

Voters Guide US House of Representatives November 8, 2016 General Election

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Candidates for US House of Representatives Congressional District 1

Office U.S. House of Representatives District 1

Candidate: Mike Manypenny

County of Residence: Taylor

Party: Democrat

Biography

I'm a former member of the WV House of Delegates, farmer and small businessman. I serve on many non-profit boards as a volunteer, including Northern WV Centers for Independent Living, TV Chamber of Commerce, Tygart Valley CAC, Project HOP2E Food Bank, Taylor County Farmers Market, Tygart State Park Foundation, Taylor County Family Resource Network, Taylor County Substance Abuse Task Force.

1. What should Congress do to help West Virginia communities impacted by the decline in the coal industry?

To help our coal industry we need to rebuild our crumbling infrastructure and require all public funded projects buy Made in America products to revive our industrial base, including steel, which would increase demand for WV met coal and coal mining jobs. Also Federal money for retraining programs for unemployed miners.

2. What measures would you propose to reform the federal tax code?

I support an increase on the top income earners making over \$250,000 a year and eliminate the tax subsidies for Corporations like Exxon Mobile and General electric that make hundreds of millions of dollars a year and continue to get tax subsidies which is considered a form of Corporate welfare. I would also support exemptions for reinvestments in American jobs!

3. What improvements in mental health services for veterans would you favor?

Our Veterans deserve our full support and respect for their service to this Country and our Freedoms. I support unlimited mental health services and other forms of healthcare for all our men and women who served in the United States military!

Office U.S. House of Representatives District 1

Name David B. McKinley

County of Residence Ohio

Party Republican

Biography

David McKinley represents West Virginia's First District in the U.S. House of Representatives. Since 2011, McKinley has served as a strong, independent voice in Washington. McKinley has been recognized for his bipartisan work on issues from energy to health care. One of just two Professional Engineers in Congress, McKinley founded and built an architectural/engineering firm before being elected.

1. What should Congress do to help West Virginia communities impacted by the decline in the coal industry?

Excessive regulations have hurt coal miners and decimated our economy. I will continue to fight against anti-coal policies, and push to invest in research to use coal more efficiently and cleanly. We also need to do more to diversify our economy and provide opportunity for coal communities. I've introduced legislation to do that and offer training for laid off miners.

2. What measures would you propose to reform the federal tax code?

Our tax code is too complex and has too many loopholes that benefit only the well-connected. It needs to be simpler, fairer, and flatter. The tax code should make it easier to create jobs, increase wages, and expand opportunity for hardworking taxpayers. The Better Way plan developed by House Republicans includes reforms to do that. Learn more at better.gov.

3. What improvements in mental health services for veterans would you favor?

Our veterans have sacrificed, and they deserve the best care when they come home. Sadly the VA system is broken. Congress has taken action to fix it, including passing the Clay Hunt Act, which expedites access to mental health services for veterans. This is a first step and more needs to be done to improve access to mental health care

Candidates for US House of Representatives Congressional District 2

Office U.S. House of Representatives District 2

Name Mark A. Hunt

County of Residence Kanawha

Party Democrat

Biography

Mark Hunt was born and raised in Kanawha County. In addition to his successful 22-year career as an attorney, he also served for 14 years in the state legislature. The eldest of five children in a working class family, he still lives in the same neighborhood where he grew up.

1. What should Congress do to help West Virginia communities impacted by the decline in the coal industry?

Congress must support education and workforce development and retraining initiatives; secure monies for viable redevelopment projects, agribusiness and rural development opportunities; explore development of coal-bed methane reserves; and continue to fund clean coal research and development.

2. What measures would you propose to reform the federal tax code?

First and foremost, we must simplify the tax code by lowering individual and corporate tax rates and decreasing the current number of brackets. Next, tax breaks that are inefficient or unfair to individuals and small businesses should be cut. Finally, we must ensure that the Buffet Rule is strictly adhered to.

3. What improvements in mental health services for veterans would you favor?

We must repay our veterans for their selfless service by providing them with access to quality healthcare, including transportation to and from medical and mental health facilities, and educational and training opportunities. We must also look to combat homelessness in our veteran communities.

Office U.S. House of Representatives District 2

Name Alex X. Mooney
County of Residence Jefferson
Party Republican

Biography

Alex Mooney and his wife live in Charles Town with their three children. The son of a Cuban refugee and Vietnam veteran, Alex grew up with a deep appreciation for American ideals of freedom and responsibility. Alex will continue to defend West Virginia against President Obama's disastrous policies while encouraging job creation and prosperity in West Virginia.

1. What should Congress do to help West Virginia communities impacted by the decline in the coal industry?

Congress must fight back against the EPA. I introduced the Supporting Transparent Regulatory and Environmental Actions in Mining Act, preventing the Obama Administration from implementing a regulation intentionally designed to kill as many as 80,000 coal jobs. My bill passed with a bipartisan vote of 235-188. I will continue to fight against over regulation of the coal industry.

2. What measures would you propose to reform the federal tax code?

The current tax code is a mess. At over 60,000 pages, it is riddled with rules and unfair carve outs for politically favored industries and high taxes that discourage hard work and entrepreneurship. I favor scrapping the current tax code and lowering taxes on employers and individuals to create jobs and allow people to keep more of what they earn.

3. What improvements in mental health services for veterans would you favor?

As the son of a Vietnam War veteran, I will always prioritize the physical and mental health of our service members. That's why I cosponsored H.R. 577, which will assist veterans living in rural areas across West Virginia. This legislation will allow veterans living more than 40 miles from the nearest VA facility to obtain quality healthcare at local facilities.

Candidates for US House of Representatives Congressional District 3

Office U.S. House of Representatives District 3
Name Matt Detch
County of Residence Greenbrier
Party Democrat

Biography

I am a native of Greenbrier County, WV. My family immigrated to West Virginia to work in the mines. I possess both a bachelors and masters degree in criminology. I served for more than four years with the US Secret Service under Presidents Bush and Obama. I enjoy staying in shape, the outdoors, and playing with my Australian Shepherd, Sydney.

1. What should Congress do to help West Virginia communities impacted by the decline in the coal industry?

Communities affected by the decline in coal must be seen as a national priority. West Virginia must diversify its economy and compete with outside markets. Congress can provide the vital tools needed by these communities to help diversify and strengthen their economies. Funding infrastructure development and education will be imperative to helping local communities develop and create good jobs.

2. What measures would you propose to reform the federal tax code?

The tax code must be reformed so that it removes the burden from the lower and middle class, and taxes the top percentage of income earners at a fair rate. Small businesses must be given tax breaks so they can be encouraged to grow and create jobs. Loopholes must be removed so that companies operating overseas cannot avoid paying taxes.

3. What improvements in mental health services for veterans would you favor?

I support *any* improvement in health services that would benefit our veterans. In addition to traditional forms of mental health services, it is important we provide veterans with non-traditional mental healthcare. I believe providing veterans with non-traditional types of therapy through creative mediums will help reduce post-traumatic stress and veteran suicide.

Office U.S. House of Representatives District 3

Name Evan Jenkins

County of Residence Cabell

Party Republican

Biography

Born and raised in the Mountain State, Evan Jenkins has a passion for fighting for West Virginia values. Evan has served as a volunteer leader for the Boy Scouts, Red Cross, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, and helped start Lily's Place for our babies. Evan and Elizabeth Jenkins have raised their three children in West Virginia and attend the First Presbyterian Church.

1. What should Congress do to help West Virginia communities impacted by the decline in the coal industry?

We need a bold new vision to strengthen and diversify our economy with good-paying jobs. That's why I cosponsored the RECLAIM Act, which will bring \$1 billion in funding to our region to help diversify communities hardest hit by the downturn in coal. West Virginians deserve opportunity, and I have the solutions to help put our people back to work.

2. What measures would you propose to reform the federal tax code?

Our tax code is broken. We must make our tax code simpler, fairer and flatter to grow our economy and create jobs. By lowering taxes on small businesses, working families and seniors, we can enact real reforms to put more money in your pocket and stop special interest tax breaks.

3. What improvements in mental health services for veterans would you favor?

Our veterans have made enormous sacrifices to defend our nation, and I will continue our fight to ensure they receive the care and benefits they deserve. As your representative, I have increased funding for mental health services at the VA, expanded access to care for rural veterans, and worked to hold the VA accountable to our nation's heroes.

Office U.S. House of Representatives District 3

Name Zane Lawhorn

County of Residence Mercer

Party Libertarian

Biography

I am an Optometrist operating two offices, employing two doctors and fifteen employees. I served as the Elector for the WV Republican Party in 2008. I am an author having published four books. I founded the first ICANN approved Internet Domain Name Registrar in WV. I was awarded the Gold Key International Honor Society for leadership. My website is www.zanelawhorn.com

1. What should Congress do to help West Virginia communities impacted by the decline in the coal industry?

Congress should pass the Save Coal Act restoring energy regulation back to the 1990 Clean Power Act. Instead of submitting to the devastating policy of the EPA, Congress should take action and my top priority will be to restore coal mining jobs. West Virginia needs coal until we can diversify our economy, develop renewable energy resources and build needed infrastructure.

2. What measures would you propose to reform the federal tax code?

Until we can eliminate the income tax and install a fair tax, I would reform the tax code to; eliminate income tax on all small business generating less than \$100,000 annually. Our economy needs jobs and Small Business is the backbone of our economy. Lower taxes will generate more job opportunities in every community.

3. What improvements in mental health services for veterans would you favor?

I will demand that the wait time for our veterans be eliminated. Veterans deserve the best of care and if the VA can't provide a service; the veteran should have a health care card from the day they are honorably discharged that will allow them access to any provider. My brother is a disabled veteran so this is personal.