

State Senate - 31st District

Mike Nicaastro (Democratic)

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1. Why are you running for this office?

I'm running for the state senate because Connecticut residents can be confident in our future only when their elected officials start with a positive attitude but don't hesitate to tell it like it is. We have serious challenges but I am confident that those challenges can be overcome with focus and sense of innovation. The 31st District deserves a state senator who is fiercely focused on the issues in the district and has the ability and wherewithal to strongly represent the district on the senate floor. I possess those skills as well as a wide array of business and life experience which will allow me to make a difference at the state and district level.

2. What are your top 3 legislative priorities?

My first term focus will be strengthening the state's economy and enhancing an environment which creates jobs while building a sustainable competitive advantage through:

- Fiscal management- Developing a fiscally sound budget is not a "set it and forget it" effort.
- Innovation – Reinvigorating a sense of innovation in our economy and in how we govern.
- Entrepreneurship & Succession Planning – Celebrating and encouraging innovation to inspire the entrepreneurs in our midst while at the same time addressing the close to 47% of small businesses that are owned by residents who are 55 years of age or older - a small business "Silver Tsunami."
- Higher Education – Supporting the state's higher education assets in its colleges and universities and the opportunity they give to our future generations.

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

I believe that most barriers to voting have been relieved, especially with the adoption of the "motor-voter" law. That said, there are still cities and towns where the process on election day still experiences operational challenges. We need to continue to invest in newer voting technologies which alleviate polling location operational issues while protecting the integrity of each vote and the election process.

Henri Martin (Republican, Independent)

No response received.