

1. Health Care/ Smart Growth/ Renewable Energy R&D It is difficult to leave out education, campaign finance reform and ...
2. This would be included in health care reform. We have ignored the mental health crisis for decades in this country. We have turned our backs on those afflicted with mental and emotional disorders. We have literally pushed them out onto the streets and left them abandoned. We need to seriously look at a Healthy Wisconsin program or an expanded BadgerCare Plus. Our present system is what I call "health exclusion insurance". Companies exclude so many medical, mental and emotional health problems that people are put in a financial crisis situation or go untreated. We need to be heard by the policy developers in Madison that health care is not a luxury but a necessity for all residents to have a chance to reach their full potential.
3. As a society we need to believe poverty is not acceptable in the wealthiest country in the world. Jim Wallis in his book "God's Politics" addresses the issue of poverty. Among many things he states "poverty will not be overcome, or even significantly reduced, until the debate over poverty is set free from its ideological captivity". Poverty is unacceptable! Arguing about its existence is a waste of time. We must address affordable housing, job training programs for jobs with a "living" wage, day care for children that is affordable or (as some companies do) provided and access to health care.
4. I would first determine if every possible stone has been turned to provide assistance within the existing framework. I would look into private volunteer programs that may be able to provide assistance and be sure the affected person was made aware of these programs and the programs would also be informed of the need that existed. I would also contact faith-based groups that provide continuing assistance in these situations. If all these attempts fail we then need to look at the programs we have, why they are not working and change them so people are not abandoned by government or the private sector.
5. I support any and all programs that "promote the general welfare" of the residents of the state. All people, regardless of physical, mental or emotional problems, have the right to live in a society which provides them the opportunity to attain their full potential as a human being. Specific options would be access to mobility within their community, employment opportunities, educational programs allowing them to use the talents and abilities they possess. We need to be sure they are not ignored, denied assistance or excluded within their community. We also need to provide education to those not disabled with the goal of making them more compassionate and accepting of the disabled.
6. Refer to #4.
7. During my campaign to be elected I am attempting to meet as many groups as possible. Once elected I will set meetings in every community within my District and meet with the disabled. I would be sure that all are able to attend and arrange transportation for those who could not attend due to transportation problems. I will listen to their concerns and problems as well as their successes and develop legislation to meet their needs.

I am running a campaign against an incumbent that will be difficult to beat, but be assured that my voice will be heard during this campaign and the issues of the disabled addressed.

Sincerely,

Doug A, Harrod