



P R E S E N T S

MEET THE CANDIDATES 2020

Margaret Good **Candidate for FL Congressional District 16**

Introduction: Service runs deep in my family – my great-grandfather served in WWI, my grandfather served in WWII, and my uncle gave his life serving in Vietnam. I'm running for Congress because I believe that in these critical times, we need representatives who will put country above party. In the legislature, I've prioritized working across the aisle to find solutions that will help my constituents.

What do you see as the three most critical domestic issues facing the U.S. over the next two years? Please list in priority order and explain why.

- 1. Protecting our Environment** - Here in Florida, we understand the importance of protecting our environment -- it is vital to our economy and our way of life. We must hold corporate polluters accountable and continue to innovate and find ways to bring clean, green jobs, especially in the manufacturing sector, to our region.
- 2. Ensuring Access to Affordable Healthcare** - The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the need to ensure everyone has access to affordable healthcare. It's vital that we fight attempts to repeal protections for people with pre-existing conditions, especially since COVID is a pre-existing condition. I will fight to stop health insurance lobbyists from writing our health care laws, make sure everyone has access to affordable healthcare, and will support legislation to lower prescription drug costs.
- 3. Getting big money out of politics** - Republicans and Democrats alike understand that Washington works for special interests and not the American people. They understand that our representatives are too often more interested in serving themselves, rather than their constituents.

That's why I'm not taking corporate PAC money in my campaign and will work to reform our broken campaign finance system.

What do you see as the three most critical global/international issues facing the U.S. over the next two years? Please list in priority order and explain why.

- 1. Preventing Iran from Acquiring Nuclear Weapons** - Iran's pursuit of nuclear weapons poses a threat to the United States, Israel, the Middle East, and the world. Iran's acquisition of such a capability would create a new danger, as Tehran would be able to use its status as a nuclear-capable state to increase its regional leverage and threaten broad American interests. Coupled with its already existing ballistic missile technology, a nuclear-capable Iran would alter the military balance and create even more instability in the Middle East that could spur a nuclear arms race among the countries in the region and beyond, creating an even more dangerous situation for Israel, the United States, and the world.
- 2. Re-entering the Paris Climate Accord** - The Department of Defense has identified climate change as not only a major threat to our environment but to our national security. Climate change will have drastic impacts on many nation's economies and ways of life and will create instability and unrest if we do not take drastic action. The United States must lead the way in working with other nations to combat the threat of climate change and re-entering the Paris Climate Accord is the first step.
- 3. Rebuilding Our Alliances** - We must rebuild out international alliances, starting with NATO. We cannot move troops out of Europe for political reasons or flirt with Russia rejoining the G7 and instead must focus on our shared interest with our allies. We also must present a unified front against China's aggressive actions in the South China Sea

Hate crimes against Jewish people and institutions are at an unacceptable level. What specific proposals do you have to reverse this trend? Recent legislation funds Holocaust education \$10 Million over 5 years, would you support continuing this level of funding?

- I believe strongly that we need to work to combat anti-semitism both at home and abroad. The recent rise in antisemitism and the spike in violence against the Jewish community means that all of us - Jews, Christians, Muslims, and members of every faith group must stand together against this hate. It requires a forceful response from our government. Our educational curriculum needs to include proper accounting of the rise of antisemitism, the Holocaust, and the struggles and successes of the Jewish people.

Public schools have a responsibility to ensure our young people learn about the Holocaust, visit Holocaust museums, and hear from Holocaust survivors as well as present-day victims of antisemitism.

In the Florida legislature, I co-sponsored a bill to create curriculum standards for all Florida public K-12 schools on the teaching of anti-semitism and designating the second week of November as Holocaust Education Week. However, combating antisemitism doesn't just require a governmental response, it is up to all of us to ensure that tolerance is practiced and diversity is valued in our society. At the federal level, I support the continued funding at \$10 million.

Looking to the near future, our country and the rest of the world will be confronted by multiple health, social and economic issues caused by the continuing impact of Covid 19 Virus. What, if any, actions, programs and/or legislation do you propose in order to eliminate or mitigate the negative impact of the Covid 19 Virus on the wellbeing of the citizens of and small businesses located in your district?

- In Florida, we have seen our state revenue drastically reduced because of the downturn of our economy caused by the pandemic, which means that state funding for our schools, first responders, and medical community is on the line. Small businesses are suffering and many are closing. More than a million Floridians have become unemployed through no fault of their own. Tourism is down as are the businesses which support visitors. We must work together to get people back to work and to rebuild our local and state economy and federal assistance has to be part of that equation.

I supported the goals of the initial relief legislation and believe that Congress needs to continue to support the millions of Americans who lost their jobs through no fault of their own while also working to help get people back to work. We must also support our small businesses which are struggling because of the economic downturn. Our economy is healthiest when people are able to work and support their families.

The country seems to be experiencing increasing social, economic and political polarization. What would you do/propose in order to bridge the divides that exists? What would you do to better unite the State?

- I will work with anyone to get things done and, as a state legislator, have frequently worked across the aisle on issues such as the environment and healthcare. During 2018, Senator Joe Gruters and I held a joint town hall to discuss water quality issues with our constituents. After that event, we worked together to pass bi-partisan legislation to update our stormwater rules. As ranking member of the Health Market Reform subcommittee, I co-sponsored legislation to bring transparency to prescription drug pricing.

What else should our readers know about you that will help them get to know you better prior to the election?

- I'm proud to be endorsed by the Jewish Democratic Council of America whose mission is to, "Actively promote[s] policy consistent with socially progressive, pro-Israel, Jewish community values."



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