



# Issue Statements

## **A Champion for Iowa's Children**

As a special education teacher with a doctorate in Educational Policy and Leadership Studies, and coach in the public school system, every day I see how the current education funding formula and state budget are not working for Iowa's children, parents, or educators. When making decisions about education I will listen to our students, parents and educators, not out-of- state interests and lobbyists.

## **Working for Hardworking Iowa Families**

The Republican practice of giving handouts to out-of-state corporations has left Iowa's working families behind in the ability to earn a living wage. Iowa's Legislature should work with all business owners here in Iowa to create good paying jobs for Iowans. I will also work to increase the minimum wage to a living wage for all hardworking families.

## **Keeping Communities Safe**

It has been my honor to serve this community as a Special Deputy for the Linn County Sheriff's Office. I see the need to keep our communities safe. I will:

1. Fund training for officers that will give them the skills to continue building relationships and trust with all citizens regardless of demographics or background.
2. Help our communities break the cycle of domestic violence by strengthening legislation to punish offenders.
3. Work to meet Iowa's needs for enhanced, focused mental healthcare by making sure our citizens with mental health needs are given timely and appropriate care in a licensed facility.
4. Work to reinstate recent state budget cuts that have led to a decrease in nursing home inspections that have left our seniors vulnerable to neglect and abuse.
5. Continue to support the 2nd Amendment of the U.S. Constitution while simultaneously recognizing that gun violence has become an epidemic. I will support common sense gun legislation that will work to keep our schools and communities safe.

## **Making Iowa work. Together.**

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## **Accountability and Transparency**

Over the last few years we have seen politicians at every level hand out millions of our taxpayer dollars to out-of-state corporations through backroom deals. As your state representative, I will hold myself, my fellow legislators and state of Iowa employees to our commitment to be accountable and transparent to Iowa taxpayers. We deserve to know where our tax dollars are spent and how we benefit from those expenditures.

## **A Steward of Our Environment**

I accept the scientific consensus that climate change is real and affects the communities in which we live. I acknowledge the findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change that the increased rate of global warming is unequivocal and the consequence of human actions. I will:

1. Advocate and work for legislation that protects Iowa watersheds and wildlife areas. Ensure the conservation of watersheds, state parks, hunting lands and public use areas
2. Work for clean water and air for the continued sustainability of Iowa's public health and ecosystems.

According to the American Wind Energy Association, 36% of Iowa's electricity is currently generated by wind. Iowa must continue to transform its energy systems away from fossil fuels to energy-efficient, sustainable, clean, and renewable energy solutions. Iowa is an ideal location to harness both wind and solar energy. Expanding our wind and solar farms, will also create many new Iowa jobs.

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