

For State Senate - 2nd District

Eric Coleman (Democratic, Working Families)

1. Why are you running for this office?

I am seeking re-election to the state senate because I thoroughly enjoy public service. I appreciate being close to the issues of the day and the opportunity to have input toward the resolution of those issues. I believe that my background and experience enable me to contribute ideas and proposals to address problems that challenge the towns I represent as well as the State of Connecticut. I derive a tremendous amount of gratification on those occasions when I am able to assist a constituent resolve a problem or advance a project, program or service.

2. What are your 3 top legislative priorities?

1) Criminal Justice Reform is a priority because a criminal conviction should not serve as a lifetime barrier to opportunity. A second chance should be afforded to those who may have been involved in non-violent offenses, particularly to those whose mental health or youth and immaturity may have resulted in conviction.

2) Economic Development to grow jobs in Connecticut must be pursued. Merely giving massive amounts of money to major corporations with promises of hiring a certain number of people will fail as a strategy unless it also includes financial and technical support for small businesses and investment in distressed communities.

3) Police accountability and trust between police and communities is essential. Support for police and concern for victims of excessive force are not mutually exclusive. Officers should not be murdered and people who are profiled or stopped for minor infractions should not end up dead. Better training and rapport

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

I am actually proud of the efforts that Connecticut has made in support of simplifying the voter process. At the same time, there is room for improvement. I applaud the Secretary of State's initiative to provide for automatic registration with applications for new or renewed motor vehicle operator's licenses. Same day registration and voting and the restoration of voting rights for convicted felons have been positive developments, however, the state should continue facilitating electoral process participation by implementing early voting (week long voting, including Sunday voting) and no excuse absentee ballot voting.

Theresa Tillett (Republican)

No response received