

For State Representative - 22nd District

Dr. William A. Petit, Jr. (Republican, Independent)

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1. Why are you running for this office?

I am running because I am tired of watching Connecticut being led down the wrong path through decades of one-party rule in the legislature. We cannot change Hartford unless we change who we send to Hartford, and I am running to be a part of that much-needed change. We need people in the legislature who are going to seriously discuss ways we can begin to change the Hartford culture of over-spending, over-estimating revenues in writing budgets, and then "solving" our budget crises with more fees and taxes. I love Connecticut and want to help our state get back on a sustainable fiscal path so that when my young son grows up, he can afford to stay in Connecticut and will not struggle to find a job, like so many young people these days.

2. What are your top 3 legislative priorities?

a) My main priority is restoring fiscal health with honest budgeting which includes not spending more than we take in, adopting budgets based off achievable and not inflated revenue estimates, and instituting a firm bonding cap.

b) We need to protect core services for the most vulnerable in society including the elderly, the disabled, and the mentally ill. Taking care of groups like this should be a priority of government, but recent Democrat budgets have cut these services. We must place people before politics, and support budgets that take care of the most vulnerable in our communities.

c) I will advocate for legislation to have a stronger emphasis on victims' rights. In recent years, the legislature has passed many bills focused on "second chances" for incarcerated individuals, but I do not think the same amount of attention has been paid to advocating on behalf of victims.

3. Do you believe there are barriers to voting in Connecticut? If so, what would you do the eliminate them?

I think we are fortunate to live in a state where there are not many major barriers to voting. One can now register in person, on-line, at the DMV, at events, etc. The biggest threat I see to voting in Connecticut is the apathy among voters that their vote doesn't count. We need to do more to excite people, especially the younger generation, about voting and show them that without their votes, nothing will change.

Elizabeth "Betty" Boukus (Democratic)

No response received.