



# VOTER REPORT

## Candidates Respond to Important Questions Impacting Local Businesses

The Findlay-Hancock County Chamber of Commerce Advisory Board invited the candidates running for office in this year's Special Election to respond to a questionnaire in order for you, the business community, to vote pro-business. These candidates were asked to respond, up to 175 words, to each question below. Those responses are listed exactly as they were received, and those that exceeded the required word count are stopped at 175 words.

Races whose candidates were invited to respond: **State Representative – 83<sup>rd</sup> District** and **State Senator – 1<sup>st</sup> District\***

*\*indicates no responses were received from any candidate*

### State Representative – 83<sup>rd</sup> District

#### Q. What are the motivating factors in your decision to run for public office?



**Claire Osborne (Candidate):** The main motivating factor that pushed me to decide to run for public office was when those in the State House, including our current representative, supported a change to how local mental health and substance use boards choose who is on their board. The aim was to remove the requirement to have people with lived experience represented on those boards. I felt this was unnecessary given that those unique perspectives help improve services in the community. I strongly believe that people who are most affected by something should have a choice and a voice. I decided to run for public office so that the people of the 83rd have a choice. I believe that all policy is mental health and substance abuse prevention policy. Having strong, resilient, and healthy communities where everyone can thrive will lead to a better wellbeing for all of us.

#### Q. Should you win in August, what are your priorities and how do you recommend we address them as a community?



**Claire Osborne (Candidate):** One of the issues the 83rd and all of Ohio needs to address is the fleeing of young people from our area and our state. We need young people to stay in our area to provide stability, continued growth and to sustain the workforce. Young people want to feel like they belong in our community and laws that restrict their medical freedom and right to privacy, laws that weaken protections for the LGBTQ+ community, and laws that make it harder to see a stable future for the state, send the message that those young people don't belong here. The future of Ohio needs to be invested in and one of the main things we can do to ensure that the future of Ohio is bright is to ensure we fully fund K-12 public education, ensuring that public dollars go to public schools and expand education in Ohio to fully fund Pre-K opportunities. Lastly, we need to invest in public transportation infrastructure including public rail to give Ohioans more choice in how they travel throughout Ohio.

#### Q. How would you promote the area's continued growth while remaining mindful of the needs of the community?



**Claire Osborne (Candidate):** I would continue to listen to members of the community. As I said I believe that when policy is being made those most effected need to have a voice in that conversation. I would ensure to prioritize meeting with community leaders and have office hours quarterly in each county of the district. I would also support and sponsor bills that help the 83rd. Everyone in the 83rd and all of Ohio deserve to have access to a high quality of life and that can be done with thoughtful leadership that prioritizes the individuals of our community over special interest groups. It is the people of the 83rd that make it the great place it is.

Candidates running for **State Representative – 83<sup>rd</sup> District** who did not respond to the questionnaire: **Jon Cross, Melissa Kritzell**