

For State Senator - 21<sup>st</sup> District

**Kevin Kelly** (Republican)

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

To make a positive contribution toward the betterment of our community. As a State Senator I've spearheaded initiatives to cut taxes, create jobs and improve life for everyone. We've accomplished a lot, but we still have more to do to make Connecticut the great state we all know it can be. I'm ready to take on that challenge. With your vote, I will continue to fight for our community, our values and our families and send a common sense message to Hartford: smaller government, lower taxes and a focus on families is key to fixing Connecticut's problems.

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

1. Create jobs. Improve Connecticut's business environment by supporting smart investment in good paying middle-class jobs (i.e. Sikorsky bill this week) as well as addressing long term issues to make our state more competitive, by reducing the size and scope of government and requiring government to live within its means, just like you.

2. Aging In Place. As ranking member on the Aging Committee I will continue to advance issues to improve the quality of life for seniors as they age in place, including repeal of the income tax on Social Security income.

3. Healthcare. As ranking member on the Insurance Committee I will continue to advance initiatives which are aimed at increasing access to quality and affordable healthcare. My extensive Medicaid experience brings valuable insight to the legislature, particularly now, during the implementation of the Affordable Care Act and the issues surrounding the sustainability of the Connecticut Exchange.

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

The Connecticut General Assembly has passed into law several initiatives aimed at reducing barriers to voting in recent years. However, turnout remains lower than desired. To improve voter turnout more focus needs to be placed on the value of civics to educate the public on the importance of voting and that civic engagement requires more than just voting, but also participation to improve our community.

*4. Should Connecticut institute high-speed (e.g., E-ZPass) tolls on major highways to help pay for road and rail improvements? If so, where?*

No. I believe Connecticut has a spending problem, not a revenue problem. Further, Connecticut already has a "special transportation fund" which is suppose to fund road and rail improvements. Unfortunately, the Governor and his majority raid that fund every year. What makes anyone think that toll money will be spent any differently by the Governor and his majority? Taxpayers already make a substantial tax sacrifice for transportation. The legislature must set the right priorities with those tax dollars to improve our transportation system and not continue to go back to the taxpayers asking them to sacrifice even more.

**Prez Palmer** (Democratic)

No response received.