



Issues

A FAIR ECONOMY

Decades of rewriting the rules of government to favor the top 1% has been a disaster for working families in the United States. From allowing Wall Street and corporate monopolies to consolidate power, undercutting the power of labor unions, and suppressing wages, the policies of the corporate establishment in both parties must be reversed.

I decided to run for Congress because I was sick and tired of working my heart out for ordinary Pennsylvanians, only to watch all of us fall further behind. We need to level the playing field for working families instead of allowing the biggest corporations to dominate the market.

We need to defeat tax bills that fund a massive giveaway to multimillionaires and multinational corporations and reform the tax system so that the rich can't take more than their fair share, including taxing capital gains more than we tax the multi-millionaire's secretary.

Building a fair economy means...

- Empowering the Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission to enforce antitrust laws that are already in the books and break up monopolies.
- Reining in Wall Street, including protecting the Dodd-Frank reforms, strengthening the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, and reinstating Glass-Steagall protections that separate consumer and investment banking.
- Increasing capital lending to small businesses.
- Making it easier, not harder, for workers to join a union.
- Raising the minimum wage to \$15/hour.

Together, we can create a fair economy for all of us, not just the wealthy and well-connected in Washington.



Issues

DEBT FREE PUBLIC COLLEGE

Every American has a right to an excellent public education. The political establishment has abandoned our public schools, cutting precious funding and allowing big banks to take advantage of a growing student loan debt crisis. Attending a good public school should not be determined by where we grow up and how much money we have.

We must support strong neighborhood public schools that are governed by the local community. My two kids attend School District of Lancaster elementary and middle schools. SDOL is the poorest district in Lancaster County, where 85% of students qualify for free and reduced lunch.

There must be equitable and adequate state funding for public education, including expanding the amount of Title I funding available for districts with high concentrations of poverty. School districts should have access to adequate funding regardless of their local property tax base.

We need to provide debt-free public college to all Americans. I am committed to engaging in a robust debate about the best way to establish higher education as a universal public good. I will explore policies that include imposing a financial transactions tax on Wall Street to eliminate tuition at community and public colleges and/or providing federal matching funds that ensure the costs of college never exceed what students can earn working 10 hours per week at the state minimum wage.

MEDICARE-FOR-ALL

It isn't right that in the richest country on Earth, 28 million Americans live without health insurance. We pay more for health care than any other industrialized country but have worse health outcomes across the board. We can change that. We can pass Medicare-for-All and ensure that every American, no matter how rich or poor, has medical care. Health care must be recognized as a right, not a privilege.



Issues

We need to continue protecting Obamacare. Our nation is better off because nearly 20 million more Americans have health insurance and insurance companies can't raise our premiums because of a pre-existing condition.

But Obamacare is not enough. It was a compromise with the big insurance and pharmaceutical companies who wanted to maintain a complicated, private healthcare system that made them millions of dollars. We can do better. We can create a system of guaranteed, lifetime health insurance by expanding Medicare to all Americans.

WOMEN'S RIGHTS & WOMEN'S HEALTH

Women must be able to take care of our families and our personal health as we pursue our dreams. As Executive Director of ASSETS, I co-founded the Women's Business Center to move Lancaster towards parity for women in business. In Congress, we must pass federal legislation to ensure access to healthcare, affordable childcare and contraception, pay equity for women, comprehensive paid family leave, and guarantee that survivors of domestic violence have a safe place to go.

Pro-family policies: All women deserve the support we need to make the best decisions for ourselves, our families, and our children. We must adequately fund affordable childcare and affordable housing so that working moms have a pathway to financial security and self-sufficiency.

Abortion should be safe, legal, and rare. We can continue to decrease the number of abortions needed by ensuring that all women have access to comprehensive family planning resources and contraception.

Comprehensive paid family leave: While the Family Medical Leave Act provides parents with 12 weeks of unpaid time off, only three states – CA, NY, and NJ – guarantee paid time off for eligible workers. We need a national paid time off plan, modeled after the success of those states.



Issues

Defending and expanding funding for domestic violence shelters: Hundreds of women a day in PA are turned away from domestic violence shelters. No woman should have to stay in an abusive household because domestic violence shelters aren't funded.

VOTING RIGHTS

The sacred right to vote in election is the foundation of our democracy. But for too much of our history, those who fear the will of the people have fought to rob Americans of our right to vote. Recently, restrictive voter ID laws, voter roll purges, and cuts to early voting and polling place locations across this country have threatened our right to vote — disproportionately hurting African-Americans, immigrants, the elderly, students, and people with disabilities. We must do everything we can to protect the right to vote for all Americans.

We must restore the full power of the Voting Rights Act and modernize the Department of Justice's power to guard voters from disenfranchisement.

REDUCING GUN VIOLENCE & MASS SHOOTINGS

My heart breaks for the people killed and injured in the epidemic of mass shootings we have experienced. Our elected representatives should be passing more effective background checks to keep guns out of the hands of people who shouldn't have them. Furthermore, we should ban the sale of deadly, military-style assault weapons.

During the 2016 electoral cycle, Rep. Lloyd Smucker received more money in outside spending and direct contributions from the National Rifle Association than any other House candidate: \$221,736. Our community is outraged by the horrific death tolls in Las Vegas, Orlando, and Parkland, but it's hard to stand up for what's right when the NRA gives you more money in outside spending than anyone else. Rep. Smucker should be ashamed.



Issues

I grew up on the edge of farm fields in Leola, Pennsylvania. My community is home to hunters and sportsmen. I support the right to own guns, and I also know that none of us need to buy rapid-fire assault weapons that are designed for warzones. Protecting our communities from assault weapons, banning bump stocks and accessories that transform legal guns into deadly automatic weapons, and creating a comprehensive system of background checks are just common sense.

SAFEGUARDING OUR FARMS, HOMES, & PLANET

America belongs to all of us. Our area's agricultural heritage keeps our community strong and prosperous. Fracked gas pipelines threaten our land and water just so that a few oil and gas executives can get a little richer. I stand in opposition to the construction of the Atlantic Sunrise pipeline. The federal government should not have the power to grant eminent domain for corporate gain. We need to overhaul the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and make sure that it works on behalf of the people, not fossil fuel billionaires.

We must invest in clean energy infrastructure that creates good jobs and safeguards our planet. In Lancaster, I have developed award-winning programs and advocacy to push the private sector toward a more sustainable future. If elected to Congress, I will co-sponsor the 100x50 Act to ensure a transition to 100% renewable energy by 2050 and invest in communities on the frontlines of poverty and pollution.

I will oppose subsidizing big oil and gas corporations who threaten our health and homes while driving us into climate catastrophe.

I will join progressives in calling on the DOJ to investigate Exxon and other major fossil fuel corporations for violating the RICO Act and intentionally deceiving the public about the dangers of climate change for decades.



Issues

GETTING BIG MONEY OUT OF POLITICS

Free and fair elections are essential to an American democracy that works for all of us. But right now, Washington is rigged for the rich and powerful. On every issue we care about, from healthcare to gun safety to climate change to taxes, politicians are pulled to favor the wealthiest by armies of lobbyists and corporate donors who fund campaigns and SuperPACs. We need to end the corruption of big money in our politics.

Our campaign is funded by thousands of grassroots donors, and we reject money from corporate SuperPACs and the fossil fuel industry. If elected, I will advocate for a reformation of our campaign finance system and our lobbying laws, including:

- Cosponsoring the Democracy for All Amendment that would overturn Citizens United, Buckley vs. Civil Rights & Racial Justice.
- Cosponsoring the Government by the People Act (H.R. 20) that would establish a system of publicly funded federal elections.
- Crafting legislation that requires that publicly traded companies disclose all political spending to the Securities and Exchange Commission.

CIVIL RIGHTS & RACIAL JUSTICE

America is a nation founded on an ideal – that all are created equal and all have a sacred right to freedom. For too long, racial discrimination and our criminal justice system have robbed Americans of their freedom because of where they live or how they look. We must transform our criminal justice system to reflect our nation’s highest ideals and step up as leaders to heal the deep wounds of racism in this nation.

If elected to Congress, I will represent the communities of color that I have lived in for my entire adult life and work to protect the right of all Americans to live freely and participate in democracy. I will fight for policies that move our nation towards justice and reconciliation, including:



Issues

- The Voting Rights Advancement Act (HR. 2978) to restore the full power of the Voting Rights Act and protect African-Americans, and all Americans, from measures that seek to disenfranchise them.
- Legislation to reduce the mass incarceration and over-policing of African-Americans, which means ending the failed policies of the War on Drugs, ending the privatization of prisons, reforming cash bail, and passing the bipartisan Sentencing Reform Act (HR. 3713).
- Legislation to form a National Truth & Reconciliation Commission for the purpose of righting injustices resulting from slavery, Jim Crow, and racial discrimination.
- Legislation to create jobs and wealth in communities impacted by decades of racial and economic discrimination, which I have advocated for in Lancaster.

SUPPORTING PUERTO RICO

Puerto Rico continues to struggle to recover from the impact of Hurricanes Maria and Irma in September 2017. These storms destroyed much of the infrastructure on an island that had already been economically devastated by a debt crisis. Puerto Rico has lost more than 10% of its population in the last decade and is projected to lose another 14% by 2019, as Puerto Ricans flee the island after the storms.

There is tremendous opportunity to rebuild Puerto Rico's infrastructure to enhance resiliency and contribute to the long-term economic viability of the island. The electrical system, for example, needs to be rebuilt with greater emphasis on microgrids and distributed energy resources to improve the reliability of the system. Phasing out Puerto Rico's old, unreliable power stations would also save over \$1 billion a year in payments to off-island oil and gas interests.

But thus far, Congress is not taking its responsibility to Puerto Rico seriously. More than three months after Hurricane Maria, Congress has not approved sufficient federal funds to support rebuilding. While Senator Sanders has put forward a \$146 billion relief package for Puerto Rico, Congress so far has only approved \$36.5 billion in disaster relief – split between Puerto Rico and three other states.



Issues

In 2016, Congress established an undemocratic fiscal control board (the PROMESA Board) to manage the restructuring of Puerto Rico's \$72 billion debt, which Puerto Rican families cannot afford to pay. The PROMESA Board has pushed cuts to basic public services, including cuts to the University of Puerto Rico, reductions to public worker pensions and furloughing of government employees. These cuts will only hurt Puerto Rican families and encourage more flight from the island, instead of enabling economic recovery. The US Government has a responsibility to move forward common-sense policies to support Puerto Rico to prosper. When Puerto Rico is thriving, it means our district is stronger.

I will work with other members of Congress to push the PROMESA Board to put the interests of Puerto Ricans first and to reduce Puerto Rico's debt burden to a level that is actually affordable and will enable the island to recover.

I will also ensure that the U.S. government fulfills its other obligations to the people of Puerto Rico, including full funding for disaster recovery and support for building a modern and reliable electrical system.

IMMIGRANT RIGHTS

As always, people move to seek a better life for themselves and their families. Our immigrant brothers and sisters came here for the promise of freedom and opportunity. Policies that violate a person's right to remain in their community damage the freedom we all cherish.

That's why we must protect DREAMers and create a fair pathway to citizenship for all who call America home. We must end cruel detainment and deportation policies that tear families apart and rob our community of our friends and neighbors. We must reform our immigration system to recognize that America belongs to all who call it home.



Issues

As residents of South-Central Pennsylvania, we can be an example to the nation of what it looks like to build prosperous, diverse communities. Pennsylvania's 11th District is home to a growing population of immigrants and refugees. Already, Lancaster leads the nation in number of refugees resettled per capita. In my work at ASSETS, I supported refugee small business owners and businesses like the Stroopie Company whose main goal is to hire more refugees. I know firsthand that welcoming our immigrant brothers and sisters makes our democracy stronger. I will continue to speak out on behalf of refugees and immigrants when the Trump administration attacks our communities. And I will welcome Puerto Ricans moving here in the aftermath of Maria and fight for debt relief and investment in the island's infrastructure.

LGBTS+ RIGHTS

America is a nation founded on an ideal – that all of us are created equal. No matter who we are or who we love, we have a right to pursue our dreams, marry our chosen partner, and live our lives free from discrimination.

I wholeheartedly support the rights of LGBTQ Americans. We must guarantee a person's right to marry their partner, regardless of the couple's gender or sexuality. Politicians and public leaders must take leadership and affirm the humanity of our LGBTQ brothers and sisters. And we must advocate for legislative solutions that enshrine the rights of all Americans, including protections against discrimination in housing, employment, and public benefits.

I would co-sponsor the Equality Act in Congress, which would provide consistent and explicit non-discrimination protections for LGBTQ people across key areas of life, including employment, housing, credit, education, public spaces and services, federally funded programs, and jury service.



Issues

CARING FOR OUR VETERANS

Whether or not we agree on when to send our troops into combat, we all have a duty to protect and care for our veterans when they return home. The men and women who chose to risk their lives for our country have a right to health care, affordable housing, and higher education as they pursue civilian life in the United States. The families of our veterans deserve support pre- and post-deployment to ensure the best possible transition. If elected to Congress, I will work to:

- Protect the reforms of the Veteran's Access to Care through Choice, Accountability, and Transparency Act to ensure all veterans have timely access to health care.
- Streamline and fully fund the Dept. of Veteran Affairs to improve the compensation claims process and ensure the highest quality of care is provided.
- Oppose all efforts to privatize the VA.
- Expand access to higher education and affordable housing post-deployment, including by integrating the benefits of the post-9/11 G.I. into a lasting social contract.

SUPPORTING OUR FARMERS

We are proud of our agricultural heritage here in South Central PA. Our farmers are part of our community's foundation – creating jobs, stewarding the land and water, and producing some of the best quality goods in the nation. If elected to Congress, I will pursue policies that:

Support our dairy farmers: We've seen our dairy farmers struggle more and more over the past decade. The vertical integration of the dairy sector, accelerated by companies like Walmart, have left local farmers without a robust market to sell their milk. As dairy supply chains become more and more consolidated, we need common sense antitrust enforcement to ensure local farmers have a place in regional markets. We also need to support farmers as they diversify into value-added dairy products and into other higher-value agricultural products while we maximize our location in the mid-Atlantic market, our agricultural infrastructure and the particularly unique Lancaster County food brand.



Issues

Streamline federal bureaucracies & support our farmer's stewardship: Farmers know better than anyone the importance of clean water and good soil. Our farmers are the best stewards of our shared land and water, and our region's agricultural tradition makes all of us stronger and healthier.

But too often, our farmers aren't supported to do what they do best. Government bureaucracies that don't work well together give farmers an unnecessary load of paperwork. We need to streamline agricultural regulation at the EPA, DEP, and the USDA so that consumers are protected while farmers can focus on producing the best quality goods. We also need to support federal regulators to better understand the unique needs of different agricultural operations, and ensure regulatory processes respect the traditions and practices of our farmers.

Support cover cropping and no-till farming: We are proud our farmers in Pennsylvania lead the country in cover cropping and no-till farming. These practices are powerful tools to protect our water and help mitigate climate change. The federal government should incentivize and support cover cropping and no-till practices.

Preserve our farmland: Lancaster and York counties are leading agricultural producers in PA, and we can protect our region's agricultural heritage by supporting the region's Farmland Trust and Agricultural Land Preservation Programs.

Ensure a strong and fair Farm Bill: Our farmers and our communities deserve a strong and fair Farm Bill. That means protection for dairy farmers from low margins (whether caused by feed costs or low milk prices), support to transition into speciality crops, and access to food for families in need. We also need to invest in the next generation of farmers, and provide adequate support for young Americans interested in agricultural professions.



Issues

BUILDING 21ST CENTURY AMERICAN INFRASTRUCTURE

Investing in our nation's infrastructure is about more than just scheduling repairs. It's an investment in an America that works for all of us. It's a guarantee that no matter where we live or how much money we make, our families and our communities have what we need to prosper.

We have an opportunity to create millions of good jobs by building 21st century infrastructure across America. Our crumbling roads and bridges, our aging water treatment plants, our outdated energy and transportation systems, and our schools and hospitals are all in need of serious investment. Our businesses and our families need safe roads and bridges, efficient and durable energy grids, and expanded access to broadband internet in rural America.

If elected to Congress, I would work with members of both parties to pass a massive investment in our nation's infrastructure, and ensure we created millions of family-sustaining jobs in the process. Lawmakers should follow the principles laid out in H.Con.Res.63 to craft a jobs and infrastructure package that benefits all Americans, not just Wall Street speculators.

PROTECTING & STRENGTHENING SOCIAL SECURITY

Every American deserves to retire with dignity and security. A hundred years ago, far too many elderly Americans lived their final years in poverty, or worked jobs with no hope of retirement. That's why we created Social Security - one of the most successful public programs in our history.

No matter who we are, how much money we make, or where we live, Social Security provides every American protection from abject poverty and unending work as we grow older.



Issues

If elected to Congress, I would work to protect, strengthen, and expand Social Security by:

- Opposing any raises to the retirement age.
- Opposing all cuts to Social Security.
- Ensuring every American pays their fair share. Social Security currently has a trillion-dollar surplus. To ensure this program continues to provide a safety net to all Americans for generations to come, I would reform the cap on taxable income so millionaires and billionaires pay their fair share.

Rep. Lloyd Smucker voted to cut Social Security - after passing a tax giveaway to the biggest corporations. As Rep. Smucker and Paul Ryan travel back to their districts before Election Day, they tell voters they'll protect Social Security. But their record in D.C. speaks for itself.

Rep. Smucker voted for a budget that cuts \$4 billion from Social Security over the next 10 years.

Rep. Smucker then passed a massive tax giveaway to the biggest corporation, increasing the budget deficit by \$1.5 trillion - a fact Paul Ryan and his colleagues will use to justify even more cuts in the future.