



BRIAN HIGGINS



Democratic, Working Families

Member of Congress. Former member, NYS Assembly and Buffalo Common Council. Educator: lecturer, History & Economics Departments, SUNY Buffalo State College.

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My priorities for 2023 include: supporting efforts to prevent gun violence, advocating equality for people in our community whose rights have been undermined by the Supreme Court, using the tax code to help promote renewable energy to help our country confront climate change, increasing the supply of affordable multi-family and single-family housing, improving tax credits that promote historic preservation and economic development in underserved areas, continuing to work to decrease health care costs to consumers, promoting increased cross-border economic investments between the United States and Canada, etc.

SUPPORT

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Climate change is a crisis facing our world, but it presents an opportunity as well. For commercial and industrial consumers, we can reduce carbon emissions with the assistance of incentives that account for any differences in upfront costs, integrating geothermal, wind, and solar. For homeowners, we should promote "net-zero" homes through rebates and tax incentives. For the transportation sector, we should increase fuel efficiency standards, aggressively deploy EV charging infrastructure, and continue battery innovation to increase the utility of non-combustion engine vehicles. We must also continue to find ways to reduce industrial emissions and other pollution that contributes to climate change.

THE 26TH DISTRICT INCLUDES:
Buffalo, West Seneca, Cheektowaga, Amherst, the Tonawandas, Grand Island, and Western Niagara County.

ISSUES

BACKGROUND

CAMPAIGN WEBSITE

TOP PRIORITIES

USICA/COMPETES/Chips Act

Pell Grants for short-term training programs (JOBS Act)

Single Payer Healthcare

"Build Back Better" Reconciliation Bill

Ending the Filibuster in the US Senate

Green New Deal

On energy and climate policy

STEVEN SAMS II



Republican, Conservative

Career Military, Retired

samsforthepeople.com

Top priorities for me are, Term Limits for ALL elected officials, ban stock trading for members of Congress and their family, border security and Immigration Reform, strengthen programs for small businesses. Bringing jobs and manufacturing back to America.

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A full and comprehensive "All Types" energy policy needs to be developed and implemented while working towards a cleaner greener future.



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Buffalo was built to be a city almost four times the size of its current population, so our community maintains a tremendous amount of excess infrastructure that drags our ability to increase productivity and provide economic opportunity. We must continue to reinvest in our community to reignite the vitality of neighborhoods so that small businesses can prosper and provide new employment opportunities. The American Rescue Plan, The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, and the CHIPS and Science Act have and will help make strategic investments in our community to improve our collective life quality and competitiveness.

I support comprehensive immigration reform and believe that legislative action is long overdue. I think Congress should prioritize this issue, not only as a matter of dignity for those who are here - like the "dreamers", but also to provide certainty for business in setting new and functional rules of the road on hiring and retention. Western New York is a highly successful case study of the economic and cultural benefits immigrants provide to communities, and we must improve the system to allow the chance to achieve the American Dream to those who desire it.

The federal government plays a central role in student lending, job training, education standard setting, and many other components that affect the workforce. This is important to the future of Western New York, and America's, economic competitiveness. Any analysis of these components needs to think not only about how they help citizens fulfill their potential and improve life quality, but also how those programs contribute to our country's overall productivity. I support increase apprenticeship programs and vocational training, stronger partnerships between schools and employers to help students take advantage of careers, and the promotion of the technology sector to the future of our region.

The COVID-19 pandemic was a shock to our economy that continues to ripple today. The federal government has a tremendous amount of leverage to help cut costs for Americans. Those include decreasing the importance of gas prices to consumers by promoting hybrid and electric vehicles, increasing the supply of affordable single family and multifamily housing to control housing costs, allowing Medicare to negotiate drug prices, and promoting redundancy in supply chains to prevent disruptions that lead to increased prices.

Employers know me and my record as a Member of Congress. I work every day to improve our community through legislative action. I believe that the best days for Buffalo and WNY are ahead of us. I think so much of what can help us get to a brighter future is by leveraging our community assets and building confidence, individually and collectively. This includes acknowledging the important investments of employers to make our community better - like Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center's public health commitments and M&T Bank's Tech Hub. Many of Buffalo's most significant economic development projects tell the story of the public and private sectors working together to better our region and I am eager to continue that story to support the growth of our employers.

ISSUES

On the largest impediment to growth in our region

On Immigration Reform

On developing the next generation of workers

On addressing inflation

On why employers should support him

STEVEN SAMS II
Republican, Conservative

The things we need for Immigration Reform are, a secure border, a streamlined application process, easier work permitting process for migrant workers. I would also support a limited amnesty program for DACA participants.

There is nothing wrong with a hard day's work, and you can make some decent money at the same time. Unfortunately, there doesn't seem to be a focus on blue collar trades. The federal government needs to do a better job of educating the next generation about trade jobs and put more effort into grants and scholarships for trade schools.

The unchecked and unnecessary social spending for pet projects and wish list items is causing inflation to worsen, and the average everyday worker is paying for it. Paying more for food and rent and having less money to do it.

As a former small business owner, I know the struggles of trying to find employees to do the work you have, also trying to give people a fair price for services provided while still trying to make a few dollars for yourself.