

For State Representative - 99<sup>th</sup> District

**James Albis** (Democratic, Working Families)

*1. Why are you running for this office?*

I am running for office to make East Haven and the State of Connecticut a better place to live. East Haven is a very blue-collar, family-oriented community. My parents taught me the value of hard work and giving back to my community through public service, as they have been public servants their whole working lives. I want to make East Haven and Connecticut a better place by ensuring that every person who works full-time can earn a living wage to provide for their family, make sure seniors can live their retirement years with dignity, and expand opportunities for young graduates of our vo-tech schools, community colleges, and universities to be able to work and live in our state after graduating. We have so much potential in our state that is just waiting to be harnessed.

*2. What are your top 3 legislative priorities?*

My top three legislative priorities are job creation, protecting our seniors, and working to solve problems in a bipartisan manner. We are all sick of the gridlock in Washington. I want to give East Haven residents a reason to be proud of the work that is going on in Hartford and show them, as I have for the past six years, that it is possible to accomplish big things when you work across party lines. We must expand on bipartisan initiatives that create jobs and improve the quality of life in Connecticut like the small business express program, connecting manufacturers with Connecticut students, or aging-in-place.

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

The biggest barriers to voting in Connecticut are our outdated absentee ballot rules. We should follow the lead of other states, both blue and red, in expanding opportunities for early voting and no-excuse mail-in ballots. I have supported these initiatives in the past. Unfortunately, making these types of changes requires amending our state constitution, which is no easy task. I will continue to work to make easier access to voting, the cornerstone of our democracy and our rights as U.S. citizens, a reality for all Connecticut residents.

**“Big” Steve Tracey** (Republican, Independent)

No response received.