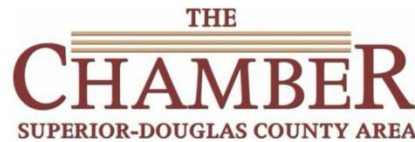


Seventh Congressional District Candidate Questionnaire Results



Something's happening here!



October 2010

Background

With several key business issues at the forefront in 2010, the open seat election of Wisconsin's seventh congressional district could impact the businesses of northwestern Wisconsin for years to come.

To better understand candidate positions on critical business issues, an online questionnaire has been created and sponsored by seven chambers of commerce in the seventh congressional district. Sean Duffy and Julie Lassa, winners of the two major political parties' September primary, received the questionnaire September 16 and were asked to return the survey by September 23.

The questionnaire is designed to inform chamber members about the candidates and their positions on issues important to job creators in their district. Sponsoring chambers will send the results to their membership before the November 2 election.

Below is information on the candidates and the answers that were returned.

Candidate Profiles

Sean Duffy (R)



Current City: Ashland
Occupation: District Attorney, Ashland County
Past Work Experience: Special Prosecutor, Ashland County; attorney
Key Endorsements:
Restore America's Legacy PAC
National Association of Homebuilders
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
Website: <http://duffyforcongress.com/>

Julie Lassa (D)



Current City: Stevens Point
Occupation: State Senator
Past Work Experience: State Assembly, Wisconsin; Executive Director, Plover Area Business Association
Key Endorsements:
American Federation of Teachers
Laborers Union
Communications Workers of America
Website: <http://www.julielassa.com/home>

Part I

1. Do you believe our free enterprise system is currently threatened?	
Sean Duffy:	Julie Lassa:
<p>Yes. Government used to be a referee in the market, now they are a player. With the takeover of banks, car companies, and the entire health care industry, Washington is effectively ending the free enterprise system as we know it. We need to bring some balance back to Washington in order to slow the growth of government and put an end to the bailout mentality.</p> <p>I believe it is the private sector that creates jobs, not government. Trying to create recovery through government spending only creates debt. Bailouts and stimulus bills put government in the position of picking winners and losers. Government needs to get out of the way and let job creators do what they do best: create jobs.</p>	<p>No response provided.</p>

2. Do you believe that tax increases hurt job creation?	
Sean Duffy:	Julie Lassa:
<p>Yes. When politicians increase the costs of doing business, they are making it harder for those businesses to create jobs. Whether it is new regulations, new mandates, or new taxes, government stifles job growth by taking money out of the private sector to increase the size of government.</p> <p>The pending tax increases slated for the 1st of the year will be another blow to businesses who want to expand. In fact, an estimated 75% of those to be affected by the tax increases are small businesses. To increase taxes on job creators while we are trying to climb out of a recession is unconscionable.</p> <p>My opponent, State Senator Julie Lassa, supported \$5 billion in tax and fee increases in just the last session of the State Legislature. She voted to more than triple the capital gains tax, create a new tax bracket focused primarily on small business owners, and supported a new 10-12% payroll tax on small businesses.</p>	<p>No response provided.</p>

3. Do you think the growth of government at all levels and the deficits that follow negatively impact job creation?	
Sean Duffy:	Julie Lassa:
<p>Yes. As of today, we have a \$13.4 trillion debt. That's \$43,600 for every man, woman, and child in America. Job creators know that with the massive debt piling up, they will likely be the ones forced to pay a big part of this liability. This stops them from creating jobs. If a</p>	<p>No response provided.</p>

<p>business foresees increases in their operating expenses, they are less likely to invest in workers. The same goes for increases in taxes. The uncertainty of our debt adds to the risk that comes with investing and stifles job growth.</p>	
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4. Would you deal with the debt and deficit issues through increasing government revenue or decreasing government spending?	
<p>Sean Duffy: Decrease government spending. I have introduced six steps that put us back on the path to fiscal responsibility that start by cutting more than \$1 trillion from the federal budget. Government spending has increased by more than 80% since 2008. We don't need draconian cuts to reduce our deficits and get our debt under control. We can increase government revenues through economic growth and expansion.</p> <p>If you would like to read more about my plan, you can go to the following link: http://www.duffyforcongress.com/six-steps.</p>	<p>Julie Lassa: No response provided.</p>

5. Do you believe that the uncertainty resulting from pending tax increases, higher government deficits and more government regulations will hurt the economy?	
<p>Sean Duffy: Yes. It already is. As noted by a recent <i>Wall Street Journal</i> article, there is more than \$1.8 trillion in business capital that is sitting on the sidelines and not being invested. It isn't just economic uncertainty, it's political uncertainty. With the seemingly nonstop anti-job policies coming out of Madison and Washington, it is easy to see why businesses are hesitant to invest.</p> <p>We need to remove that uncertainty and send a signal to job creators that America and Wisconsin are open for business.</p>	<p>Julie Lassa: No response provided.</p>

Part II

(Candidates were asked to answer Yes, No or Don't Know)

1. Would you have voted for HR 3962, the Affordable Health Care for America Act, in the House of Representatives that included a "public option" and imposed an employer mandate?

Sean Duffy:	Julie Lassa:
No.	No response provided.

2. Do you support market-based health reforms such as small business health plans, health savings accounts and tax deductibility of premiums as ways to control rising health care costs?

Sean Duffy:	Julie Lassa:
Yes.	No response provided.

3. Do you support initiatives to focus our education system on workforce readiness?

Sean Duffy:	Julie Lassa:
Yes.	No response provided.

4. Would you have voted for HR 2454, the American Clean Energy and Security Act, that would set new greenhouse gas emission standards, efficiency standards, and create a carbon cap-and-trade program?

Sean Duffy:	Julie Lassa:
No.	No response provided.

5. Does the federal government need to play a prominent role in the maintenance and development of transportation infrastructure in the United States?

Sean Duffy:	Julie Lassa:
Yes.	No response provided.

6. Would you vote to increase competitiveness of U.S. manufactured goods, services and agriculture products by supporting trade agreements such as the U.S.-Korean Free Trade Agreement?

Sean Duffy:	Julie Lassa:
Yes.	No response provided.

7. Do you support HR 1409, the Employee Free Choice Act, that would make it easier for unions to organize by effectively eliminating the secret ballot and imposing binding arbitration if the employer fails to agree on a contract with a newly formed union?

Sean Duffy:	Julie Lassa:
No.	No response provided.

8. Would you support a permanent or temporary extension of the 2001 and 2003 Tax Bills that included cuts in the marginal income tax rates, increased child tax credit, increased dependent care credit, phased out estate tax, cut dividend tax, and cut capital gains among others?

Sean Duffy:	Julie Lassa:
Yes.	No response provided.

9. Would you support the repeal of the estate/death tax?

Sean Duffy:	Julie Lassa:
Yes.	No response provided.

Comments regarding Part II:

Sean Duffy:	Julie Lassa:
While I would not have supported the so-called Affordable Health Care for America Act, I do believe that health care reform is needed. I will work hard as a Congressman to enact policies that will reduce costs and make health insurance more affordable for employers and families.	None provided.