

As a legislator, it's critical to operate my office with transparency, and to make sure I and my staff are always accessible to my constituents. We take pride in the relationships we've built with our diverse constituencies to work together to improve our communities and that's precisely the type of leadership that I'll bring to the U.S. Senate.

For Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court
Term Beginning 1/1/2019

Michael P. Donnelly (Dem)



Craig Baldwin (Rep)

Office: Franklin County – Ohio Supreme Court

Age: 54

Residence: Newark, OH

Website: BaldwinForOhio.com.; FaceBook: JudgeCraigBaldwin; Instagram: JudgeCraigBaldwin

Occupation: Judge, Ohio Fifth District Court of Appeals

Education: J.D. Capital University Law School. B.A. Ohio University.

Work Experience: Judge, Fifth District Court of Appeals, 2013 to present. Judge, Licking County Common Pleas Court, Domestic Relations Division, 2005-2013. Director, Licking County Child Support Enforcement Agency, 2001-2005. Partner in the Law Firm of Jones, Norpell, List Miller and Howarth. 1997-2001. Associate Attorney at the Law firm of Swank and Wilson. 1992-1997.

(1) List your judicial experience (courts and years):

Ohio Fifth District Court of Appeals, 2013 to present. Licking County Common Pleas Court, Domestic Relations Division, 2005-2013.

(2) What about your non-judicial legal experience qualifies you to be a judge?

My time as a practicing attorney provided me with a solid background for a successful judicial career. I represented a wide variety of clients in both the civil and criminal areas, doing both trial and appellate work. This broad range of experience provided me with the legal and personal qualifications to succeed as a judge. I attended law school at night. During the day I worked for the Franklin County Municipal Court Clerk of Court and the Ohio Public Defender's Office. These law school jobs provided a sound foundation for my legal career.

(3) Why are you running for this particular court seat?

I believe in our democracy and in our constitution. I have great respect for our legal system. During my time on the bench I have considered it my privilege to participate in our system as a Judge. I hope to be elected as an Ohio Supreme Court Justice so I can work to ensure the system works for all according to our constitutional principles. Further I have strong feelings about the way all participants in the system should be treated. Every person who enters a courthouse, no matter what their role, should be treated with dignity and respect, in short as a citizen in their courthouse. I believe that Judges at every level should be fair, timely and only rule on the specific issues in front of them. Judges should interpret the law and then be humble enough to stop, refraining from legislating from the bench. These are the values and principles I lived by as a Common Pleas Judge, as an Appellate Court Judge and these are the values and principles I will live by as an Ohio Supreme Court Justice.

For Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court
Term Beginning 1/2/2019

Melody J. Stewart (Dem)

Mary DeGenaro (Rep)

For Judge of the Eleventh District Court of Appeals
Term Beginning 2/9/2019

Darya Klammer (Dem) Write-in

Matt Lynch (Rep)

Candidate has not responded.

Colleen Mary O'Toole (Rep)

Candidate has not responded.

For Judge of the Eleventh District Court of Appeals
Term Beginning 2/10/2019

Mary Jane Trapp (Dem)

Casey O'Brien (Rep)