

Indiana State Senate Election Candidates

updated 9/21/22

HOW WERE REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES EVALUATED?

Democrat Candidates "i" denotes incumbent		Occupation	Top Issues	District	Republican Candidates "i" denotes incumbent	ANTI-CHOICE	ANTI-GUN SAFETY	ANTI-PUBLIC SCHOOLS	ANTI-ENVIRONMENT	Additional Platform/Notes
<p>"Anti-choice" means the candidate does not support a woman's right to choose to have an abortion, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - voting in favor of SB 1, the bill banning abortion in Indiana (applicable to incumbents only) - describing him/herself as "pro-life" and/or supportive of SB 1 on social media, campaign websites, interviews, etc. - accepting donations or endorsements from Right to Life and similar organizations 		<p>"Anti-gun safety" means the candidate opposes reasonable gun safety regulations, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - voting in favor of HB 1296, which repealed gun permit and gun license requirements (applicable to incumbents only) - describing him/herself as "pro-2A" on social media, campaign websites, interviews, etc. - indicating intention to reject gun control measures if elected - accepting donations or endorsements from the NRA and similar organizations 		<p>"Anti-public schools" means the candidate demonstrates hostility to public schools, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - voting in favor of HB 1134, to restrict and control school curriculum; SB 17, to restrict and censor school libraries; and/or HB 1005, funding private (including religious) schools with public tax dollars (incumbents only) - describing him/herself as "protecting parents' choices in education" or "opposing CRT/SEL/wokeness" on social media, campaign websites, interviews, etc. - accepting donations or endorsements from organizations that promote anti-public school views, such as Purple4Parents, Hoosiers for Quality Education PAC, etc. 		<p>"Anti-environment" means the candidate opposes environmental protections and investments in renewable energy, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - voting in favor of SB 389, which drastically reduced protection of Indiana's wetlands (applicable to incumbents only) - indicating intention to reject solar-power, wind-power, and other renewable sources of energy 				
https://griffin4senate.com/	Michael Griffin (i)	City Clerk-Treasurer (ret)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Raise the minimum wage - Boost workers' compensation benefits - Cannabis Legalization - Investing in Education and Hoosier Families - Reproductive freedom and healthcare 	1	Dan Dernulc	✓	✓	✓	?	
https://www.rodneypolindiana.com	Rodney Pol Jr. (i)	City Attorney	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Invest in public education - Common sense gun regulations - Protect the environment and water supply - Women's and LGBTQ rights - Protect voting access 	4	Jeff Larson	?	?	?	?	unable to verify platform
https://fountainforindiana.com	Melinda Fountain	Diplomat; university associate director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organizing rights for all workers - Universal pre-K and full-time kindergarten for all Hoosiers - Pro-choice, access to contraception - Responsible gun policies - Reinstating protections for Indiana wetlands 	11	Linda Rogers (i)	✓	✓	✓	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Voted to remove exceptions even for victims of rape - Authored SB 389 - Co-authored HB 1134
https://www.heimachforstatesenate.com	Zach Heimach	Youth chaplain; non-profit worker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Better funded teachers - Advancing mental healthcare - Educational and tech advancements - Investing in solar energy, expanding broadband, and anticipating emerging industrial opportunities. 	14	Tyler Johnson	✓	✓	✓	?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 100% pro life, against all exceptions, even for fatal fetal anomalies and rape - Transphobic - Anti-vax - he is a physician - Funded by Koch brothers - Campaign manager is 20 year veteran of Right to Life of Northeast Indiana
https://popoioforstatesenate.godaddy.com	Joe Swisher	Air Force Veteran and State Police Master Trooper (ret)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A woman's right to choose - Better funded public education - Ban on assault rifles and high capacity magazines - No teachers carrying guns - LGBTQ+ rights - Union and Labor rights. 	17	Andy Zay (i)	✓	✓	✓	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - voted to remove exceptions even for victims of rape - Claimed "racism is not real" on social media - co-authored SB 389 - Co-authored HB 1296
https://lowryforindiana.com	Josh Lowry	Attorney	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reinstate a woman's right to choose - Support and fully-fund public schools and teachers - Universal preschool and assistance for childcare - More accessible and affordable healthcare - Clean our polluted waters and air 	21	James Buck (i)	✓	✓	✓	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - voted to remove exceptions even for victims of rape - co-authored SB 389 - Prominent member of ALEC (a conservative organization of state legislators and corporations that draft self-serving laws)
https://davidsandersforindiana.com	Dr. David Sanders	Professor, researcher, City Councilor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public education - Personal privacy from government interference - Broadband internet access and cell phone coverage - High-speed rail - Affordable and accessible healthcare 	23	Spencer Deery	✓	✓	✓	?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Endorsed by Indiana Right to Life - Accepted \$15,000 from Hoosiers for Quality Education
https://tdforindiana.godaddy.com/	Tamie Dixon-Tatum	Community advocate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Economic and social justice - Affordable healthcare - Living wages - Green technology - Voting rights - Common-sense gun laws - Affordable housing 	25	Mike Gaskill (i)	✓	✓	✓	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Voted to remove exceptions, even for victims of rape - Accepted \$11,000 from Hoosiers for Quality Education - Co-authored SB 389
https://www.facebook.com/votemelaniewright	Melanie Wright	Music teacher; former House representative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bipartisanship and collaboration - Local control, not centralized to Indy - Public education 	26	Scott Alexander	✓	?	?	?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Endorsed by Indiana Right to Life
https://itnyreforindiana.com	Dr. Ronald Itnyre	Scientist, researcher, educator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Boost funding to public schools and increase support staff - Support common-sense gun laws - Protect Indiana's forests and commit to clean air and water - Pro-choice on women's health care - Expand workforce training and reskilling programs 	27	Jeff Raatz (i)	✓	✓	✓	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Voted to remove exceptions, even for victims of rape - Authored SB 17 - Sponsored HB 1005
https://www.mobilize.us/embed/senatorjdfordforindiana29/feed/	JD Ford (i)	Higher education; non-profits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Repeal SEA 1 (abortion ban) - Fight for affordable healthcare, reduce the price of insulin, and address maternal mortality rate - Strengthen and improve our public schools - Enforcement against hate crimes - Advocate for common-sense gun reform measures - Advocate for voter access - Invest in high-quality, high-wage jobs and eliminate taxpayer subsidies for companies who ship Indiana jobs overseas 	29	Alexander Choi	?	?	?	?	
https://www.jocelynvareforindiana.com	Jocelyn Vare	Small business owner; City Councilor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fully fund public schools and provide career apprenticeship opportunities for students - Expand access to quality, affordable primary care and protect abortion rights - Enact sensible gun safety legislation - Address Central Indiana's affordable housing crisis - Ensure access to affordable, quality childcare 	31	Kyle Walker (i)	✓	?	✓	?	
https://www.bryanmuozforindiana.com/	Bryan Muñoz	Teacher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fully funding public education and keeping policy decisions local - Protecting reproductive and medical rights, freedom, and privacy - Safe gun laws that require permits while preserving our 2nd amendment right 	41	Greg Walker (i)	✓	?	✓	?	
https://hoosiersformickmarshall.com	Nick Marshall	Non-profit and community service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Getting more resources to women & children to help them be successful - Fully funded public education - Improvements in our foster care and adoption system 	45	Chris Garten (i)	✓	✓	✓	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Authored SB 17 - Authored SB 389
https://andreahunley.com/volunteer	Andrea Hunley	Public school principal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thriving and supported public schools - Increased minimum wage - Workforce development and union apprenticeships - Strong neighborhoods and affordable housing - Access to fully funded transit 	46	Evan Shearin	?	?	?	?	
https://forteforsouthernindiana.org	Katie Forte	Realtor, public school teacher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Well-funded public education - Support for workers through unions - Accessible broadband internet - Responsible gun ownership - Healthcare without government interference 	47	Gary Byrne (i)	✓	✓	✓	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Voted to remove exceptions, even for victims of rape
https://www.jeffhillfor48.com/	Jeff Hill	Police officer, school resource officer, DARE officer (ret)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pro-choice on women's health care and the right to choose - Pro gun safety and law enforcement - Fully fund public schools and free text books - Stop censoring school and public libraries - Anti Mid-States corridor - Protecting the right to love who you want to love 	48	Mark Messmer (i)	✓	✓	✓	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Voted against abortion ban, but at behest of RTL groups - Accepted \$20,000 from Hoosiers for Quality Education - Authored SB 389 - Sponsored HB 1005