Question: Do you live in the 5th Congressional District? Why are you running for the Congressperson of the 5th congressional district? Give a statement of your story, values and issues.

Ballot #	Name	Party	Response
(1)	Wheelan, Charles J.	Dem.	I am a longtime resident of the 5th Congressional District. I live in the historic Seminary town homes and send my three children to a neighborhood public school. I'm running for Congress because the country and the 5th Congressional District are facing an unparalleled economic crisis. I believe that my experience and qualifications make me the ideal candidate for this Congressional seat. I have spent my entire life in public policy and this is the time when I need to step up and put name on the ballot.
(2)	Feigenholtz, Sara	Dem.	I am a lifelong resident of the 5th Congressional District and was raised by my mother, an immigrant from Eastern Europe who worked as a doctor in her community. It was from her that I learned the true meaning of public service – she taught me that health care is a right, not a privilege, which has inspired everything I've done in public life. Having served 14 years in the Illinois House, and six years as chair of the House Human Services Appropriations committee, I have a record of fighting to expand access to health care for women, families and the uninsured. I sponsored the *FamilyCare* program along with then-State Senator Barack Obama to provide health care for working families. I fought to require insurance companies to cover mammograms and contraceptive services. I championed the *All Kids* law to expand comprehensive, affordable health care coverage to all children in Illinois who need it. I want to go to Washington to help fix our nation's economic crisis, create jobs and work to get all Americans access to the health care they need. Amid the toughest financial crisis in our lifetime, I will work to ensure that any proposal to stimulate our economy or provide relief for taxpayers helps middle class families who need it most.
(3)	Fritchey, John A.	Dem	I am running for Congress because I believe in the power and importance of public service. I grew up in Chicago and attended the University of Michigan and Northwestern Law School, both on hardship scholarship. After law school I became an Illinois Assistant Attorney General, then won a seat in the General Assembly in 1996 at the age of 32. For the past 12 years I have been a leader in the fight to make government more open and accountable, to represent the citizens' voice in decisions that impact their jobs and pocketbooks and to expand access to affordable health care. Thanks to my efforts, the DLC has twice named me one of its nationwide *100 Rising Stars to Watch*. In this race I am honored to have the support of the AFL-CIO, IFT, AFSCME, the IVI-IPO and the Illinois Committee for Honest Government.
(4)	Forys, Victor A.	Dem.	I am running in the 5th Congressional district because I grew up here and spend most of my waking time in the district. The clinic that I have built with my wife is located in the heart of the district and we serve patients who are mostly from this district. The major hospital that I serve is also located in the district. I identify with the people in the district. I grew up here, lived here and still work here. I come from a working class family and most of the people in the district are working class. I learned strong family values in this district, as do most people who live in the 5th. I was born in Poland and moved to the U.S. when I was four years old. My father was a union organizer. The fair wages and benefits he fought for allowed me to go to college and medical school. I was in medical school in Poland during the Solidarity Movement. I smelled the tear gas and ran from the riot police. For 25 years, I have been a physician serving my patients. I am running for Congress to fix our broken health care system.
(6)	Donatelli, Jan H.	Dem.	As a resident of the fifth district, I'm not a professional politician. Instead, I served my country as an officer in the U.S. Navy; a pilot for Delta Air Lines; and as a union activist before getting involved in the Obama campaign as both a volunteer

			and a policy advisor on transportation infrastructure and veteran's issues. Additionally, I am a proud mom of six great kids, and I know what it's like to struggle to pay the bills. The most important thing to voters today is their jobs, their homes, and their health and those are things I understand first hand. I believe President Obama's message of change was a call to action and it is one that I proudly answered.
(7)	Annunzio, Frank	Dem.	I have lived in the 5th Congressional District area for over 30 years and now I feel compelled to run for U.S. Representative because of the state of the middle class. We need to come together as one to ensure our middle class ways of life remain secure for our generation and for generations to come. I have had my fill of career politicians and we need to demand change. We must work to preserve jobs, we must work to create jobs and organized labor must be protected.
(8)	Monteagudo, Carlos A.	Dem.	I live and have lived in the 5th CD most of my life. I was raised in Lakeview/Wrigleyville, where my family moved to as Cuban refugees in '67. I attended Le Moyne School and Greeley School, and Lane Tech HS graduating 5th in my class. I went to the UIUC for undergrad and UIC Med School (MD '83) and School of Public Health (MPH '83) . I went to Boston University for my internship and Harvard for my residency. I was an assistant professor of psychiatry for 10 years at Dartmouth. After a Kellogg National Leadership Fellowship, I started a non-profit that works with community groups to make them more impactful. For 15 years I've owned a home in Lincoln Park. I am running for Congress because I believe that as a doctor/psychiatrist, social entrepreneur, and trained listener, I would be an effective agent of needed change. The mood in the US is that we need Change and new Perspectives. We need to be able to work and resolve many complex problems that seem intractable, which require that the people making decisions be able to listen, understand, and embrace long term solutions instead of short term political bandages.
(9)	Bryar, Paul J.	Dem.	I have been a long-term resident of the 5th Congressional District. I live here along with my wife, Jennifer, and my two daughters. I am running for Congress to create jobs and end the era of corrupt Illinois politics. I believe that now is the time for someone who is not a politician that can solve problems, improve health care, and address the economy in a way that is best for working families, not special interests. As a doctor, I solve problems and have the best interests of my patient as my only goal. I will bring this work ethic to Congress and apply the same principles to the 5th district.
(11)	Geoghegan, Tom	Dem.	For thirty years as a lawyer doing labor and public interest law, I have fought for working people in the 5th District and throughout Chicago. I represent unions and people with no unions to protect them. I have helped recover health and pension benefits after plant closings. I obtained health care for the uninsured. I've been pressing the State of Illinois to crack down on payday lenders. I have lived out a commitment to one cause above all – to bring economic security to working Americans, in our District and in our country. For thirty years I have sought justice for working people in the courts. But in the current economic crisis, when people are losing so much, it is no longer enough to apply the laws in the right way. We have to change the laws. While the economic crisis is deeply unsettling to all of us, we also have an opportunity for big changes. That is why I am taking the causes for which I fought in my law practice to Congress. We need new and creative ways to protect working Americans. First, we must expand Social Security, our public pension system, to replace, not overnight but in stages, the collapsed private pension system. Second we have to move to single payer health care program by extending Medicare to all. Finally we have to put limits on returns to financial firms. We need to stop the high interest rates, the hidden fees, and the hundreds of ways that banks …
(13)	Quigley,	Dem.	Yes, I live in the 5th Congressional District.

	Mike		I have loved serving the residents of the 10th County Board District as a County Commissioner for the past 10 years. I was the first Democratic Commissioner to oppose the entrenched county leadership and argue for a more efficient government. I have a strong and consistent history of opposing tax increase and offering real alternatives to solving Cook County's fiscal crisis. I have kept my word and introduced ground breaking equal rights legislation and introduced every major piece of environmental legislation in Cook County in the pasts decade. I want to take my work on the Cook County Board to another level – to Congress. I want to work to ensure that my values of transparency and accountability of government at all levels permeates the walls of Congress.
(14)	O'Connor, Patrick J.	Dem.	Yes, I live, and have lived, in the 5th CD my entire life. I am running because my 25 years experience in city government has prepared me to work on federal issues that are important to our district. I have experience working on budgets and policies that use federal dollars for critical local needs. I know how federal red tape and unfunded mandates hurt local programs and by extension the people. I grew up not far from where my wife of 31 years and I have raised our 5 children. I worked at Chase Park as a lifeguard. I drove a truck as a union member through college and law school to help pay for my education. I have tried to do things that, while not glamorous, contribute in a positive way. I bring tangible evidence to tax dollars - new schools, library, police station, fire house, and more back to the community; all told, $140-million of investment to the 40th Ward through hard work, listening to the needs of residents. I serve and represent the people of my community because I am part of the community.

(1)	Hanson, Tom	Rep.	I do not live in the 5th District but I live extremely close by, my daughter goes to school in the 5th District and I am in the neighborhood every day. I was appointed by the Republican Party to run against Rahm Emanuel to stop the continual 'using' of the 5th District as people's political stepping stones. I would like to offer honest to goodness 'representation of the people of the 5th District' without using them to advance a political career for myself. I am a businessman (owner of Hanson Commercial Real Estate), a father, a Christian and a voter. I am extremely realistic about issues that plague voters of this District. I understand that although I am not pro-abortion, I AM very much PRO-CHOICE, meaning I think it is important for a woman to be able to choose her own options in regards to her pregnancy. I am more liberal on social issues than the typical Republican but am very much conservative when it comes to spending taxpayer's money and on fiscal issues. I think the Stimulus Packages are a recipe for disaster and do little to alleviate the core problems that caused it in the first place. There are other options.
(2)	Stewart, Jon	Rep.	I do not live in the district, but grew up in the district, went to high school and college in the district. I am running for Congress because I see our country on the edge of collapse. I see that political insiders have been given the keys to the house and have destroyed our government. I see career politicians who are so out of touch that they have taken state and federal corruption to new heights. I walk my talk. I have employed homeless people, ex gang members and paroled men. I have given back with my own money not Washington's.
(3)	Bedell, Gregory A.	Rep.	I live in the 5th Congressional District. My wife and I purchased our condominium at 3530 N. Lake Shore Drive in 1999. I an running for Congress because I want to lead the fight to solve the problems facing our nation using the principles that made our nation great: the power and spirit of the individual; the hard work and creativity of our businesses, especially small businesses, and the compassionate nature of our society. I believe we are becoming too reliant on government, which endangers our nation on many levels, from crushing debt to dependence on government programs to corruption and the unfairness of special politics.

			As, Congressman, I will focus on three issues: 1) creation and preservation of jobs through a fiscal policy of low taxes, responsible spending and reasonable regulation; 2) improvement of education by giving families choice in where their children attend school; 3) addressing immigration through a realistic, comprehensive and compassionate policy; and 4) energy independent from foreign sources and petroleum.
(5)	Kay, Daniel S.	Rep.	I own a home in the city of Northlake, prior to which I had lived in Elmwood Park and River Grove. All part of the 5th congressional district, which always seems to be forgotten by the Chicago democrats as was the case with Mr. Emmanuel and Mr. Blagojevich before. With over 6,300 bills introduced in the 110th Congress, the now-sitting 111th will have much work. Impossible to elaborate on enough issues. My core values are essentials associated with the Republican party with the underlying belief that the constituency is intelligent enough to make their own decisions without excessive government interference at the expense of their payroll retention. Much governmental streamlining, as is expected in the private sector, is necessary to achieve some of the other candidates primary issues.
(6)	Anderson, David J.	Rep.	Yes, resident of 5th. I am running for this office because I am sure that the Democrat nominee will be a veteran of Illinois machine politics. Since 2004, when the special prosecutor started the investigation of Blagojevich, NONE of the leading Democrats showed courage to speak out against him, preferring to maintain their power base and serve their own career needs. Now, they want a promotion to the Federal level, and they can not be trusted!!! We need PUBLIC SERVANTS, not self-servants! I am a private citizen, small businessman, and I am not a lawyer. I believe that our government works best with turn-over and new perspectives instead of the predictable and repetitive politics of the past.

(1)	Gordils, Deb Leticia	Green	Yes, I live in the 5th Congressional District. I am running for Congressperson to serve the interest of my constituents in Washington. Born and Raised on north side, 48, Catholic, single mom, two daughters, one with heart defects, one adopted. Strong belief in Women and Family Issues. Hispanic, half Mexican, half Puerto Rican, volunteered after Graduate school, along the Mexican American border working with migrant farm workers both documented and undocumented. Will work to draft a dignified and humanitarian Immigration bill. Want to extend education for all seniors in high school to 13th and 14th grades in a junior college obtaining an associates degree in a specific trade or area of employment. I.e. nurse assistants, computer tech, and medical technicians.
(2)	Fredrickson, Mark Arnold	Green	While living within the Fifth Congressional District is not a prerequisite for holding this elective office, I have lived in the Fifth Congressional District since 1980. Originally, I was born in the downstate Illinois community of Danville—home to the second longest serving Speaker of the House of Representatives Joseph "Uncle Joe" Cannon. (One of the Congressional Office Buildings in Washington D.C. is named after the late Speaker Cannon. My story is simply one inspired by Speaker Cannon & the many dedicated public servants which I have met during my life as resident of the State of Illinois. My early career as a broadcast & print investigative news reporter introduced me to the workings of local, state, county & the federal government. I began my journalistic career just after the Watergate scandal forced the resignation of former President Richard Nixon in 1974. More recently, I have devoted my efforts to honest & open government in the capacity of President of the Northwest Area Citizens Organization (NWACO). Visitors to our Internet web site www.nwaco.org may learn more about the multitude of investigative reports conducted in cooperation with the Better Government Association & Chicago area reporters & columnists. I have adopted five core issues:

			1) Demand greater accountability for the $700 Billion taxpayer-funded bailout of the nation's banks & financial institutions. 2) Advocate marketplace incentives to preserve the Great Lakes' fresh water, reduce carbon dioxide emissions, promote alternative energy & modernize the nation's electrical distribution power grid. 3) …
(4)	Reichel, Matt	Green	The purpose of my candidacy is to give a voice to my generation: the great precarious generation of baby boomers' children. We are a generation of young adults who have been left with a country perpetually engaged in wars of empire, wherein the substance of the people is continually eaten out to support the greed of the criminal business elite. In turn, the working majority has been left with very little: little job security, little health benefits, little vacation time, little protection against over-zealous employers, and little hope for a sustainable future. We either re-direct American thinking in the direction of economic and ecological sustainability or we watch the nation rapidly wither away into irrelevance.
(5)	Ribeiro, Simon	Green	I have lived in and around the 5th District for over 22 years. Currently I live just north of the 5th District. I lived in the 5th District for 4 ½ years from January 2002 – June 2006. I attended and graduated the 5th District's own N.E. Illinois University in political science in May 2005. I work at N.E. Illinois University's Campus Recreation as a swim instructor and lifeguard, and have been employed there since January 2002. I am a substitute school teacher for Chicago Public Schools and have served as a teacher, swim coach, and lifeguard at some of the district's schools. In 2004, I interned on the staffs of Chicago's 39th Ward Alderman Margaret Laurino, Democratic Committeeman Randy Barnette, and Illinois' 15th Legislative District State Representative John C. D'Amico- all of whom are community leaders within the 5th Congressional District. This public service volunteerism brought me the necessary insight and experience into the dealings of public administration for the 39th ward, and the 15th state legislative district- both of which are key political subdivisions in the heart of the 5th Congressional District. As a Chicago Public School substitute teacher and Evanston/Skokie School teacher, I am uniquely qualified to the issues of public school education in and around the 5th District. As a state employee at N.E. Illinois University, I am qualified to access the issues of higher education and will be a strong advocate for the continued need for more state and federal funding of learning institutions. …

Question: What skills and knowledge do you have that makes you the best candidate?

Ballot #	Name	Party	Response
(1)	Wheelan, Charles J.	Dem.	I am lecturer in public policy at the Harris School of Public Policy at the University of Chicago. Prior to joining the faculty at the University of Chicago, I was Director of Policy and Communications for Chicago Metropolis 2020, a business-backed civic group promoting healthy regional growth in the Chicago area. From 1997 to 2002, I was the Midwest correspondent for The Economist. I am a graduate of Dartmouth College, where I majored in Asian Studies and earned my PhD in Public Policy from Princeton University. My first book, "Naked Economics: Undressing the Dismal Science," a layperson's guide to economics, was published by W.W. Norton & Company in 2002. I have also traveled extensively throughout the world, and spent considerable time in the Middle East, meeting with policymakers, NGO's, and journalists to get firsthand knowledge of the situation on the ground.
(2)	Feigenholtz, Sara	Dem.	My worldview has been shaped my experiences growing up here, and my legislative and budget experience in the Illinois House has provided me with a unique set of skills to help fix Washington and work toward improving the lives of families in the 5th Congressional District. I have a strong record of working to improve the lives of my constituents and Illinois residents and I hope to serve even more people as a member of the United States Congress.
(3)	Fritchey, John A.	Dem	Now more than ever, the people of this district need a proven leader with a history of results. On the issues that matter to all of us I have always been a proactive legislator, and not simply a vote. I have long been a Chief Sponsor on HB750, tax swap legislation that will bring more equitable funding to Illinois' schools, and I am proud of my accomplishments in the fight to cap skyrocketing property tax assessments. Together with then Rep. Tom Dart I initiated steps to regulate the PayDay loan industry, which ultimately led the PayDay Loan Reform Act of which I was a Chief Sponsor. I have a 100% environmental voting record, and I worked with then-Lt. Governor Pat Quinn to create the Illinois Right-to-Know bill, which informs homeowners of potentially dangerous chemicals and waste in their neighborhoods. My dedication to fight on behalf of my constituents extends beyond Springfield. Twelve years ago I created the John Fritchey Youth Foundation, which continues to support sports and youth programs for children throughout my District.
(4)	Forys, Victor A.	Dem.	I am a primary care physician and I interact with the entire spectrum of health care in America. Unlike specialists that deal with only their specialty, I treat people with the full range of health concerns. I understand how freighting it is when people are at risk for losing their jobs. I have a plan that will preserve and create jobs by helping small and medium sized businesses decrease their costs so they can invest and hire more people. I am running for Congress because I know that we pay too much for our health care and it hurts our economy. In order to get our economy back on track, we must fix health care. Like 40 percent of the people in the district, I speak a different language. I bring a unique view of the immigration issue to this campaign and hopefully to the Congress. My family moved here from Poland when I was four years old. I understand what it is like to come from another country. From my personal experiences as a doctor, businessman and an immigrant, I have a unique perspective that I will bring to Congress and be a voice for all people in the district.
(6)	Donatelli, Jan H.	Dem.	As a veteran and a Navy pilot, I have the ability to make good decisions under difficult circumstances. These are difficult times. As the mother of large family, I understand what it's like to balance the many demands of family life with a career, a

			budget, and a community. Putting Americans back to work will require solid knowledge of which infrastructure improvements will give the best return in terms of job creation and economic benefits. My knowledge of the transportation industry will assist our country as we move forward to create policy that is environmentally friendly and economically sound. And, my experience with Veterans affairs will allow me to advocate for those who have served this nation so admirably.
(7)	Annunzio, Frank	Dem.	I am an accomplished Project Manager. Everything that is accomplished is done so with basic project management concepts. I currently oversee hundreds of millions of dollars of construction projects as the General Superintendent of Construction for the Chicago Housing Authority. I am exceptionally familiar with Federal Acquisition Regulations. I have been a member of the middle class my entire life and I have *listened* to the concerns of my friends, neighbors and area organizations.
(8)	Monteagudo, Carlos A.	Dem.	I am a trained listener. I am a medical doctor/psychiatrist, and a social entrepreneur who facilitates dialogue among people that are working to tackle complex intractable problems having disparate agendas. I know what it means to struggle. As a Cuban immigrant growing up in poverty, I understand the challenges that face working class families because I've lived them. I was mislabeled and warehoused by a public school bureaucracy that didn't speak my language. I have treated patients who died from a life threatening problems that could have been prevented had they been able to afford seeing a doctor earlier. I was raised by parents who are willing to risk everything, to sacrifice and dream of a better life for their children. All these experiences change a person in profound ways. I've been changed by struggle. But in public service, I've come to know another world-- the world of access and opportunity, of work and decent people that are willing to turn noble ideas into realities. It is this real world experience combined with a belief that we truly can make a better world working together that I believe best qualifies me to represent the people of the fifth district.
(9)	Bryar, Paul J.	Dem.	As a doctor who sees patients in both a university and community health clinic settings, I am on the front lines every day. I know what challenges my patients face, and can lend much more to the process of solving this crisis than an entrenched politician who is looking to advance his or her political career. As a teacher, I know the struggles my students have with student loan debt. I see the results of federal mandates for students and teachers, and how they often prevent students from learning and teachers from teaching. As a professional, I do not have any ties to a corrupt Illinois political system where pay to play politics is business as usual. These experiences will make me an effective Congressman, who has the best interests of people, not politics in mind.
(11)	Geoghegan, Tom	Dem.	As a public interest attorney for 30 years, I have a unique understanding of our federal legal protections as well as their shortcomings. I have represented individuals who were discriminated against due to their race, sex, disability, age, or sexual orientation. I sued employers who violated sexual harassment laws and the Family and Medical Leave Act. I have filed lawsuits to enforce child labor laws, expand voting rights, crack down on the payday loan industry, and require public health measures to stop the spread of tuberculosis among the homeless. I have fought for nurses, teachers, machinists, and other union members, as well as workers who lack the protection of a union. I have represented union rank-and-file groups seeking to root out corruption and strengthen union democracy. I have helped secure health care, pensions, and lost wages for thousands of working Americans. I am a graduate of Harvard and Harvard Law School. I have written for *The New Republic, The American Prospect*, *The Nation*, *Slate*, *The Chicago Tribune*, and *The New York Times*. I have also published five books on labor, the rule of law, civic participation and our criminal justice system.

(13)	Quigley, Mike	Dem.	I have spent the last 10 years reforming the Cook County board to protect taxpayers' interests and change the way the old, machine politics have worked. From rooting out fraud to promoting transparency and accountability on the County Board, I have learned the requisite skills to make me an effective representative in Congress.
(14)	O'Connor, Patrick J.	Dem.	The skills and knowledge I have that make me the best candidate are my experience and proven record, as well as my understanding of federal issues. I have a proven record – infrastructure improvements: paving roads, new sewers and curbs; education: public school renovations, including building the first new public high school in Chicago in 30 years – now ranked #1 in Illinois. I've settled school strikes and protected and created jobs. I kept Tempel Steel in Chicago retaining 450 jobs and creating 350 new ones. I support small businesses. I've helped expand Swedish Covenant Hospital, while other hospitals are closing. I created school based health clinics, support mental health parity, and support city funding for CeaseFire. I put forward the ban on landfill expansion, passed legislation regulating hazardous medical waste disposal and enabled the use of electric cars. This record reflects hard work, knowledge of the issues, and an ability to work with others. These are skills I would take to Congress.

(1)	Hanson, Tom	Rep.	First, I am Joe Citizen, just like the voters of the 5th District and will make decisions based on that fact and not on defacto loyalty to some other politician, political lobbyist group or donor. I am not afraid to stand up to 'the establishment in Washington' or the local 'machine' when I believe something isn't in the best interest of the 5th District. Since I have been in business for 20+ years I understand the economic cycles, the cost of paying out of pocket for your own insurance coverage and struggling to stay alive by creating something out of nothing. I am in the same boat with most 5th District voters - I have a business that isn't as productive as it was, I have debt, my home isn't worth what I owe on it, my health insurance doesn't cover what I need it to even though I pay $1000 a month for coverage, where do I send my child to school? These are all MY issues and their issues too. Who better to represent them than someone who can put themselves in their shoes.
(2)	Stewart, Jon	Rep.	I am a compromiser. I am not "set" in my ways. I admit I do not know all things. I am sensitive to others needs. I come from two terrific parents. I am a fixer. I do not want to be a career politician. I am not corrupt. I am a defender of justice. I will not fail this district.
(3)	Bedell, Gregory A.	Rep.	I have devoted my professional career to helping individuals and small businesses solve their problems. As a lawyer I helped start many of the businesses I represent and learned first hand the issues these businesses face in trying to survive and grow. I've also represented individuals in a wide range of issues. In addition to my regular clients, I volunteered with the Chicago Volunteer Legal Services organization. There I worked with less fortunate individuals facing the challenges presented by drug abuse, debt and broken homes. I am proud to say that I received a Distinguished Service Award from the CVLS for my work. Another unique part of my experience is that I lived in Europe for several years. During this time I had the great fortune to teach. I also experienced first hand that the outrageous costs, and not so hidden failings, of the many of the programs some politicians are trying to bring to this country.
(5)	Kay, Daniel S.	Rep.	The proven track record of enabling opposite parties to arrive at an agreement. Many years of sales and sales management experience (*Fr. "Negotiant"*) Real world experience in varied industries, not decades in city hall or other political office.
(6)	Anderson, David J.	Rep.	I am Ph.D. chemist, holder of 6 U.S. patents, small businessman and lifelong resident of IL. I am an avid student of public issues. I am not tied to any organization or political family. I owe nobody! I can act independently and serve the people

			who do not have money and influence in the Illinois political machine. I will voluntarily limit my service to a maximum of 4 terms. As a scientist, I have a deeper understanding of the real technology issues of alternative energy development better than ANY OF THE 22 primary candidates. Furthermore, I can understand the most complex of topics, and learn quickly, and can create solutions effectively: that's how you earn U.S. patents!!!

(1)	Gordils, Deb Leticia	Green	I have experience with Immigrants after two years on the border to make decisions on the issues. I have hands on experience in health care because of my daughter's extensive medical procedures. I have experience in budgets, contracts, federal funds, economic needs, regulations, legislation after 4 years as Assistant Director of the Mayors Office of Employment and Training.
(2)	Fredrickson, Mark Arnold	Green	My graduate school MBA study & undergraduate journalism education prepare me well to tackle the economic & financial regulatory challenges facing the American people. My recent work with the World's 20th largest law firm introduced me to the intricacies of tax law, intellectual property preservation, corporate merger & acquisition fundamentals & private client service.
(4)	Reichel, Matt	Green	I am qualified to run because I am an accomplished peace activist and journalist: someone who has spoken out against the injustices perpetuated by my country since I was in high school. I have also lived and studied in Paris, the capitol of the diplomatic world: a city where one learns the value of communing with other cultures and peoples, while also gaining invaluable insight into how the international political system functions.
(5)	Ribeiro, Simon	Green	As a school teacher, I know how to fix the school system. We need to reform school funding; academic curriculum; scheduling; class-room structure, management and discipline. As a math, economic and public administration research analyst, I have devised a Congressional Proposal that will eliminate the national debt; taxes; tolls; and usury. By nationalizing the central bank and the banking industry, the U.S. can produce a strong dollar and as much money as needed without having to sell bonds and other securities. In this new fiat monetary system, securities will become obsolete because the government will be making and determining the money's value, not "borrowing" it or contracting it out to private bankers. Thus internal revenue will become obsolete as well. States, Counties, and municipalities will get necessary funding from the federal government so their residents do not have to pay taxes and their community budgets won't face annual and cumulative deficits. A *National Bank* will ensure that interest rates are minimal, usury is abolished, and that loans will be made out responsibly. There will be no account fees, no ATM fees and no Mortgage closing costs. Debit cards and checks will automatically cease to exceed an over-draft value, and account holders will be protected. …

Question: Considering that the 5th Congressional District is one of the most diverse in Illinois, explain how you connect with all of the ethnic, racial, age, and income groups? What is your experience working with diverse populations?

Ballot #	Name	Party	Response
(1)	Wheelan, Charles J.	Dem.	During the past few months, walking through the neighborhoods of this district and meeting with voters of all backgrounds and income groups has been hands down my favorite aspect of campaigning. This race has been unique in that so many voters are united by a single issue - the economy. The economic crisis is colorblind and the demand for renewed faith in our government's ability to handle that crisis is universal. I would look forward to continuing to engage with voters across the district about these issues.
(2)	Feigenholtz, Sara	Dem.	In my 14 years as a state legislator, I've had the tremendous opportunity of working with many diverse groups representing a broad spectrum of interests and aspirations, including the Jane Addams Senior Caucus, Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights, Illinois Maternal & Child Health Coalition, SEIU, Junior League of Chicago and the Supportive Housing Providers Association. Together, we have drafted legislation to promote in-home health care, pushed various grassroots initiatives to enhance and expand our mass transit system, and pursued advocacy campaigns on behalf of people who often lack a seat at the bargaining table. I accomplished this by keeping the doors to my district office open and always welcoming members of the community to voice their concerns. I pride myself on having a very active and engaged constituent service office and intend to continue this tradition if elected to Congress.
(3)	Fritchey, John A.	Dem	As the son of an immigrant mother and as a representative from one of Illinois' most diverse districts, I have been privileged to work on issues that make a difference for all communities. When I championed the Genocide Studies bill, I worked hand-in-hand with members of Illinois' Cambodian and Ukrainian communities. I also worked closely with immigrant groups and politically engaged young people on drivers' license legislation, and legislation to ensure minimum wage protections for minors. In the past month I have given interviews in Spanish-language press, Ukrainian and Polish media, and on Chicago's largest Pakistani radio station. I was one of the few candidates to attend a forum hosted by the American Muslim Task Force (AMT), and in this race I am honored to have the endorsement of both the AMT and the Jewish Political Alliance of Illinois. Most importantly, we must remember that the people of this district have far more similarities than they do differences. In Congress, I will continue my outreach throughout the district and I will continue to fight on issues that make a difference for all of us.
(4)	Forys, Victor A.	Dem.	As a physician I work with people from all ethnic groups, races, economic backgrounds, and ages. No other profession allows you to interact with as diverse a group of people. I have been a doctor for 25 years. Our practice is a community health care center that serves everyone in the community. 40 percent of physicians in the U.S. were trained in foreign countries and we all work together. We respect each other's skills and cultures. Working so closely with people from other countries has given me a great appreciation of how they think and what they are all about. I am an immigrant and I have experienced living in an ethnic community here in Chicago and will do all that I can to reach out to and include our ethnic communities as a Congressman.

(6)	Donatelli, Jan H.	Dem.	Our military is the picture of diversity as men and women of all colors, economic backgrounds and from all parts of the country join together to protect this great nation. Additionally, as a union activist I often worked hand in hand with individuals of different backgrounds to create solutions that worked for everyone. I have travelled the world, and have a great appreciation for other cultures. Finally, one year ago, I was one of the thousands of Americans who had put their lives on hold to help support a special candidate in his run for President. We were diverse in terms of race, gender, orientation and personal history. But we were united – rock solid – behind our candidate. And I have committed to diversity on this campaign.
(7)	Annunzio, Frank	Dem.	I believe the Construction Industry is most diverse and I connect well with all of the people I encounter daily.
(8)	Monteagudo, Carlos A.	Dem.	I am from a family that is as diverse as the District. My parents and siblings left Cuba as refugee immigrants in 1962 and lived in Puerto Rico, where my sister was born. My nephews and nieces reflect the diversity of the district; 2 are ½ Mexican and ½ Puerto Rican; 3 are ½ Ecuadorians; 3 are ½ Irish catholic; 4 are ½ Anglicans; 1 is ½ Palestinian. In my career, and specifically as a Kellogg Fellow, I traveled the world studying and learning to understand different perspectives through the lenses of different cultures. The methodology of the non-profit I co-founded, SEED, is built precisely the premise that the most intractable problems of our day can ONLY be addressed when all parties to a problem are well represented and when they meet with an attitude of openness. We have successfully applied this methodology ranging from small community agencies to major city taskforces, to large government department. Also my work over the years in major metropolitan public hospitals and clinics, including in Cook County Hospital, Mass Mental, Boston City Hospital, North Central Bronx Hospital, University Settlement of NYC, has been a rich melody of diversity.
(9)	Bryar, Paul J.	Dem.	On a daily basis, I see patients young and old, Americans and immigrants, wealthy and economically disadvantaged, and people of virtually every ethnic background. Given that I interact with such a diverse group of people every day, I am very comfortable interacting with diverse groups. I currently have a very diverse campaign staff. My approach to connecting to the district includes visiting every group that I am able to speak and listen to.
(11)	Geoghegan, Tom	Dem.	I specialize in civil rights law – I often sue to protest racial or ethnic discrimination. Aside from the part of my law practice that is truly "civil rights," I am also a union side labor lawyer. In that capacity, I have represented workers of all ages, ethnicities, races, religions and incomes. I have represented women who have been discriminated against because of their gender. I have brought several suits against sexual harassment. I have represented workers arrested because of their immigration status. I have represented all of these people because of my commitment to the economic security and dignity of working Americans – regardless of age, race, class, ethnicity, gender or religion.
(13)	Quigley, Mike	Dem.	I have always strived to have a diverse staff in my office. Currently my staff is comprised of women and LGBT members. We actively work to promote the issues of the LGBT, senior, and minority communities. I have passed ground breaking equal rights legislation and have been recognized by many minority organizations for my assistance with their communities. On my campaign I have a director of Latino Outreach, Asian American Outreach and LGBT outreach. We will begin our outreach in the Polish community this weekend.
(14)	O'Connor,	Dem.	My experience working with diverse populations is extensive. The 40th Ward is one of the most diverse city wards, a

	Patrick J.		majority minority ward. Early in my tenure I sponsored a citizenship education program based on that of former Alderman Jesus Garcia's. In the City Council, I work with diverse populations addressing serious issues on a regular basis. I connect with all of the ethnic, racial, age and income groups by first, not categorizing and classifying people before I approach either the individual or the issue. I meet regularly with individuals and community organizations that represent various interests. I have formed advisory councils and attend community meetings. I have and have had diversity on my staff and provide translators when needed. I have worked to achieve racially, ethnically and gender balanced tickets within the Democratic party.

(1)	Hanson, Tom	Rep.	We have spent literally 1000's of hours with the various ethnic, racial, social and age groups to determine what matters most to them in the 5th District. In real estate you are sworn ethically to represent everyone equally so I have had many years dealing with people from all walks of life in this respect. Each culture, race, age, income group have a specific that is important to their agenda, but overall, from our direct conversations, they have many of the same common issues. As a Liberal Republican I am more centrist and in a position to represent that type of diversity.
(2)	Stewart, Jon	Rep.	I have employed every ethnicity and I have worked with every ethnicity. I grew up in the city and have always enjoyed a great relationship with people from every economic strata.
(3)	Bedell, Gregory A.	Rep.	In addition to living in the 5th district, I lived in th Jackson Park Highlands on Chicago's south side for about 7 years. I was, in fact, a minority in this neighborhood. I learned much from this experience and gained a new perspective on cultural diversity. These experiences have heightened both my knowledge and sensitivity to the concerns of those different from myself. I combine my experience with that part of my character that compels me to listen to others and try to understand their perspectives and the issues they face. I have applied my experiences and character in both my professional and private life and, I believe, I have also helped others as a result. I know I have benefited.
(5)	Kay, Daniel S.	Rep.	Easier question for me than for the opponents. Born to immigrants from different parts of Europe, many of which are represented in the district. Real world experience stretching from Armitage & the lakefront, through Sheffield/East Lakeview, up Lincoln ave, down Milwaukee ave, out toward Harlem ave and well beyond. I had personally managed budgets/inventories of several million in one month and then had to dig ditches in December 2 months later! All professions, income groups, and ethnic diversities have some form of common ground, I have been amongst most. Age groups? My father is a WWII vet, I am of the tail end of the baby boomers with friends older and younger, most with children/grandchildren. I have the "8 to 88" covered.
(6)	Anderson, David J.	Rep.	The district is 75% white and 25% Hispanic, so, it is not as diverse as some districts. To stimulate Illinois's economic environment, I will establish a Citizens Committee on the district's economy. My goal will be to create incentives and eliminate disincentives for economic recovery and growth. The work at hand is to ensure that the government functions more simply, more transparently, less expensively and more effectively. These are the same business goals and objectives I have accomplished as an engineer, a scientist, and a business owner. Additionally, I live in the district, and love being in Chicago, so, I will be very accessible. I also have plans to hire staff with experience in congressional representation.

(1)	Gordils, Deb Leticia	Green	I am Mexican and Puerto Rican, my daughters are Polish, Irish, German, and Assyrian. I must honor their lives and be respectful of the needs of their blood lines. In all my work experiences I have always worked to serve diverse groups.
(2)	Fredrickson,	Green	From my early career as a broadcast journalist in my hometown of Danville, I have promoted social justice &

	Mark Arnold		improved human relations. My work with the NAACP & the City of Danville Human Relations Commission helped improve minority representation on the City of Danville City Council by adopting an aldermanic form of government. My construction project management experience introduced me to a variety of Minority Business Enterprises (MBE), Female Business Enterprises (FBE) & Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE). By assisting my clients in complying with governmental specifications & plans, I helped these clients to earn prompt payment from governmental agencies.
(4)	Reichel, Matt	Green	I have extensive experience living and traveling in other countries, I have learned foreign languages and absolutely cherish other cultures. What's more, I was born and raised in the diverse Rogers Park neighborhood and spent much of my childhood years in Albany Park, one of the most diverse parts of the 5th district. I am not another politician who has spent his life insulated from the communities he wants to represent; I am someone who lives amongst and cherishes the great diversity of this international city.
(5)	Ribeiro, Simon	Green	Growing up in this diverse Chicago area made me a man of all people. The richness of our great diversity is one of the most attractive reasons why I love the Chicago area. Everyday life has me working with all groups of people- be they young or old, rich or modest, gay, bi, straight, white, black, Hispanic, Asian, Arab, Indian, Native, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Catholic, Protestant, or other. I have attended the most diverse schools, churches, and community organizations all my life. We are not a homogeneous people or nation, and consensus-building is that much more challenging. But, the voters of the 5th Congressional District, by and large, are progressive. They want universal healthcare, they want their debts paid off, they want their taxes reduced, they want their streets safe and clean, they want good schools, they want to be able to retire comfortably, and they want these things for their kids and their kids' kids. On social justice, we stand together, united under the conviction of compassion, that we are all brothers and sisters, and that we are all our brothers' keepers and our sisters' keepers.

Question: What do you believe are the three most pressing issues facing residents of the 5th Congressional District and how will you address them?

Ballot #	Name	Party	Response
(1)	Wheelan, Charles J.	Dem.	**The Economy** – This is the most treacherous global economic situation since the 1930's. Our economic policy going forward must have two components: 1) Immediate action to put Americans back to work; And 2) A longer term effort to improve the regulatory structure (without erring on the side of over-regulation) to strengthen the financial system going forward. **Infrastructure Investment** – Our public transit systems are in desperate need of investment. In the future, dense metropolitan regions will enjoy a significant economic advantage from the efficient movement of people and freight. I was deeply engaged in this issue during my tenure at Chicago Metropolis 2020 and will work to ensure that the federal stimulus makes investments that help us become more productive as a nation, as well as invigorate the economy. **Foreign Policy** – There are currently five or six places in the world which, if they continue to unravel, have the potential to change life as we know it—a nuclear Iran; a conflict between Pakistan and India; a wider Arab-Israeli conflict; a destabilized Afghanistan. We should be paying attention to these challenges in the 5th District because the cost of not paying attention is so potentially high. I am the only candidate in this race with extensive foreign policy experience. As I mentioned, I have spent time "on the ground" in places ranging from Bangalore to Amman talking with government officials, U.S. diplomats, journalists, representatives of NGOs, and other policymakers.
(2)	Feigenholtz, Sara	Dem.	The 5th Congressional District is very diverse and filled with strong, hardworking people. The economic downturn has had a dramatic impact on our community and families are worried about what challenges lie ahead. I talk with constituents everyday who are a pink slip away from losing their health insurance and losing their way of life. I'm running for Congress to represent their needs and their interests. We must ensure that our nation remains a place of opportunity for the families and communities that make up the 5th district. First, our country must make a solid commitment to expanding access to health care for all Americans and strengthening the ability of our health care providers right here in the 5th District to continue delivering quality care to patients. While funding is an important part of the solution, we also need to address the structural problems in our health care system – such as the 120-day Medicaid backlog in Illinois – that threaten to shut down health care centers in our community and make it more difficult for Medicaid beneficiaries to receive the care they need. Second, I support an immediate investment in our local and regional infrastructure, as part of a national economic stimulus plan. …
(3)	Fritchey, John A.	Dem	*Restarting the economy* -- Resolving America's economic crisis must be the first priority of every elected official whether local, state or federal. I believe the federal government must intervene to break the current downward cycle. The actions we take now must restart growth, ease the pain as we ride out recession, and build new oversight to prevent another crisis in the future. *Restoring accountability in government* --The government must always operate with transparency and accountability, but ethical conduct is more important now than ever as taxpayers invest over a trillion dollars in economic recovery. I have

			made the push for open, honest government the cause of my career. In 2003 I worked with then-State Senator Barack Obama to pass the most comprehensive ethics overhaul in the history of Illinois. In 1998 I fought George Ryan to pass the State Inspector Misconduct Act and in 2008 I fought Rod Blagojevich to finally pass the Pay-to-Play ban. *Expanding access to affordable health care* -- In Springfield I worked to extend health care coverage, ensure high quality care and establish better services for seniors. I look forward to contributing as our nation's highest offices take up these problems.
(4)	Forys, Victor A.	Dem.	The three most important issues facing the 5th District are the economy, health care and immigration. We have to get our economy back on track. We have to stop the downward spiral of job losses and implement the stimulus package. In addition, I believe we must address our health care crisis. Health care costs are a hidden tax on businesses in America. We can help to reduce costs so that businesses have more money to invest and hire workers. I have health care plan to reduce costs and insure everyone. We must first require a standard health insurance plan so that every insurance company is offering the same coverage and employers would get a tax credit for their health care expenses. If you become unemployed, your insurance is paid for by the government and you keep your same insurance plan. As an immigrant, I believe that I bring a unique perspective to the issue. I believe that we must quickly issue Social Security numbers and allow people already here to obtain legal work status. We must also stop immigration raids. This will boost our economy and is the right thing to do.
(6)	Donatelli, Jan H.	Dem.	The sad fact is that the money our country spends on health care continues to rise, even as access goes down. This must change. This is why I support accessible and affordable healthcare to include mental healthcare – for all Americans. Second, putting American men and women back to work in jobs that pay living wages so that once again we have an economy that is strong. And finally, stopping the foreclosure and debt crisis.
(7)	Annunzio, Frank	Dem.	Healthcare – I believe we need affordable healthcare for all Americans. Single-Payer healthcare would be a priority. I would implement this with funds I would cut from the Military budget. Social Security and Medicare Solvency– I would change the taxable income limits and raise the tax rates on higher earners which is similar to what President Obama is suggesting. I would also supplement this with funds cut from the Military budget. Comprehensive Immigration Reform – I would make it easier and less expensive to become a citizen and give the current residents a clear path to become a US citizen.
(8)	Monteagudo, Carlos A.	Dem.	In an interconnected world and economy, it is a false premise that policies of national and international concern do not affect the fifth district. The fifth district is primarily working class and often 1st or 2nd generation immigrant. The priorities of my campaign speak directly to their concerns: *Heath Security* - This requires quality, affordable healthcare for everyone and a public health system that works, because healthcare is a human right. *Economic Security* - The economy needs to be built from the ground up by making sure that hard working people can have good quality jobs, be assured of quality education for their children, keep their homes in the toughest of times and find stability in retirement. *Global Security* - This is fostered through a foreign policy that places a premium on building peace through diplomacy and international cooperation rather than waging war. Our nation is also called at this time to provide leadership on mounting energy and environmental issues facing the planet.

(9)	Bryar, Paul J.	Dem.	I am a professor at Northwestern University medical school and an eye surgeon. Since my first day in practice 10 years ago, I have dedicated one day each week to providing medical care in a community health center that serves patents regardless of their ability to pay. I will take my real life experience as a teacher, doctor and community advocate to Congress. My priorities will be to: • Lead by example with honesty and integrity • Use my experience to ensure that health reform creates access for all, and preserves quality, choice, and efficiency • Support rebuilding our economy, create jobs with new infrastructure projects and fight for legislation to keep people in homes they can afford
(11)	Geoghegan, Tom	Dem.	The three most pressing issues facing residents of the 5th District are the same as those facing working Americans across the country. We are facing the worst economic catastrophe in decades and we cannot afford to keep throwing tax dollars at bad institutional actors. We must move to a single-payer health insurance program that protects all Americans, create a real public pension system that retired Americans can live on, and begin to bring down interest rates and private debt burdens. I'm running for Congress because the health insurance and pension benefits I've been fighting for my entire career are quickly drying up. Unless we do something now, our non-wage labor costs will strangle not only American competitiveness but American families. This is about the nurses, the teachers, the steelworkers, the city workers that I've represented over the years. It is not simply graphs and charts, but about real people that are being left behind and left out of the conversation about our financial meltdown.
(13)	Quigley, Mike	Dem.	1) Long term solutions – not short term fixes. I will focus on long term solutions to our economy that focus on education, job growth and job creation. 2) Health Care. Residents of the District are losing their jobs and consequently their health care at an alarming rate and the safety net is not strong enough to protect them. I will work to provide health care for every American that is affordable and portable from job to job that does not interrupt the coverage of Americans happy with their current coverage. 3) Improving the infrastructure of the District. As Congressman of the 5th District I would seek stimulus funds to improve the transit system and Chicago, improve the infrastructure of our schools and ensure that the Chicago River has significant protections to reduce the severity of flooding in the district.
(14)	O'Connor, Patrick J.	Dem.	The three most pressing issues are jobs, access to quality health care and education. All three are inter-connected. Jobs pay for housing, affordable health care costs impact on small businesses which means jobs and a stable economy, which lowers crime. Government, historically, addresses these complex issues individually, not comprehensively. Changing this approach to address complex issues is the most important change Washington can make. My immediate congressional priority is to maximize the economic stimulus funds to ensure the 5th CD gets its fair share of these critical dollars. We need to have the funds to create jobs by investing in an environmentally green infrastructure, workforce development and job training programs, and small businesses. I want to ensure we get our share of funding for education to ensure quality education for everyone from pre-school through college. We must stop talking about health care reform and actually do something. I agree with President Obama that we must start with the economy and correct the mess President Bush left and then move forward on the other critical social programs.

(1)	Hanson,	Rep.	Taxes (more on a local basis), employment and maintaining and increasing home values. My first task when elected will be

	Tom		to take on Todd Stroger. I believe there are some very wrong, possibly ethically and criminally, policies and actions in this position. I believe he was only put in the post to cover for what his father had been getting by with for years. Once we can eradicate this man's power we can get control of our local, usurious taxes. Keeping your job and being able to find a job when you need one are key in the current economic crisis. We have to work with landlords of commercial properties to keep rents affordable for merchants who employ people. We have to not overtax the local business person so that they want to keep jobs in Chicago. I cannot tell you how many short sales and foreclosures I have personally handled in the past few years. I know the pain, fear and financial loss that these people suffer. By keeping Cook County property taxes in check we can make staying in a home more affordable. I believe that Congress needs to take a more active approach with mortgage lenders to make absolutely sure they are doing everything in their power to make mortgages affordable, work with homeowners to achieve a payment they can live with so that they can stay in their homes and make certain that lenders are not allowed to 'over loan' on a home which is a recipe for disaster.
(2)	Stewart, Jon	Rep.	1) Infrastructure – Bring tax money and stimulus money back to the district for sewers and roads. 2) Economy -- Create a stimulus package that works. And create a new industry w/ an energy program for wind, solar, bio and hydro. 3) Corruption -- Term limits, public all financial campaigns and no lobbyist allowed in Congress.
(3)	Bedell, Gregory A.	Rep.	Unemployment: More grave in the past due to a changing and global economy, we must address the issue comprehensively. The government must provide a safety net during this crisis; we must help those displaced by the new economy by providing creative education and training. Community colleges and private/public partnerships are key. We must grow real and lasting jobs through policies of low taxes and reasonable regulation. I reject non-infrastructure government programs. Education: Because family and community support are key to success, we must give families a choice in where they send their children. I support vouchers and charter schools. Families also need help in sending their children to college. I support funding the Pell Grant program and giving tax credits for college tuition. I also encourage tax credits encouraging the partnership between private industry and schools, especially high schools and community colleges, in creating the workforce needed for the future. Immigration is the third issue. We must address this on three fronts: border security; remove the cause of illegal immigration; and provide a compassionate solution under the law for current illegal immigrants. I do not believe in a fence; I believe in border patrols and better use of technology for security. We must commit to NAFTA, CFTA and free trade. We must follow the law in dealing with those found to be here illegally. I support a guest worker program.
(5)	Kay, Daniel S.	Rep.	Trust in their elected officials for one, the recent scandal with our former governor is a hot topic and has many disillusioned with the entire electoral process. Especially toward career politicians and dynasties. I plan on serving 2 terms and would only seek a 3rd if an issue of major importance was too close for me to ignore and walk away. 3 ½ years should be enough, an extra 2 if necessary, and then I want to come home after serving my country with the vast array of skills and common sense developed over the years. Excessive taxation and anti-productivity legislation is another main issue. Again, I look at/hear/feel all sides to an issue prior to making a decision which could adversely affect some for the benefit of others. Immigration reform and streamlining come to mind here. Some recent anti-business owner legislation on the city, county and state level should never be implemented on the federal level.
(6)	Anderson, David J.	Rep.	Corruption, jobs, healthcare. Corruption is addressed by breaking the electoral pattern of one-party, career politicians, who grow arrogant and greedy. I will serve no more than 4 terms. Jobs come from a friendly business climate, and we need to

			revise international trade policy to keep jobs from migrating overseas. We are shipping our jobs and wealth overseas, and leaving Illinois residents in the unemployment line. Healthcare is very complex, but, there are many strategies available for reducing costs and increasing access. The best approach is to implement principles of free-market economy, including competition and freedom of choice.

(1)	Gordils, Deb Leticia	Green	The Economy, Employment, Immigration I propose a tax cut in the payroll and withholding tax, to immediately put money in the hands of the worker and not Big Banks or Big Business. I will work with the Mayor to see that my constituents are part of the jobs offered in infrastructure with new federal monies. I will draft legislation and call in other Congressman to build support for my Immigration Bills.
(2)	Fredrickson, Mark Arnold	Green	A. Reforming Wall Street financial practices B. Promoting environmentally sustainable economic growth C. Cutting taxes to promote free markets.
(4)	Reichel, Matt	Green	The three most pressing issues facing this district are the economic recession, the ongoing wars in the Middle East, and corruption among our financial and political class. These three issues are closely related and intertwined, brought together by a common element of greed and irresponsibility. Government must begin to ensure responsible behavior out of the most powerful members of our society, and I will work diligently to introduce structural reforms to ensure changes in the way politicians and bankers are allowed to behave. Among the many reforms I will seek to initiate include taking the still-solvent banks over for five years so as to assure compliance with ethics laws, the re-introduction of the Glass-Steagall act to separate commercial and investment banking, the introduction of a Tobin tax on financial transactions, and, most importantly, an end to our offenses in Iraq, Afghanistan and Pakistan. Over five years, I propose cutting the military budget in half so as to open up the necessary funds to bring about the aforementioned reforms, while freeing up monies for an ambitious Green Works program to re-build this nation's public transit systems while replacing coal and nuclear plants with wind and solar throughout the nation.
(5)	Ribeiro, Simon	Green	1. Healthcare - Move to a single-payer healthcare system, that is high-quality, comprehensive and holistic. 2. Consumer Debt, including home mortgages - Move to forgive debts, lower interest rates, and restructure loans. 3. Taxes - Move to simplify, reduce, and even eliminate taxes.

Question: What is your stance on Charity Care and Federally Qualified Health Care Centers? What will you do on the Federal level to help us with these issues of Charity Care and funding for Federally Qualified Health Care Centers?

Ballot #	Name	Party	Response
(1)	Wheelan, Charles J.	Dem.	I support Charity Care and Federally Qualified Health Care Centers which provide an invaluable service in our community by providing primary care services to under-served urban and rural communities. With the increase in the cost of health insurance, these safety nets are extremely important. Ultimately, I would like to see a complete overhaul of our public health system leading to universal health care for all citizens. In the short-term, I would support increased funding of Charity Care and Federally Qualified Health Care Centers and higher reimbursement rates for the doctors providing the services.
(2)	Feigenholtz, Sara	Dem.	In recent years, we've witnessed a significant drop in the percentage of doctors providing charity care, in part due to the rising cost of practicing medicine. My mother, perhaps my greatest inspiration, was a doctor in her community who never turned away a patient, even if they couldn't pay – her commitment to this form of charity care led me to embrace the idea that health care is a right, not a privilege. I have worked to expand access to health care here in the state of Illinois by fighting to require the insurance companies to pay their fair share for vital services, including mammograms for women. We need to reduce the cost of health care in this country, provide much needed relief to state governments to bolster state Medicaid programs and increase funding for FQHC's, which are silently closing their doors due to rising costs. I will fight for these goals in Congress, as I have in the Illinois legislature.
(3)	Fritchey, John A.	Dem	I support Charity Care and Federally Qualified Health Care Centers and in Congress I will work to expand health care options for low-income Americans. To create meaningful change, however, these efforts must be part of an aggressive plan to enact comprehensive reform that ensures all Americans have access to quality, affordable health care. For 12 years in Springfield I have fought to improve health care in Illinois. I worked to extend coverage through FamilyCare and Community Care, passed legislation mandating that insurance companies cover needed cancer screening and sponsored an expansion of the Circuit Breaker program, which provides pharmaceutical assistance to struggling seniors. I support comprehensive reform based on principles similar President Obama's: broaden coverage by expanding the existing system with added quality assurance while using tax credits and cost containment to ensure all Americans have access to plans they can afford.
(4)	Forys, Victor A.	Dem.	I believe everyone decent health care. Federal Qualified Health Centers and Charity care are not a replacement for family doctors. I have a plan that will insure everyone so that they can get the care they need, from the doctor they choose. We shouldn't have a multiple tiered health care system. They shouldn't be forced to go to forced to go to a free clinic or an FQHC because they lack insurance and cannot pay. Everybody deserves decent health care. Health care is a human right. I have a plan that will insure everyone in America so that they can go to any doctor or hospital they choose. I support Federal Qualified Health Centers and increasing their funding. They are an important part of providing health care to people who often do not have access to health care. Under my plan, since all patients would be insured, the center would be paid and that would increase their funding. In areas where population is too small to support a health center, the government needs to step in to make sure on exists so that people do not have to drive hundreds of miles to get health care.

(6)	Donatelli, Jan H.	Dem.	As I stated, health care for everyone will be a top priority when I get to Washington. FQHC's are the only safety net for many Americans and must be adequately funded despite the touch economic times. I will fight to ensure that Charity Care and Federally Qualified Health Care Centers receive the necessary dollars to serve the communities they serve.
(7)	Annunzio, Frank	Dem.	Charity Care and Federally Qualified Health Care Centers were a safety net but have not always acted as such. I believe the single payer heath care model will help all healthcare issues.
(8)	Monteagudo, Carlos A.	Dem.	As this economic crisis worsens and more Americans have a difficult time paying their bills and lose their health insurance, it makes sense for us to ensure nonprofit hospitals are providing free or reduced-cost care at a level that is in line with the substantial benefit they receive from not paying taxes. We need to make sure taxpayers are getting their money's worth and that patients are getting affordable care. From the federal level we must ensure that federal agencies are talking to each other so there's consistency and accuracy in the way uncompensated care and charity care are defined and that the rates of reimbursements for both Charity Care and FQHCC's be increased so that the uninsured and underinsured maybe able to receive quality care.
(9)	Bryar, Paul J.	Dem.	This is an easy question for me. Since my first week in practice 10 years ago, I have dedicated one day each week to working at a Federally Qualified Health Care Center, Winfield Moody Health Center. I provide eye care to all of their patients. Over the last 10 years, I have quadrupled the number of eye exam rooms, and helped open a second eye clinic at a sister clinic, Komed Health Center. Since many of my patients at the clinic need surgery or a higher level of care, I helped create a program for them to receive the care free of charge at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. Since this issue is one which I have been dedicated to my entire career, I will fight vigorously as a member of Congress to ensure that these centers receive the support and funding they deserve.
(11)	Geoghegan, Tom	Dem.	I brought the original litigation against not for profit hospitals for failure to provide adequate charity care. I recently reached settlement with Advocate Health Systems for a charity care program that will benefit persons throughout the Fifth District. As the ultimate answer, I support a single payer national health program such as Canada's. I think it is crucial not only as a matter of fairness and efficiency but to lower the non wage labor costs that private employers now pay. Mature national economies that move in part or entirely to single-payer are better positioned to compete in a global economy.
(13)	Quigley, Mike	Dem.	As a County Commissioner I see the impact on the declining level of federal funding for charity care. The level of funding has directly led to a decrease in the quality and quantity of care we are able to provide. This, coupled with a recession where thousands of residents are losing their jobs and their insurance, is creating a perfect storm of an increased demand for health care and a decreased availability of care. I will fight to bring federal dollars to the region to ensure that any resident needing health care, whether it be preventive or emergency care, has access without significant delays.
(14)	O'Connor, Patrick J.	Dem.	I fully support Charity Care and Federally Qualified Health Care Centers. At the federal level, I support legislation that holds nonprofit hospitals accountable for the billions of dollars in annual tax exemptions they get and imposes penalties if they do not provide minimum levels of charity care. Charity Care amounts should not include bad debt. It should be care to patients in need. Charity Care needs a clear, acceptable definition. It is not acceptable that nonprofit hospitals are curbing their Charity Care or closing facilities in the inner city neighborhoods while building new suburban campuses, all while keeping their tax exempt status. Federally Qualified Health Centers are the community operated nonprofits providing comprehensive primary care to anyone in the community who needs it. "Federally qualified" means these centers get funds from D.C. to provide sliding scale fees to the uninsured, the lower the income the lower the fees. If the federal government

			gets health care right, hospitals won't be the target of legislation with punitive measures.

(1)	Hanson, Tom	Rep.	Federal spending on Charity Care is at an all time high yet hospitals are closing in record numbers. I don't think MORE Federal funding is the answer. I believe local cooperatives are a more effective way to handle charity health care and keep it in the neighborhood. Medicaid is a wonderful source of medical coverage for those who are unable to receive health care insurance benefits. If we are not careful we will end up socializing medicine and we will all lose out with fewer doctors and horrendous wait times.
(2)	Stewart, Jon	Rep.	I am for charity care and federally qualified health care centers. At the federal level, will propose full funding of these centers and programs. The needy and the care of our sick will not go unnoticed in my administration. Only with a commitment to the needy will Washington ever fully fund these programs.
(3)	Bedell, Gregory A.	Rep.	During our financial crisis, the government must act to ensure the availability of medical treatment and support of Charity Care and FQHCCs are part of this. Hospitals' reserves are being overwhelmed by demand for Charity Care; through tax relief or direct funding these hospitals must be helped. The government must also provide during this crisis for FQHCCs. In the long term, we must address the general healthcare system. We must reduce cost and increase access through tax credits and market mechanisms, such as buying groups.
(5)	Kay, Daniel S.	Rep.	The term "charity" constitutes voluntary from an inherent good toward the goal of good intentions. Maximizing "charitable" contributions and benefits goes much further than forcing already struggling families to loathe the concept. Federally funded care facilities must be accountable for providing proper and dignified care to meet eligibility requirements (experience with my dying mother here and the sorry state of "care" received).
(6)	Anderson, David J.	Rep.	I support providing public assistance to those who need it. Absolutely, the government should help those who need it. My preference is to have the states administer the programs, because the Federal government tends to be very inefficient and insensitive. I think the local government can do a more effective job, and the local government understands the needs of its own people better, but, the local corruption MUST be cleaned up!

(1)	Gordils, Deb Leticia	Green	I support universal health care. I will back up Federally qualified Health Centers. My family has personally benefitted from such health centers.
(2)	Fredrickson, Mark Arnold	Green	That sounds like a question better answered by Dr. Victor Forys.
(4)	Reichel, Matt	Green	Charity Care is not a sustainable long-term solution to the health care crisis striking this nation. I support universal single payer health care, because this will make quality health care a human right guaranteed and paid for by the federal government. Furthermore, this care will be provided more cheaply and efficiently than it is today, where billions of dollars are lost annually in seas of insurance bureaucracies, many of which are corrupt. Nonetheless, until single payer coverage becomes a reality, I will be forced to vote on spending more money on health care in order to ensure funding for Federally Qualified Health Care Centers, because something needs to be done to correct for the incompetence of our current system in the short run.
(5)	Ribeiro, Simon	Green	I will advocate for more federal funding for Charity and Health Care Centers, and again the single-payer health care system will take in already established health Care Centers and streamline them in to the greater system of making sure everyone is provided healthcare.

Question: What is your opinion on federal legislation that would create and preserve affordable housing?

Ballot #	Name	Party	Response
(1)	Wheelan, Charles J.	Dem.	I believe that access to affordable housing is essential to creating a strong workforce and improving our economy. Too often lower income wage earners are forced to live miles away from jobs. This creates stress on the transportation system, damages roads, hurts the environment, and decreases productivity. I would support legislation like the National Affordable Housing Trust Fund that would create and preserve affordable housing.
(2)	Feigenholtz, Sara	Dem.	In addressing the health care crisis and the current economic downturn, we as a country must also focus on the housing component, especially in this climate of skyrocketing foreclosures. I've worked with the Supportive Housing Providers Association and was honored in 2006 with their "Three Legged Stool Award" for my commitment to funding supportive housing for low-income seniors, families and residents, especially those who suffer from debilitating illnesses such as HIV/AIDS that prevents them from working full-time or at all. I would certainly support and champion legislation to preserve and enhance affordable housing for those who need it most.
(3)	Fritchey, John A.	Dem	The federal government plays a pivotal role in ensuring the creation and preservation of affordable housing. In Congress, I will fight to increase funding for affordable housing development, as well as rehabilitation and preservation of existing units. I believe we must couple our building efforts with protections from housing discrimination for struggling Americans.
(4)	Forys, Victor A.	Dem.	I support programs that promote and preserve affordable housing. I think we need to make sure that funding is available to get people into affordable homes. We have seen with the recent sub-prime loan crisis that there is a significant problem when people reach beyond their means to afford a home. We need to make sure that affordable housing is available in all areas of the 5th district. People shouldn't have to drive long distances to work.
(6)	Donatelli, Jan H.	Dem.	It is no secret that Americans are losing their homes and affordable housing simply doesn't exist. The homeless population continues to rise, especially in the once non-existent class of 'working homeless'. I support affordable housing programs particularly those using the Housing First model. I would also like to see new homeownership programs that will allow more people to realize the American dream of owning a home that is safe and affordable, but first we must stop foreclosures and restructure as many loans as possible to keep Americans in the homes they already own.
(7)	Annunzio, Frank	Dem.	We need more affordable housing and I will always support legislation of this kind.
(8)	Monteagudo, Carlos A.	Dem.	As this economic crisis worsens and more Americans have a difficult time paying their bills and lose their health insurance, it makes sense for us to ensure nonprofit hospitals are providing free or reduced-cost care at a level that is in line with the substantial benefit they receive from not paying taxes. We need to make sure taxpayers are getting their money's worth and that patients are getting affordable care. From the federal level we must ensure that federal agencies are talking to each other so there's consistency and accuracy in the way uncompensated care and charity care are defined and that the rates of reimbursements for both Charity Care and FQHCC's be increased so that the uninsured and underinsured maybe able to receive quality care.
(9)	Bryar, Paul J.	Dem.	I am in favor of legislation that creates quality, affordable housing so that families can buy and stay in homes. I believe that homeownership should be a national priority.

(11)	Geoghegan, Tom	Dem.	During this current economic crisis, I support an immediate moratorium on foreclosure actions brought by all banks, mortgage companies and other financial institutions– including the very banks we are bailing out. I do not favor, however, the government taking over the mortgages at prices that protect the banks from the losses. Instead, I favor legislation that would allow all homeowners who default on their mortgages to have the right to continue to stay in their homes as renters. I also favor legislation that would allow the lenders and borrowers to renegotiate the mortgages as an alternative to renting without the need for the consent of third party assignees.
(13)	Quigley, Mike	Dem.	As more hard-working families lose their jobs and their homes every day, the creation of lodging that is safe and affordable becomes even more vital. Additionally, as the babyboomer generation ages, it will become more critical than ever to have a ready supply of homes that people can afford on fixed incomes. As a county commissioner representing the north lakefront of the city, I have enjoyed working on this issue with community leaders such as JASC, in the past. I worked tirelessly with JASC and Lakeview Action Coalition to ensure that Rienzi Plaza did not abandon its longstanding commitment to the federal Section 8 program. In doing so together, we succeeded in saving 20% of Lakeview's affordable housing stock. Also, I sponsored and passed anti-predatory lending legislation at the county level, despite extreme opposition from the banking industry. There was no need for Cook County to reward with contracts or deposits any bank that engaged in unethical lending practices. As we now know, many of these same practices have led to thousands of people across the country losing their homes to foreclosure and have contributed to the devastation of the entire real estate industry. As a congressman, I believe I can help more seniors best afford their housing by allowing them to keep more of their money, which is why I support eliminating income taxes for seniors who make less than $50,000 a year.
(14)	O'Connor, Patrick J.	Dem.	I have always felt Washington should return to a focus on affordable housing. Local programs depend on federal funding and local governments often lose federal dollars due to confusion about the rules and deadlines and a lack of matching funds. We are coming off decades of declining federal housing support, combined with higher land and construction costs. Skyrocketing prices have gone way beyond stagnated wages and we have lost thousands of units of rental housing stock. In Chicago, we have agreed upon set aside formulas and their criteria. In Congress, simplifying federal forms, streamlining confusing programs and codifying the use of neighborhood income levels to determine affordability rather than area median income is necessary. I favor looking into how we can reform procedures at HUD to enable local entities a second chance when they miss a deadline or make an honest mistake on paperwork, so that we stop penalizing the people who desperately need affordable housing. I also support a National Housing Trust Fund to use FHA surpluses to build, rehab and preserve housing.

(1)	Hanson, Tom	Rep.	Affordable housing is relative. I think it is a local issue and not a Federal issue. Affordable programs are available all over Chicago and the State. I have used them many, many times in real estate. It is outrageously expensive to live in Chicago but incredibly affordable in Peoria so Federal mandates aren't the way to go.
(2)	Stewart, Jon	Rep.	I would do all I can to preserve affordable housing.
(3)	Bedell, Gregory A.	Rep.	Affordable housing provides an opportunity for public/private partnership that can use the market to help provide decent housing in stable communities. Using tax incentives and set aside requirements for developers we can increase the amount of affordable housing without adding to already over burdened federal, state and local budgets. Transparency, allowing community and government monitoring to ensure the targeted amount of housing is actually created, is also

			essential in this process.
(5)	Kay, Daniel S.	Rep.	A real plan would have to be implemented that provides a "hand-up" and pride in ownership/achievement instead of continued government "hand-out" dependence" Excessive taxation is a major hurdle here, unethical lending practices is another. The re-shaping of neighborhoods and "mom & pop" 2-flats had been under attack by developers for far too long. Many concepts to be explored here, some are less than politically correct. Example: Unlicensed contractor with only a work visa purchasing such property with profit being the only motivation. Many times failing to secure proper permits ensuring code compliance and utilizing unskilled and uninsured workers serves no one but the primary individual. Neighborhood had long time residents who knew each other and watched each other's property and family now loses 2 or more 2/3 bedroom affordable housing units. Inferior quality is apparent long after any warranty has expired, housing costs and subsequent tax assessment costs skyrocket, no meaningful jobs were created/sustained for skilled craftsmen due to the use of day-labor. One individual retires to another society with no benefit to our society in consumption taxes or any other revenue from profit received. How to combat these many scenarios? Citizenship or Resident Alien status on property transfers can easily be sidestepped by establishing a corporation with a "straw" majority shareholder. No easy answer to this example and the countless others, but much controversy and debate.
(6)	Anderson, David J.	Rep.	I am in favor of government aid to truly needy recipients. I prefer this to be administered by the states, with close Federal auditing to prevent corruption and abuse. However, any government program that assists the needy should also incentivize these recipients to become financially independent as quickly as possible. Obviously, there will always be some people who will never be able to support their own financial needs, and they should be treated with compassion by the Federal government.

(1)	Gordils, Deb Leticia	Green	Legal fees must be paid by developers who violate legislation that mandates they build for not only the poor but for the disable. Federal legislation must be created to maintain a balance in the city.
(2)	Fredrickson, Mark Arnold	Green	My business experience with the Federal Section 8 program suggests that public vouchers to help financially-challenged families are the best way to provide private sector affordable housing. Another approach is to provide additional training to help American workers improve their skill sets & earn more money to afford private sector housing.
(4)	Reichel, Matt	Green	Housing is a human right, and it is the role of government to ensure that everyone is guaranteed that right. Through the aforementioned structural changed in the financial sector, I will seek to eliminate the greedy speculation of debt that resulted in the insidious explosion of property value and the consequent displacement of millions of Americans from their homes. I will further seek to pass legislation that will make it more difficult for municipal leaders to destroy public housing units in order to develop or "gentrify" a community. Lastly, I will work to create a housing task force within the congress to research an economically and ecologically sustainable means of addressing the homelessness crisis with the construction of new units.
(5)	Ribeiro, Simon	Green	I would support such legislation that would create and preserve affordable housing. America needs much more affordable housing and my economic proposal would grant the huge funding necessary for this mission.

Question: What is your stance on the use of the E-Verify Program?

Ballot #	Name	Party	Response
(1)	Wheelan, Charles J.	Dem.	I will work hard to create a more diverse and inclusive nation. To that end, I support a comprehensive immigration bill that includes both border enforcement and a path to citizenship for undocumented individuals who currently reside in the United States. I would also support increasing the number of visas granted to family members of U.S. citizens and permanent U.S. residents. Similarly, I support an increase in the number of HB-1 visas (those issued to highly-skilled foreign workers), in order to strengthen our workforce and move our economy forward. The E-verify is a tool which businesses should have access to and should use, but it should only be one part of a comprehensive program of immigration reform.
(2)	Feigenholtz, Sara	Dem.	I understand the desire of some employers to ensure that their employees are legally authorized to work here, but I am not yet convinced that E-Verify is reliable, effective or desirable, especially since many can use fraudulent identification to gain authorization to work. What we need comprehensive immigration reform that addresses the desire of many undocumented residents to work and contribute to our economy – E-Verify only addresses an infinitesimal component of that goal.
(3)	Fritchey, John A.	Dem	On the federal level, I cannot support a verification program whose unproven technology provokes grave privacy and data management concerns. I believe we must stop abusive employers from taking advantage of new immigrants, but I do not support raids and scare tactics as a foundation element of comprehensive immigration policy.
(4)	Forys, Victor A.	Dem.	E-Verify is a flawed program. There are too many errors. It discriminates against people of color and unnecessarily creates a feeling of insecurity in immigrant communities. I believe we must get every immigrant who is here already a Social Security number and give them the status to work here, immediately. Once they can work here as a productive member of our society and economy, we can have them apply to become a resident alien or citizen.
(6)	Donatelli, Jan H.	Dem.	I understand the importance of offering stimulus jobs to citizens, especially in the construction sector, however the E-Verify system is still imperfect and prone to errors that end up punishing employers unfairly.
(7)	Annunzio, Frank	Dem.	I do not believe in the E-Verify Program.
(8)	Monteagudo, Carlos A.	Dem.	The E-verify program is a way of ensuring that undocumented workers will not be able to get jobs by giving the responsibility to the employers to check the status of the workers. I would oppose such a program in the first phase of an integrated immigration reform policy. Specifically, this provision would severely incapacitate undocumented individuals and families during the early phase of reform. Such a program would make it impossible for such individuals to work even before their specific cases were reviewed and final legal status determined. During the final stage of an immigration reform program, I would phase in an e-verification system (as long as it was applied uniformly across all US workers) in order to safeguard against exploitation by businesses that attempt to hire undocumented workers.
(9)	Bryar, Paul J.	Dem.	I believe that the E-Verify program is flawed, and should not be implemented as is.
(11)	Geoghegan, Tom	Dem.	As it stands, the E-Verify program is unnecessary, unlawful and works against the interests of both working Americans and employers. I support the Senate's removal of the E-Verify requirements under the House version of the Stimulus bill. At a time when so many Americans are losing their jobs and are out of work, the federal government should not be putting barriers up

			to Americans securing work. Additionally, employers already shoulder non-wage labor costs that significantly hamper our global competitiveness. The E-Verify system will only create new and unnecessary employer costs at a time when companies and contractors can least afford it.
(13)	Quigley, Mike	Dem.	I do not support the mandatory use of E-Verify in its current form. The process is currently error□prone, as job applicants are checked against Social Security Administration (SSA) records and the SSA admits that approximately 17.8 million of its files contain inaccurate data. Even more troubling, 12.7 million of these inaccurate files involve United States citizens. Moreover, U.S Citizenship and Immigration Services estimates that approximately 4,000 employees of every 1 million would be denied eligibility because of faulty information. Additionally, when applicants seek to correct errors contained in the SSA database, the administration of SSA benefits may be delayed. Many SSA recipients have already complained that errors in the SSA database have led to denials or delays in their benefits. In these economic times, it is critical that we not only expedite job creation, but also that we do not impose unfair delays on those seeking lawful employment. As a result, I believe any law that requires employers to use E□Verify must contain adequate due process protections for applicants whose employment may be delayed or denied due to erroneous information. Any information source used to screen applicants' backgrounds must be publicly disclosed and workers must have a prompt and efficient means to correct the information. …
(14)	O'Connor, Patrick J.	Dem.	I am strongly opposed to the E-Verify Program and applaud the U.S. Senate version of the Economic Stimulus package which removed the House provision requiring federal contractors and subcontractors receiving stimulus funds to use E-Verify. This program is too costly and imperfect. The Social Security Administration is already underfunded and overworked and not set up to handle this type of program, nor should it. E-Verify has been problematic since the beginning with bureaucratic errors in individuals' social security files and it has a high cost at a time when critical programs have been cut. It has prevented innocent people from working. E-Verity is both bad policy and bad politics.

(1)	Hanson, Tom	Rep.	I believe that E-Verify will assist employers in hiring qualified individuals in a prompt manner. It also makes a statement to illegal aliens trying to obtain work in the United States that employers will only hire 'approved' individuals and that there is a need to obtain legal work status instead of entering the black market of labor. There are far too many U.S. citizens seeking employment for them to be displaced by someone not qualified to fill that position.
(2)	Stewart, Jon	Rep.	I am for E-Verify.
(3)	Bedell, Gregory A.	Rep.	As part of a comprehensive effort to enforce the immigration law of our country, I believe verifying an employee's eligibility to work is a reasonable burden to place the employer. I support the increased efficiency, speed and effectiveness that the E-Verify technology provides.
(5)	Kay, Daniel S.	Rep.	E-Verify is a step in the right direction, however, it can be abused. Incorrect data can be used to prevent a legitimately qualified individual from gainful employment. Such incorrect data can be maliciously entered with virtually no recourse from the affected party (ask me how I know in re: TransUnion). The other side of the issue is that there will always be cash jobs available and E-Verify doesn't apply.
(6)	Anderson, David J.	Rep.	Should do it! I see no reason to object to this program. The policy was started under Clinton and continued under Bush, so, it is bi-partisan and the right thing to do to protect jobs that should go to U.S. citizens!

(1)	Gordils, Deb Leticia	Green	I would like to learn more on the details of this program before I answer this question. I would like to just state that I think we are slowly losing our right to privacy little by little and I am concerned about it.
(2)	Fredrickson, Mark Arnold	Green	My brother-in-law works for the US Customs Service-US Department of Homeland Security. The E-Verify Program allows employers to comply with existing immigration laws. If the American people prefer to change the immigration laws to invite guest workers or to open American employment to residents of any country, we should have a public policy debate to resolve this question.
(4)	Reichel, Matt	Green	I will be a champion in the Congress for cutting out all funding for totalitarian programs and agencies within the federal government: they are a gross waste of money and a significant threat to the sanctity of our constitution. E-Verify is clearly one such program.
(5)	Ribeiro, Simon	Green	If it delivers success and greater ease, I will support it.

Question: What is your opinion about recent immigration raids at workplaces and how would you address the issue of worker rights?

Ballot #	Name	Party	Response
(1)	Wheelan, Charles J.	Dem.	I think that recent immigrant raids are a troubling symptom of a system that demands reform. I do not believe that local law enforcement should be diverted from their important public safety duties to participate in immigration raids.
(2)	Feigenholtz, Sara	Dem.	As the daughter of an immigrant, I know that most immigrants come to America in search of a better life. The parts of Chicago that make up the 5th district have been home to generations of immigrants who have built this country, fought its wars and raised their children and grandchildren. Our country should continue this tradition by providing immigrants with a path to earn the privilege of citizenship. We also need to establish a new worker visa program that ensures due process, ends workplace raids and prevents against abusive employer practices. We need comprehensive immigration reform built on both compassion and strength – one that balances the desire of many immigrants to become citizens with the need to secure our borders and prevent further instances of illegal border crossings.
(3)	Fritchey, John A.	Dem	I have been honored to work in Springfield on legislation that eases the burdens caused by our country's broken immigration system. As a country, we must enact comprehensive immigration reform now. I support a plan that redevelops the application process and preference system to eliminate visa backlog, creates a responsible guest worker program, cracks down on abusive employers, strengthens our borders, includes the DREAM act and creates a fair, respectful path to citizenship for the undocumented individuals contributing in a positive way to our communities. I oppose enforcement-only legislation and legislation that deputizes local officials to enforce federal immigration policy.
(4)	Forys, Victor A.	Dem.	Stop the raids. Until people can be given work permits and a Social Security number, the raids should be stopped. The raids catch both people who are already here legally and those who are undocumented. Under my plan, after people are given legal work status, they can be put on a path to become a permanent resident and eventually a citizen. As long as they have been a productive contributor to our society and our economy, have paid their taxes and have a clean criminal record, they should be allowed to stay.
(6)	Donatelli, Jan H.	Dem.	I will advocate for a fair and rational immigration policy which does not reward breaking the law, but which does not unduly punish children and families and otherwise law-abiding residents. Working rights are human rights.
(7)	Annunzio, Frank	Dem.	All workers should have equal rights. They should be afforded the same civil liberties and I am not in favor of immigration raids.
(8)	Monteagudo, Carlos A.	Dem.	Congress must first stop the raids and the separation of children from their parents caused by the mass deportations of undocumented parents of children born in the United States. As a psychiatrist I can attest to the fact that these measures will leave deep emotional scars in the children and families that will manifest themselves in a variety of ways. There needs to be a comprehensive bill considered and passed. Immigration is a complex issue and its elements should be considered simultaneously. The impetus of illegal immigration is the need to work and make a basic living. Therefore, the best border control measures will not be those that will stop people from jumping the walls we build (waste of money), but measures taken by the US government to invest in South America, Central America and Mexico so that people do not have to cross the border to get jobs in the United States. The guest worker program needs to contain enough save guards so that it does not become a mechanism of the big corporations to bring legal "cheap labor" into the country, at the expense of the economic development of the working class citizens of the United States.
(9)	Bryar,	Dem.	I support legislation regarding penalties for employers who habitually break immigration laws. I believe that overall we

	Paul J.		cannot support and reward illegal activity, and we must hold employers accountable for breaking the law in hiring undocumented immigrants.
(11)	Geoghegan, Tom	Dem.	We need to stop the raids. My law firm and I have a long history of protecting immigrant and immigrant worker rights. My firm also regularly provides pro bono representation to immigrant day laborers who get arrested merely because they stand on the street seeking employment. We have repeatedly represented workers who are not citizens in cases to recover severance pay and other benefits when plants shut down. We recently won a suit on behalf of an immigrant mother and her child when the child was denied the right to attend a public school in the 5th District. Recently our firm handled the appeal of a Voting Rights Act case to increase the representation of Latinos in the Aurora City Council. Because of my experience representing people like this, I know how crucial it is for such hard working people, my clients, to have a pathway to citizenship as outlined in Congressman Gutierrez's bill.
(13)	Quigley, Mike	Dem.	Immigrants come to our country to find a better life and are often taken advantage of by employers. They often work in substandard conditions and are paid below minimum wage. They are however left without anywhere to turn – they are in effect slaves to a system that is failing to protect their basic rights. We need to hold companies responsible for their treatment of their workers and the fault should lie with the corporation. I support providing a path toward citizenship for law abiding immigrants who have been in this country for many years so that they can work as citizens and not live in fear of reprisal from their employer for seeking basic worker rights.
(14)	O'Connor, Patrick J.	Dem.	As the son of an immigrant, the recent immigration workplace raids are not acceptable and not an appropriate immigration enforcement tool. The humanitarian costs of these raids are immeasurable and unacceptable in a country of immigrants. During the course of these raids, U.S. citizen children have been separated from their parents, for days, if not longer, and immigrants arrested have not been afforded the rights of due process. Legal permanent residents have been dislocated and arrested. The idea of handing hundreds of millions of dollars to Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE) for this program is horrifying, given the necessary social programs we are not funding. Regarding worker rights, I support legislation that protects a worker's rights to unionize, and to be safe, healthy and have fair conditions at work. I also believe in equal pay for equal work and was a strong supporter of the city's Living Wage legislation.

(1)	Hanson, Tom	Rep.	I don't have an issue with raids at employers who are knowingly employing illegal aliens. They know better but chose to break the law. We need to convert these illegal aliens to citizens working and paying taxes keeping their dollars at home instead of sending them overseas.
(2)	Stewart, Jon	Rep.	I oppose the raids. We need to legalize all undocumented workers. Get them on the tax roll so they can share in the American dream, but also to help pay for services like schools and county hospitals. We let them in this country, so now let us fix the problem.
(3)	Bedell, Gregory A.	Rep.	This is a question of judgment and allocation of scarce resources. Funding for border security and trade, which will reduce the flow of illegal immigration and is the ultimate cure for the issue of illegal immigration, should not be sacrificed for increases in enforcement. Resources allocated to enforcement should be devoted to abusive situations, such as employers who exploit illegal immigrants as a significant part of their work force, Creation of a viable and reasonable guest worker program would also reduce abuses and the exploitation of the illegal immigrant.

(5)	Kay, Daniel S.	Rep.	Workplace raids are carried out for a variety of reasons, one of which is immigration policy enforcement. Without first addressing the immigration reform issues, activities such as raids can't be properly carried out as intended. A plain and simple guideline here would be: Enter our society in a dignified manner and you will be treated in a dignified way. Allowing those who wish to become Americans achieve assimilation and citizenship has many who support the ideal. An American culture and identity has as much a right of preservation as any other group. The American culture as a melting pot has succeeded for centuries, why change now? Groups entering en masse, then subsequently demanding the American culture to radically change for the sake of such groups' accommodation are not tolerated by the "Average Joe" and my platform is to represent the "Average Joe" who feels they no longer have a voice in government.
(6)	Anderson, David J.	Rep.	Anyone who violates our laws should be held accountable. Illegal aliens do not have the same "worker rights" as legal citizens.

(1)	Gordils, Deb Leticia	Green	It is wrong to raid workplaces without a concrete humanitarian consequence to those taken into custody. Children can not come home from school to hear their mother or father will no longer be with them. This is a crushing loss to the children involved. Workers rights must always be preserved.
(2)	Fredrickson, Mark Arnold	Green	Workplace immigration raids grab headlines because these raids were the exception until very recently. May I suggest that we need to formulate immigration public policy, enact laws & then universally enforce those laws. For example, deficient enforcement of the 1919 Volsted alcohol sale Prohibition Act made a mockery of the rule of law in the United States. Haphazard enforcement of immigration laws is unfair for those undocumented workers & their families because these families may feel that they are being unfairly singled out.
(4)	Reichel, Matt	Green	I will vote to aggressively cut off funding for the INS and to strip this totalitarian bureaucratic agency of its right to conduct these goon raids on immigrants in the land of immigrants. As part of my Green Works Project, I will create 10 million new jobs in the United States: one million of which will be reserved for immigrants willing to enter a new path to citizenship. These workers will be given the opportunity to work for five years on a special visa that will qualify them for citizenship at the end of that period. Meanwhile, I will fight to ensure that all 10 million of these jobs are union jobs, by working to pass the Employee Free Choice Act, repealing the Taft Hartley Act, and crafting legislation that guarantees every American the right to unionization and to collective bargain.
(5)	Ribeiro, Simon	Green	I would advocate for a national guest-worker program that would cover current undocumented workers and get them the necessary documentation they need so they do not have to live in fear about losing their stay and work. Employment documentation will help raise worker's rights when employers know there is accountability, and not doing things under-the-table. We, as a community and nation, need to know who is working and living in America.

Question: If elected a United States Congressional Representative of the 5th district, what ideas do you have to generate opportunities for college for students?

Ballot #	Name	Party	Response
(1)	Wheelan, Charles J.	Dem.	Expanding access to college is just one piece of my approach to education. The United States needs a systematic strategy for upgrading our "human capital" that stretches from early childhood education all the way to effective job training for unemployed adults. Increasing the college graduate rate (and other kinds of advanced training) as well as funding for college preparation and access, must be a priority. Better access to funding for college is an important part of that strategy. However, it is important to recognize that money is only one barrier that keeps students out of college. Many are not prepared for college level work. Others drop out of high school or do not have college aspirations. Ironically, the best long-term approach to improving access to college would be expanded access to early childhood education, particularly for children from disadvantaged families. Research overwhelmingly supports the cost effectiveness of such programs. They change the trajectory of the students involved and make college a realistic option 14 years later.
(2)	Feigenholtz, Sara	Dem.	The single biggest barrier to college and career success is the lack of academic preparation, particularly for low-income students. As someone who has consistently voted to increase funding for the Illinois Monetary Award Program (MAP) to help young people pursue their dreams of higher education, I will continue to vigorously support increased Pell grants and provisions of the federal economic stimulus bill to increase capital and operational support for higher education. Other states, including Missouri and Minnesota, have entered into agreements with public colleges to "buy down" tuition in return for state financial support. I will pursue incentives for public colleges and universities in Illinois to reduce tuition costs in exchange for increased state or federal funding. I also support President Obama's opportunity tax credit for community service initiative, which would lower college tuition costs and make community college free for those who participate in community service projects.
(3)	Fritchey, John A.	Dem	Without grants and loans made possible by the federal government, I could never have attended college and law school at the University of Michigan and Northwestern University and built the life I have today. My plan for improved access to higher education has two components: *college preparation* and *college affordability*. In 2007 I co-sponsored the College and Career Readiness Pilot Program to begin testing programs in Illinois that reduce remediation and diagnose college readiness. Federally, we must raise standards, foster innovate methods and fund mandates to ensure universal high-quality K-12 education and early education. Students with the drive to attend college must have affordable options for higher education. In 2007, I was a Chief Sponsor of the College Savings Pool Exemption, which protects struggling families' college savings from creditors. I also co-sponsored savings plan legislation that eliminates tax penalties imposed on residents who invest in out-of-state college savings plans. In Congress, I will support plans to offer tax credits that make the first year of college affordable. I will also support greater funding and more access to Pell grants, and a greater government effort to offer direct student loans rather than subsidizing private firms that charge students higher interest rates.
(4)	Forys, Victor A.	Dem.	Everyone who has the ability and desire to achieve a higher education should be afforded one, regardless of their family's financial status. 4 year colleges, community colleges and higher vocational education are all important parts of

			higher education. We must increase Pell Grants, lower interest rates on student loans, increase the availability of student loans and make the interest on student loans tax-deductible. We also have to make sure that states do not feel budget pressure and there by raise tuition rates for state colleges and universities. We must pass the DREAM Act, which allows students who are the American-born children of undocumented workers to receive the in-state tuition rates that children whose parents are citizens receive.
(6)	Donatelli, Jan H.	Dem.	Opportunities for college students begin at birth. Better funding for early childhood education and adequately funded K-12 programs will prepare more students to enter college. I support programs that extend public educational benefits to at least 2 years of post high school education. I will fight to make college affordable through increased Federal student loans and grants, and support of President-Elect Obama's plan for national service.
(7)	Annunzio, Frank	Dem.	I agree with President Obama as far as Pell Grants, additional tax cuts/rebates on tuition and books. I think it should go even further, I believe if a student carries a 3.3 or better grade point average, that student should receive additional federal tax cuts/rebates.
(8)	Monteagudo, Carlos A.	Dem.	There is no better welfare, or anti-poverty program than completing a degree in higher education. Graduating from high school is no longer enough to prepare us for the world of decision making and the world of work, and therefore I believe that at least the first two years of higher education must be guaranteed, free of charge, to all Americans who finish high school or a high school equivalent program. Grants, and student loan forgiveness programs must be made available to all who complete a Bachelors Degree as a way of creating incentives to complete the degree. As part of the comprehensive Immigration package, the pillars of the Dream Act should also be implemented. That is that students who have resided in the United State since before their fifteenth birthday (and therefore had studied in the United States) and graduated from high school, would be able to gain temporary legal residency and would qualify for the added educational incentives.
(9)	Bryar, Paul J.	Dem.	I have been a high school teacher, and currently am a full time professor at Northwestern University medical school. Every day I see college students burdened with large amounts of student loan debt. In addition to the significant financial burden, this debt directly effects decisions such as which job sector to enter or whether to pursue graduate level study. I will fight to make sure that our college graduates can make these decisions without huge levels of debt hanging over their heads. Specifically, I would introduce legislation to increase grant funding for junior college and college students.
(11)	Geoghegan, Tom	Dem.	We need to increase the number of Pell Grants. I have written at length about the problem of increasing student debt. While a college degree should lead to higher wages and long term economic security, a significant debt burden undermines these goals.
(13)	Quigley, Mike	Dem.	A recent survey by U.S. News and World Report issued 49 states -- including Illinois -- an "F" on college affordability. If we want to provide our youth with meaningful opportunities for career advancement and earning potential while fostering the productivity of our nation, there is no doubt that we will need to tackle this problem in the near future. As congressman, I will: • Support increased funding for Pell Grants, which currently only help low-income students cover approximately 32% of the average cost of tuition at a four-year university; • Sponsor loan-forgiveness legislation for graduates who commit to working in underserved, low-income and/or rural areas for a specific period of time; • Advocate for the Dream Act, which will allow children of undocumented workers to pursue a college education in

			the United States; • Continue former Congressman Emanuel's free student aid clinics, so that students are aware of all the financial aid opportunities available to them and understand how to apply for them.
(14)	O'Connor, Patrick J.	Dem.	I have a plan to ensure access to college. We have long needed to reform Title IV's student assistance programs. I will strengthen the Pell Grant program which has been severely weakened in recent years and put funding into campus based financial assistance loan programs and increase federal loan limits so that borrowers are not forced to take out alternative private loans that usually carry higher interest rates and don't have benefits like deferments, consolidation or loan cancellation for those who pursue certain careers. I support the Ensuring Continued Access to Student Loans Act and the College Student Relief Act which reduces rates on government subsidized loans and gives borrowers more time to pay off loans. I support the College Opportunity & Affordability Act – encouraging college to limit tuition increases, restore accountability to student loan programs and to simplify the process. I helped fund the Taxpayer Assistance Program that helps people prepare tax returns to obtain earned income tax credit payments and which simultaneously helps parents and students prepare their FAFSA form to be eligible for student assistance. The average eligibility has been over $10,000 per student. I support increased funding for our City and Community Colleges.

(1)	Hanson, Tom	Rep.	Training, training, training, internships and seeking employment at a young age. Experience and skills are everything in a competitive job market. I would like to work with late junior high students grooming them to get a vocation by the time they are out of high school and to have work experience on a resume. Employers demand that potential employees show stability and skills that contribute to the workplace. A student leaving college with no real world experience is at a huge disadvantage. I would like to propose mentoring type of programs with business and industry leaders that will inspire and help train young people.
(2)	Stewart, Jon	Rep.	1) Help them with overseas opportunities. 2) Help them on how to start their own business. 3) Have job fairs and job training -- such as interview skills and resume writing.
(3)	Bedell, Gregory A.	Rep.	The two best ways to generate opportunities are to grow the economy and ensure that the skills of our graduates meet the needs of the modern economy. Real, lasing jobs are created by the private sector, not government. If a job can only survive by government funding, its necessity and funding must be scrutinized as it does not create opportunity but, rather, dependence. Keeping down the burdens on business, especially small business, will create the job opportunities we need. To ensure our graduates have the skill they need to take advantage of opportunities, we must encourage the private sector work with our schools at all levels to foster educational programs that provide the skills they need. It may also call for investment by private industry in research or actual training programs. Also, improving our education system, through family choice and access at all levels, our graduates will be better prepared for opportunities.
(5)	Kay, Daniel S.	Rep.	Opportunities via federal or other governmental assistance desperately need revision. The students need to learn, but learn in a multi-faceted manner. Small businesses need a pool of part-time workers to perform less than glamorous jobs, programs that tie in to both needs would cure many societal ills and restore respect and good work habits to our society's basic fundamentals. In the real world, one hand always washes the other. The sooner this is implemented, the better respect for scholastic and subsequent vocational/professional opportunities become apparent.
(6)	Anderson, David J.	Rep.	The best thing we can do for young people is ensure that our economic system is sound. We need to have a vibrant business climate, one that is friendly to entrepreneurs and small business growth. I prefer student loan programs based on

			need and performance. Illinois has a premier state university system, and I prefer to see the taxpaying residents of Illinois benefit from it by being able to enroll their children, instead of students from foreign countries, who leave the U.S. to return to their homes and compete against Illinois in manufacturing and business.

(1)	Gordils, Deb Leticia	Green	Information, Information, Information, most universities have tons of opportunities available to students; we need to better get the word out.
(2)	Fredrickson, Mark Arnold	Green	We need to promote free market development of new intellectual property which will create the next generation of big employers such as Microsoft or Google. The United States government needs to stimulate private research & development by making investment in those industries which will generate jobs for American college graduates. In turn, college students need to select those courses of study which will empower them with globally competitive skill sets.
(4)	Reichel, Matt	Green	Education is a human right, and, as such, the federal government must play a role in guaranteeing that right for all Americans. I propose spending $200 billion over the course of five years on a comprehensive education reform bill that will guarantee free high quality education through the bachelors' level for all qualifying students. I believe that all state schools should be completely free, and that this would help solve our debt crisis by ensuring that individuals remain solvent through their young adult years.
(5)	Ribeiro, Simon	Green	I will advocate for a single-payer higher education and trade school system. Until the implementation of such a system, I will support measures of increasing grants, and lowering student loan interest rates.

Question: How will you ensure that our community will benefit from the stimulus package especially in the vulnerable areas of job growth and affordable housing?

Ballot #	Name	Party	Response
(1)	Wheelan, Charles J.	Dem.	My philosophy is that the stimulus ought to be focused on two core objectives. First, it should cushion the effects of the downturn on the most disadvantaged. This is a humanitarian goal, but it also has a stimulative effect in that it protects their consumption. Second, the stimulus ought to focus on investments that will make the country more productive in the long run, particularly transportation infrastructure. Transportation infrastructure is something that the government ought to do anyway. The stimulus should speed it up by making federal funding more readily available. One purpose of the stimulus is to restore confidence. A major commitment to invest in infrastructure--such as a multi-billion dollar capital commitment to the CTA--would have a beneficial economic effect, even if these checks were not cut immediately. We have grossly under-invested in many kinds of infrastructure. Given that these projects ought to be done anyway, we should start them sooner rather than later.
(2)	Feigenholtz, Sara	Dem.	We clearly need fast and effective federal action to boost our economy, restore confidence in our future and put millions of Americans back to work. I support President Obama's focus on rebuilding our nation's infrastructure, which is the cornerstone of this economic stimulus package. The investment in roads, bridges, mass transit and high-speed Internet lines will create jobs immediately and build the foundation for a competitive economy in the future. We must ensure, however, that such projects are both timely and strategic. I am encouraged that President Obama and Congress have made energy and environmental issues a priority in this stimulus package. This will foster the development of a domestic green economy and could create between 3 and 4 million jobs over the coming years in new technology and renewable energy industries. As we move to protect and create millions of new jobs, I want to ensure that we invest in our human as well as our physical infrastructure. As chair of the House Human Services Appropriations committee, I have seen the effect of the national economic downturn on our service providers – both public and private. A majority of these service jobs are performed by women, many of them single parents. …
(3)	Fritchey, John A.	Dem	Ending America's economic crisis is my first priority, both as a State Representative and as a candidate for Congress. We must take action immediately on two fronts: stimulating the economy and easing the pain of those suffering in this recession. I support stimulus through tax cuts, benefits expansion and infrastructure spending. Illinois mayors have already detailed $3B of "shovel-ready" infrastructure projects whose funding will lead to considerable new hiring. I will work in Congress to ensure the stimulus also establishes new contracts for services and high-tech infrastructure in our community, which will lead to new job creation throughout all sectors of the economy.
(4)	Forys, Victor A.	Dem.	The stimulus package has already been passed. The states will receive some funding and the 5th must get and equal share of that. My focus will be on the next budget and appropriations process. I will work with the Illinois delegation to make sure that those funds that are appropriated for projects in the 5th and in Illinois get full funding under the law. Creating jobs is a national issue. We need to fix our health care system nationally so that small and medium sized

			businesses can afford to retain the workers they have, hire more people, and invest in their businesses. We have to stop the downward spiral of job loss by putting money into the pockets of working people so they can pay their mortgages and that would be the best way to keep the banks solvent.
(6)	Donatelli, Jan H.	Dem.	I will go to Washington without political baggage. Too often federal funds are distributed by politicians who owe favors; not by committed public servants who answer only to the voters they serve. My priority will be to use stimulus funds strategically to provide construction jobs that support rehabilitation of blighted communities thereby creating both affordable housing and jobs where they are most needed. Additionally, a transportation policymaker, I support funding "Next Gen" Technology to improve O'Hare's efficiency.
(7)	Annunzio, Frank	Dem.	This is difficult to answer at this point of the stimulus package. I can only suggest true oversight of spending what has been approved in the bill.
(8)	Monteagudo, Carlos A.	Dem.	A critical issue in the stimulus package is the aid given to States so that they can keep programs running during these challenging times. We must also invest in the following to secure affordable housing: • The Public Housing Capital Fund for building repair and modernization. • The HOME Investment Partnerships to help local communities build and rehabilitate low-income housing using green technologies. • Neighborhood Stabilization to help communities purchase and rehabilitate foreclosed, vacant properties in order to create more affordable housing and reduce neighborhood blight. In terms of local and near term job creation, these benefits will likely be related to infrastructure repair and improvements and grants to rehabilitate schools. Long term, investment in alternative energy resources and other "green" economy jobs that are not exportable.
(9)	Bryar, Paul J.	Dem.	Millions of people are without a job in this tough economy. By ensuring funding in this bill, we will be able to jumpstart our economy by putting money in people's pockets. In order to create more jobs in Illinois we need to end wasteful spending of our tax dollars and pass a "Made In America" tax cut to deter companies from shipping jobs overseas. I support President Obama's stimulus plan to re-build our economic infrastructure. I also believe that in order to put more money back into the pockets of the people we will have to require banks who participate in TARP (Troubled Asset Relief Program) to become transparent. The government will need to dedicate $350 billion to reduce foreclosures for qualified homeowners and those who refinance. I also want to create a government backed loan program of a fixed rate mortgage which will offer a 30 year rate of 4% for new home purchase up to $1 million to those who qualify.
(11)	Geoghegan, Tom	Dem.	I supported the stimulus bill that has come out of Congress, with reservations. There should have been even greater funding for unemployment insurance – and there was no need for the tax cuts. We have to put a priority on aid to the jobless in the community, to prevent a local downward spiral. I have outlined my proposal with respect to foreclosures. In a short time, I believe the President should go back to Congress to get at least some additional funds to give more jobless aid if necessary and to completely stop the layoffs of state and local employees. There is a huge deficit in the State of Illinois and City of Chicago budgets. We should hire people temporarily and put them to work in road repair and maintenance or in planting vegetation and flowers in the Forest Preserve to help deal with problems of water runoff and flooding. In the longer term, I believe by providing better public pensions and single payer national health for all, the

			government should assume or take over the non wage labor costs that private employers now pay. This assumption of such obligations will lower labor costs and expand employment, especially in manufacturing. …
(13)	Quigley, Mike	Dem.	As demonstrated by bi-partisan coalitions I have created on the Cook County Board to pass legislation, I will work with Democrats and Republicans alike to ensure that the 5th Congressional District receive the resources necessary to bring our District out of this recession. I am especially interested in bringing federal funds to the District to improve and expand our mass transit so that we can get our residents to work.
(14)	O'Connor, Patrick J.	Dem.	I will do this by using my knowledge of how federal budgets interact with local budgets and matching funds and by working with the members of the Illinois congressional delegation and administration. I have been successful in city government in ensuring my ward has received over $140-million in new municipal buildings alone. I ensure contractors and end users hire, where possible, from the local community. For example, when Target recently opened, we held two local job fairs which resulted in 85% of the jobs going to local residents. The stimulus packages, infrastructure, must be spread out, not just for "hard Hat" jobs, but throughout the local economy. I will work with the people and organizations of the district to identify what funds are needed and then aggressively pursue them. I will have a congressional staff member dedicated to federal funding and grant opportunity outreach to keep everyone informed about funding opportunities and to assist in the application process. Sen. Jack Reed (D-RI) has been successful bringing money back to Rhode Island with this approach.

(1)	Hanson, Tom	Rep.	Outside of being guilty of earmarks and pork barrel spending myself, I will certainly be the 1st to speak up and step on any toes necessary to make sure that the 5th District is a recipient of their fare share of any nationwide stimulus.
(2)	Stewart, Jon	Rep.	I can ensure that our district gets jobs from the stimulus package by making sure money goes to industries that we have in our area. Also, by making banks who took TARP money, re-mortgage loans, at lower rates, without closing costs, to people that need help.
(3)	Bedell, Gregory A.	Rep.	Tax reduction, tax credits, and temporary suspension of payroll taxes give immediate results; money is put into peoples' pockets now for their current use. More money for consumers, and not just a one time stimulus check to restart our economy and create jobs. We must acknowledge that job creation is a process not an event. On the spending side, there are infrastructure projects in our community that will provide meaningful work performing a necessary government function. The flooding problem experienced in the Albany Park community, for example, is something that must be addressed at this time. I would fight for funding to resolve this problem. There is no consensus that non-infrastructure funding will create jobs; we have heard more than once that let's spend the money and "see what happens". That is not good enough. This gamble puts the financial well being of future generations at risk.and I am not willing to take that gamble. I will fight to fix roads, fix rails, improve telecommunication and the power grid but I will not support special interest programs that only help a few at the expense of all.
(5)	Kay, Daniel S.	Rep.	First and foremost, safeguard the integrity of the stimulus package preventing abuse such as the recent reports of excessive executive compensation. The entire 5th district, not just those connecting one or two parts with downtown Chicago, are in need of benefits the stimulus package would offer. Infrastructure improvements, especially those affecting intermodal freight/cargo/logistics, are in severe disrepair. Affordable housing in it's basic form was addressed in question #6, code compliance & remodeling especially for energy efficiency would put many craftsman back to work. Supply houses, tool repair shops (including vehicle repair) on down to grocers and clothiers, and every industry benefiting from such and other chain of supply/service providers would see an increase in demand therefore revenue and human resources.

(6)	Anderson, David J.	Rep.	It is difficult to answer this since the stimulus package isn't even available to read yet, and it is so massive and complex. One issue I would like to raise is an auditing committee to ensure that the money is spent ethically, to improve efficiency and reduce crime among politicians in Illinois. On the day that Rod Blagojevich was arrested, Illinois' bond rating was downgraded, and that cost Illinois $20M in one day! How many poor people could have been helped with $20M?! Corruption is a real cost to all of us, and with the stimulus bill being so large, we need to be extremely vigilant at protecting the integrity and intention of the bill, so money goes to the right places to benefit IL.

(1)	Gordils, Deb Leticia	Green	As Congress person, I have to work with the mayor and local Alderman, community leaders to see that the money reaches the people and that the opportunities are attainable by residents who want them. I will run a transparent two year term. Any and all pertinent information will be made public and shared with the people and organizations of the 5th district. I will have a weekly informational letter that will go out by email with constant updates in the 5th district.
(2)	Fredrickson, Mark Arnold	Green	The Federal Government economic stimulus package should simply serve to prime the private sector economic pump. Historically, the biggest job creation comes from small businesspersons who decide to take a chance on future economic opportunities. Well educated Americans will find that their enhanced skill sets empower them to find private sector employment & to afford housing, health care & other pursuits of happiness.
(4)	Reichel, Matt	Green	Obama's stimulus package offers little promise and unfortunately perpetuates the same Washington logic that created the current mess in the first place. In the nearly $800 billion he proposes to dole out, very little is earmarked for social programs at home. This is why I will push for comprehensive structural changes that will create roughly 300,000 new jobs in the Chicago area, rebuilding our urban and suburban rail services, expanding service so as to lessen the stress on Chicago's environment, re-invigorating our bus system, and slowly changing over to wind and solar energy. These will be good union jobs that are both economically and ecologically sustainable.
(5)	Ribeiro, Simon	Green	The stimulus package just passed both houses of Congress, so I can not change it, but what I can do is help channel already existing funds that are to be discretionary in Illinois and the Chicago area into infrastructure, schools, affordable housing, and other services and job-growing venture in the 5th District. By coordinating with the Obama Administration and our former congressman, Chief of Staff Rham Emanuel, I am certain we can get the funds into Chicago.

Question: If elected how will you work and communicate with residents and community groups in the District?

Ballot #	Name	Party	Response
(1)	Wheelan, Charles J.	Dem.	If elected, I would spend as much time on the ground in my district as possible, getting to know the district's neighborhoods and community organizations better. This campaign has made me very aware of the need for not one but two district offices, one on the east and one on the west side of the district. I would ensure that both offices were well-staffed and responsive.
(2)	Feigenholtz, Sara	Dem.	As a State Representative, I have a solid record of working with my constituents and reaching out to local groups, including the Jane Addams Senior Caucus, on drafting legislation and championing initiatives that are important to this community. I have always put my community before politics and will continue to do so as a member of the United States Congress.
(3)	Fritchey, John A.	Dem	I have dedicated my career to fighting on behalf of my constituents, in Springfield and beyond. If elected to Congress, I will continue working hand-in-hand with families and individuals throughout my District, both as a legislator and as a community activist. Twelve years ago I created the John Fritchey Youth Foundation, which continues to support sports and youth programs for children throughout my District. On the political front, I have consistently worked to empower local residents. I became the first independently elected democratic Committeeman in the 32nd ward in a century, and I helped elect an independent Alderman in the ward. As Committeeman, I have been an aggressive spokesperson for the message of good government and citizen involvement. Last November I was incredibly proud that the 32nd ward had one of the highest voter turnouts in the entire city of Chicago.
(4)	Forys, Victor A.	Dem.	I plan to be in Chicago as much as I can. I would make it a point to hire as many bilingual staffers as possible and have diverse a staff as the district is diverse. I will hold town halls, in person and via telephone and the internet to really hear what is going on with the everyday lives of people. I will attend community meetings and events and I hope that people in the 5th district will tell me their ideas about how we can make our country and district better. I will have regular email updates on legislative activities. I will establish multiple offices in the 5th district. In addition to the offices and staff that would makeup my constituent services operation, I would like to form policy advisory committees made up of community or issue advocacy leaders from within the district to get local input on national issues.
(6)	Donatelli, Jan H.	Dem.	I am well grounded in the 5th Congressional District. My family is here. My church is here. My home is here and I will be here listening to the voices of those who elected me. I will not only have an easy to read interactive web site that will allow consumers to reach out to me and get a quick response; I am committed to having a solid district service office to meet local needs – to include published, open office hours both in DC and here in the district.
(7)	Annunzio, Frank	Dem.	Town Hall meetings. This normally will be held every other month to share information and ideas.
(8)	Monteagudo, Carlos A.	Dem.	I believe that my greatest strength as a candidate is my training and skill in listening. I am a trained listener. I believe the major problem these days in American politics is that there are few meaningful opportunities for the electorate to stay in close communication with their elected officials. I believe this has to change. As founder of a not-for profit, SEED, I have developed tools and methodologies to bring people together across difference, in meaningful dialogue in order to tackle what seemed intractable problems. , I have seen firsthand, the power of this communication and understand deeply the ways that such a culture of communication can be created and nurtured. .

			I pledge to the community that if elected, I will have ongoing and systematic dialogues with constituent communities within the district to make sure that I get their input in matters that they deeply care about so that their voices are amplified and heard in Congress.
(9)	Bryar, Paul J.	Dem.	If elected, I will hold office hours in the district to give residents the opportunity to express their concerns. Additionally, I will attend meetings with various groups across the district to both listen and speak with people.
(11)	Geoghegan, Tom	Dem.	For over thirty years, I've been a lawyer for the people of our community – People like steel workers, city workers, nurses and teachers. My law practice has been built on the cause of bringing economic security to these individuals and securing the protections afforded them by our legal system. My run for Congress is an extension of my law practice – I will go to Congress to be the people's lawyer and fight for the rights and protections that they deserve.
(13)	Quigley, Mike	Dem.	In 1998, when I was first elected county commissioner, I quickly realized that many people do not have daily interactions with county government. As a result, many of my constituents did not know how what county services were available to them nor did they understand how the county spent their $3.2 billion in tax dollars. For the last ten years as a county commissioner, I have made it my job to raise my constituents' awareness of the important services their tax dollars pay for and to help them access those services when they need my assistance in doing so. As congressman, I will continue to communicate with the residents of the 5th District by: • Continuing Congressman Emanuel's "Congress on Your Corner" where I will make myself personally available to listen to constituents' concerns at convenient locations, such as local grocery stores; • Hosting annual town-hall forums which will be open to everyone; • Maintaining a frequently-updated website, blog and regular e-newsletters; • Attending community group, block club and CAPS meetings and continuing outreach at local festivals; • Using direct mail surveys to solicit resident input and ideas.
(14)	O'Connor, Patrick J.	Dem.	I will work with residents and community groups in the districts by attending meetings, and if unable due to multiple meetings or having to be in Washington, have a staff representative attend, assign staff who are dedicated to working with organizations and community groups, forming Advisory Councils, through personal one on one meetings, through quick responses to all inquiries, and operating full service offices. As Alderman, I have always had office hours where I meet with constituents several nights a week and during the day. My office has always been a full-time, full service office and I would continue this approach in Congress. I would look at the congressional office operating budget and explore operating a satellite office, at least open on a part-time basis, in a part of the district that is not in the city, to be more accessible to a larger portion of the constituents.

(1)	Hanson, Tom	Rep.	I would love to hold a semi-annual festival for all of the 5th District residents to attend. I will be extremely accessible by phone and email to their inquiries, worries and questions; I will have a fun and easy to navigate website updated regularly with 'happenings' that affect the District. I will also publish a quarterly newsletter that reads more like PEOPLE magazine so that residents can understand what my job entails, exactly what goes on in Washington, what is being proposed and what my take on all of it is. I think the hardest part for the general public is that they find politics SOOOOO boring and hard to understand. I would like to be the first person to make it fun, easy to understand and approachable for the average person in hopes of stimulating some interest in them to 'get involved'.
(2)	Stewart,	Rep.	1) I will call 20 residents every day of my term.

	Jon		2) I will have a high tech web site to answer e-mails within a day. 3) How about actually driving around the district and actually talking to every business people and residents.
(3)	Bedell, Gregory A.	Rep.	My campaign is based on that part of my character which calls me to listen, understand and lead. I will return regularly to the district and meet with people, at shopping centers, at association meeting and on the street to listen to them and work to understand their needs, concerns and views. While in Washington, I will call on my staff to listen, to learn and be responsive, I will expect them to take an *active* role in the community to better serve the district.
(5)	Kay, Daniel S.	Rep.	The residents and community groups of the district would make it possible to win the election in the first place, I would have every reason to stay connected. One key to increase communication would be to open at least another office. My part of the district is about a 1 ½ hour drive in rush hour to get to the linear opposite part. Absolutely no way one office can accommodate the district and it's diversity. A viable support staff, hopefully retaining some current 5th district employees, who sincerely care about those who visit the office(s), and a periodical electronic newsletter available to all who request subscription are a start. The predecessor had an e-letter but just one office neither convenient via mass-transit nor by parking availability. All parts of the district need accommodation, period. Participation in local service organization events are also paramount.
(6)	Anderson, David J.	Rep.	I will make frequent appearances at community organizations, also by email and internet postings. With over 600,000 residents, this is clearly a challenge for anybody!

(1)	Gordils, Deb Leticia	Green	Same as [my last response] and in addition set up meetings and public question and answer forums with persons specifically working in each area.
(2)	Fredrickson, Mark Arnold	Green	I plan to follow the example of many of the City of Chicago alderpersons by holding Town Meetings in my legislative service office, schools & libraries around the Fifth Congressional District.
(4)	Reichel, Matt	Green	If elected, I will continue to live in the 5th district, and only spend the requisite time in Washington to guarantee that I am doing my job. I will maintain an active and ambitious district office that will field constituent complaints and issues with great rigor, and will work tirelessly to make appearances throughout the district and to touch base with my constituency.
(5)	Ribeiro, Simon	Green	I will have an open-door policy. I will have a website that asks the community people what I should do on some key issues, they can vote online, and email me, and tell me what I should or should not do. I will be active in the community, making sure that I gain the trust of community groups and make time for them all. I will be fair and accessible to everyone.

Question: What is your vision for health care reform? What are elements of health care reform that you would support and what would you oppose? How would these reforms impact the community, including undocumented immigrants?

Ballot #	Name	Party	Response
(1)	Wheelan, Charles J.	Dem.	I support universal health care. The richest nation in the history of civilization ought to be able to provide health care to all of its citizens. Moreover, our current system is quickly becoming an economic albatross. The American health care system is also a huge fiscal burden for small businesses and a threat to the competitiveness of large corporations whose international competitors do not have to pay large health care costs for their workers. The system discourages entrepreneurs because of the high cost of individual or small group policies. And it is also a source of middle-class anxiety for families who fear losing health care benefits as the result of job loss. I support health care reform that incorporates all of the following: • Universal coverage for all Americans, built upon the current employer-based system. • Mandatory insurance coverage for those who can afford it. • Government subsidies to enable low-income individuals to buy insurance coverage. • Better data collection to evaluate the cost-effectiveness of different procedures. • A cost-containment mechanism that limits reimbursement for the provision of care that is not cost-effective. • Health care portability as we work towards universal coverage. I would prefer a plan that is…
(2)	Feigenholtz, Sara	Dem.	I support the goal of providing health care coverage to all Americans. This is important to millions of Americans, many of them working or recently unemployed, who currently lack coverage. It is also important to the future competitiveness of our nation, since health care costs are burdening many of our domestic industries while businesses in other countries don't bear those costs. The question is how best to achieve the goal of health coverage for all. I believe the most practical approach is to build on the framework already in place. This means allowing workers and families to stay with their employer-based provider if they prefer, or to enter into a national health insurance exchange along with those who don't have employer-based care. It means allowing seniors the choice between nursing homes and assisted living centers or the much less expensive option of in-home care. It means providing Medicare patients the choice to buy generic prescription drugs at a lower cost. Ultimately, we can help pay for a system that covers all Americans by taking steps like these to bring more efficiencies and reduce the skyrocketing cost of health care. As the daughter of a doctor, I believe that the needs of doctors and patients should drive the health care debate. …
(3)	Fritchey, John A.	Dem	In the long-term, I will work to move us toward a universal coverage program similar to the one Rep. Conyers has proposed, though I believe President Obama's plan offers the only immediately workable option. In the near-term, I support comprehensive reform that expands the existing system with added quality assurance, and ensures all Americans have access to plans they can afford. *Expanded coverage*: To guarantee universal eligibility, we must expand access to public programs, offer tax credits so that all Americans can buy into a private plan or public program, and use a combination of legislation and subsidies to stop insurance companies from turning away the hard-to-insure. *Cost containment*: We can significantly reduce the overall cost of health care by changing our approach to chronic disease care, encouraging competition, and increasing technology use in all aspects of medical care. We must emphasize

			preventative care and disease management to reduce chronic care costs, and also offset the cost to insurers of catastrophic care so that subscriber premiums do not inflate.
(4)	Forys, Victor A.	Dem.	Everyone deserves decent health care. I have a plan that will provide health insurance to every one. Every person must have a basic health insurance policy that will provide decent health care coverage. We must first require the creation of a basic standard health insurance plan that every insurance company would be required to sell by law. Employers or the self-employed who purchase a standard policy will receive a tax credit for those costs. For those who are unemployed, they would apply to the government their policy would be paid for by the government until they are employed again. Under my plan, insurance companies would be prohibited from writing preexisting condition clauses. This plan would force insurance companies to compete on prices and quality of service. Those that reduce prices and still offer quality would gain business. As an Immigrant myself and a physician who treats many immigrants, I know the challenges that immigrants face. By fixing our immigration system and quickly issuing people already here Social Security numbers and work permits would bring them into the new health care insurance system. They would be treated the same as any other person.
(6)	Donatelli, Jan H.	Dem.	I will seek to mandate cost-effective systems and processes that reduce errors, paperwork and expenses. I will also ensure that preventive and wellness services, along with mental health care services, are accessible and affordable to all Americans. I will support ending pre-existing condition exceptions, allowing the federal government to negotiate for lower drug prices for the Medicare program and allowing seniors to import safe prescription drugs from overseas. I support a basic basket of options, a choice of coverage plans, with a minimum coverage for all. We won't get there overnight, but I will join the fight for universal, affordable coverage – including mental health care – when I get to Congress.
(7)	Annunzio, Frank	Dem.	Single Payer is all I would support.
(8)	Monteagudo, Carlos A.	Dem.	If you don't have your health, nothing else matters. I believe that health is a human right. The availability of high quality health care is fundamental to the achievement of that right. My vision of the health care system we need is focused by two organizing principles: UNIVERSALITY: "Everybody in, nobody out." A healthy workforce is critical to economic recovery. Working people need to know that their family's health is not in peril if they move or lose a job. People with disabilities need to know that they will receive the best possible health support services to allow them to live productive lives. People with preexisting conditions or catastrophic illnesses must know that they will not have to choose between treatment and economic ruin. Those without jobs or undocumented must know that they too will have access to high quality care regardless of ability to pay. QUALITY: Our healthcare system is currently skewed toward subspecialty and emergency room care with too little emphasis on primary care, illness prevention and early detection. Easy access to rationally organized and appropriately reimbursed high quality care is key.
(9)	Bryar, Paul J.	Dem.	Each week over the last 10 years, I have spent one day per week going to a community health center, Near North Health Services Corp., to provide care for underinsured and uninsured patients. I have used my skills as a doctor to provide desperately needed services to working families, retirees, unemployed, and immigrants. I believe that we do need to reform our health care system, and we can offer healthcare to every person in America at an affordable price. My plan mirrors the Obama health care plan that guarantees universal access to health care, and provides a health plan

			for the millions of uninsured people in America today. I will support initiatives including efficiency in medical practice with electronic health records, allowing the government to negotiate affordable prices for prescription drugs, reforms in the insurance industry to demand fair practices by them, and preventive medicine. Currently, I treat many undocumented immigrants each week. I will not abandon these patients, and will insist any health care reform has provisions to care for them and their families.
(11)	Geoghegan, Tom	Dem.	We should "re-enact" Medicare — for everyone. We should take our single-payer health-care system and just make it wall to wall. Aside from its merits, people also understand it, while they don't really understand any of the health-care plans. One thing that Ronald Reagan proved is that people like big, simple ideas: In his era, the big simple idea was tax cuts, and in ours, the big simple idea should be "Medicare for all adults," and "national coverage of children, too."
(13)	Quigley, Mike	Dem.	We need an immediate overhaul of our health insurance system that will provide affordable, accessible health care for all Americans. This can be accomplished by building upon—not tearing down—our preexisting healthcare system, while utilizing the doctors, providers and plans already in place. Government needs to step in to provide solutions for those who lack full coverage, while not disrupting care for those who are satisfied with their current plan. For the uninsured, I support President Obama's initiative to provide a range of affordable private insurance options based on the same benefits as members of Congress. For the insured, I would introduce legislation to amend the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA) to require that insurance providers allow for full portability of their insurance and to mandate full coverage of pre-existing conditions. The expansion of health care can be paid for by lowering the overall cost of health care. We need to expand preventive care to reduce the cost of management of chronic diseases, modernize medical record keeping, and lower prescription drug prices by negotiating the costs of prescription drugs for seniors utilizing the same approach as the Department of Veterans' Affairs. As a Cook County Commissioner …
(14)	O'Connor, Patrick J.	Dem.	I favor quality and affordable health care for everyone, and a system that allows patient choices. Congress needs to stop talking about providing this coverage and actually do it, but until then, I favor continued expansion of SCHIP funding to allow more children coverage, and I want to see COBRA reformed so that in this economy where people are laid off, they can keep their COBRA coverage indefinitely. We need to allow the government to negotiate with drug companies to get the best prices for prescription drugs. We need to increase funding for neighborhood clinics and ensure that mental health care is included in any health care coverage. We also need to utilize new technologies that significantly reduce paper work and duplication of costly tests and procedures. Undocumented immigrants should receive health care and should not be put in life threatening situations. I would oppose provisions that place unnecessary costs on small businesses and favor allowing small businesses joining health care coalitions to lower premiums. I also oppose tampering with ERISA because it works and this approach helped defeat the Clinton health care reform program.

(1)	Hanson, Tom	Rep.	I think that something has to be done but I don't think Universal care is the solution. We would lose doctors and the ability to obtain the care and tests we need upon demand (it could be years). I definitely support insurance supplementation by the government to help defray the massive cost associated with purchasing insurance and I am a HUGE supporter of insurance for all minor children. Undocumented immigrants fall into a gray area of all commerce so it is hard to say where it would impact them. It could be a bonus for them if they had American born children to receive needed coverage for their minor

			children. I think the minor insurance would be a benefit for residents in the 5th District as well as a tax credit or government supplement to ease the out of pocket costs.
(2)	Stewart, Jon	Rep.	I am for Universal Healthcare.
(3)	Bedell, Gregory A.	Rep.	We can solve the issues of affordability and access through tax credits and changes in the law to permit better formation of health insurance purchasing groups. Competition will drive down costs for both insurance and provision of health care. We must also reduce costs through better administrative efficiency, such as electronic records, committing to across the board preventive care and other reforms which lead to lower costs, such as decreased insurance costs for doctors and hospitals. I do not believe in a universal health care system. I experienced living under such a system and experienced first hand that it does not provide the access and choice of our current system. And, its costs are crushing. While all, including illegal immigrants, should have access medical treatment, I do not believe that Medicaid, Medicare or SCHIP should be extended to illegal immigrants.
(5)	Kay, Daniel S.	Rep.	One of the key parts of my health care reform agenda is to request clear definitions from pharmaceutical companies as to what their business strategy truthfully is. I see absolutely no need for prescription-only "medications" to be big-budget multimedia advertisers. End-user costs could greatly be reduced without the frivolity of such advertising. Medical publication print ads equivalent to adult publication alcohol and tobacco ads are acceptable. 6 year olds singing "Viva Viagra" are not! That's just one of many facets of the entire industry that really needs closer examination. Regarding last part of question, the "undocumented" status needs clarification by definition. Transitional visa applicants coping through bureaucracy? Or followers of the Aztlan concept attempting to create a Kossovo situation in the US? Too complex of an issue to answer simply.
(6)	Anderson, David J.	Rep.	We need to apply the principles of free market dynamics to healthcare. We need give people freedom to choose their providers, and this will put the providers in competition with each other, hence lowering prices. We need to demand that insurers fulfill their policy obligations. The frequent discussion of "denial of coverage" is very disturbing to me. We need to reduce the burden of medical malpractice on doctors, such as by creating a special exemption for doctors in tort law.

(1)	Gordils, Deb Leticia	Green	I would lower the financial threshold of clients in need of health care. Lowering the cobra for those who lose their jobs and make a clinics directory of health care facilities in my district so everyone knows where to go, for what they might need and the costs associated with that visit if any. I would like Family centers that specialize in treating the whole family.
(2)	Fredrickson, Mark Arnold	Green	I support universal access to affordable health care for all taxpaying residents. Health care costs may be best contained by demanding that medical centers & clinics emphasize results over medical procedural transactions. Citizens need to become a part of the solution by participating in healthy living programs which will reduce our dependence on health care.
(4)	Reichel, Matt	Green	I will support and actively campaign for HR 676, John Conyers' single-payer health care bill. Not only do I support single-payer health coverage, I believe it is the only viable means of providing universal health care. The impact of a system of universal single payer health care will be a rapid increase in living standards and life expectancy and a decrease in stress, and emotional and mental disorders. We will be living fuller, freer, happier lives. The undocumented workers, under by Green Works program, will not exist any longer as I will grant blanket amnesty to all undocumented who are willing to work for five years towards citizenship.
(5)	Ribeiro,	Green	A single-payer Health Care system is what America needs. This system can allow undocumented immigrants into it, but

	Simon		preference should be given to those here legally. Those here illegally should be treated, but they should get documentation right at the hospital.

Question: What are your views on the Urban School Reform?

Ballot #	Name	Party	Response
(1)	Wheelan, Charles J.	Dem.	Chicago school reform is the most important thing for the long term health of the city. All three of my children attend Chicago Public Schools and have been very happy with their experiences there. Our goal should be that *every* school in the city is not only safe, but offers a high-caliber education. All of our children deserve the best.
(2)	Feigenholtz, Sara	Dem.	As a State Representative from Chicago, I understand firsthand the difficulties and challenges facing public schools in and around the city. I believe we need to fortify our school system and work toward real reform that provides students with a quality education and teachers with the pay they deserve. One important step is to overhaul *No Child Left Behind*, which has put students in underserved school districts, especially in urban areas, at a great disadvantage. If the goal truly is *no child left behind*, federal law must be more sensitive to the complexities and challenges facing urban schools, and should encourage – not punish – teachers and students who make great strides in bridging the achievement gap, even if those strides fall short of proficiency. Test scores are only one method for evaluating a school's success. NCLB must allow for greater flexibility on the state and local level, and input from parents, teachers and local officials should carry significant weight. We also need to invest in school construction projects. Many urban schools are crumbling, overcrowded and in desperate need of capital dollars. As a member of Congress, I will continue to work with public officials, community leaders and education advocates to improve…
(3)	Fritchey, John A.	Dem	Both as a father and an elected official, I have always championed public school reform as one of my most critical priorities. I believe the next ten years will see a revolution in America's urban school systems. In Congress I will fight to ensure funding for all federal mandates, and federal support for the innovations and improvements taking shape throughout the country. I have always stood by Chicago's educators and in this race I am honored to have the support of the Illinois Federation for Teachers. I have also been a progressive advocate for greater innovation in our school districts, especially in the fight for more equitable school funding. I have long been a Chief Sponsor of HB750, the Tax Swap bill, which will finally shift Illinois education funding away from property taxes.
(4)	Forys, Victor A.	Dem.	Education should be funded directly from the state general fund, not property taxes. Those schools with the most challenged students and highest drop out rates should receive more funds in order to prepare all our children for the jobs of the future. I was greatly disappointed when I learned that funding for school construction was removed from the stimulus package. Urban schools need help. No Child Left Behind needs to be reformed. Children need to be taught art, music, health studies and physical education. These are aspects of a complete education. NCLB placed all its emphasis on reading, writing and arithmetic. That is wrong. NCLB forced teachers to teach to the test because that is what the system demanded.
(6)	Donatelli, Jan H.	Dem.	There are Urban School Reform projects that have worked. In the last decade, the Boston Public Schools under the leadership of superintendent Thomas Payzant, brought about critical reforms with notable results. I support looking at best practices, such as these, and implementing similar programs in the urban communities that are most in need. I will work to transform "No Child Left Behind" into "Success for All Children" with an emphasis on critical thinking, intellectual curiosity and 21st century skill sets designed to make our workforce the most productive and responsive of the industrialized

			world. I support a reduction in student/teacher ratios and will encourage increased mentoring in lower-performing schools.
(7)	Annunzio, Frank	Dem.	I believe that we owe it to our children to make every effort to create the best learning environment possible.
(8)	Monteagudo, Carlos A.	Dem.	My sister Lourdes Monteagudo, then the Principal of the Sabin Magnet School, was one of the leaders of the Chicago School Reform of 1988. Since then, many things have changed, but many things have stayed the same or gotten worse. I belief that Urban School Reform must continue to address the needs of all students. I believe that the key to true reform is the quality of the teachers and principals in the schools. A federal investment in the ongoing professional development of teachers as well as in the compensation that effective teachers should be two priorities of the federal government. Accountability is very important, but we must change the emphasis that schools are giving to test taking because being successful in taking standardized tests is, ultimately not a very important skills to master, especially at the expense of socialization, deep intellectual pursuits, and learning by doing.
(9)	Bryar, Paul J.	Dem.	Until we adequately fund our educational system, I will fight to make sure that no programs drain dollars from our public school system. I also support the creation of Charter schools that can demonstrate proficiency in teaching and learning.
(11)	Geoghegan, Tom	Dem.	I believe the mechanism for holding schools accountable is fundamentally unfair when the states do not even adequately fund the learning standards they impose. I am strongly opposed to a pay to the test standard. I recently filed a suit against the Governor to require the appointment of members to EFAB, with the goal of increasing funding for the public schools.
(13)	Quigley, Mike	Dem.	Urban schools have faced, especially, in Chicago, great disparities in school funding. Because of this, many of the schools have overcrowded classrooms and it is harder to recruit and retain high-quality teachers. In order to eliminate disparities in school funding we need to decrease our over reliance on property taxes as the primary source of funding for our schools. Until that can be accomplished we need to utilize the resources of the federal government to recruit and retain quality teachers. I support President Obama's plan to create scholarships to cover the educational costs of individuals willing to become teachers in high need areas. Teachers should also be rewarded for high educational outcomes of their students. Under No Child Left Behind – every child and every school was left behind. We need to rescind this ill-conceived unfunded mandate and create voluntary national performance standards that will ensure that children are learning the tools to succeed while not creating an environment where teachers are just teaching to the test. In addition, it is shameful that one of the most dangerous times of a child's day in Chicago is the walk to and from school. We need to work to provide more federal funding …
(14)	O'Connor, Patrick J.	Dem.	I served as Chairman of the City Council Committee on Education for 24 years and supported the creation of Urban School Reform. I support the Chicago Community School Initiative, which seeks to transform public schools into hubs of learning, services and enrichment for students, parents and entire community. I am a huge proponent of the CPD, Charter Schools and the Alternative School Network. Children and families need school choices which fit their needs. As we try to improve our public education system, we need to think "outside the box" and find new and innovative approaches and give them the resources and time to work. We are talking about our children's education which is the foundation that our future is built upon. Local communities need flexibility in making local school decisions. Washington should not tell us how to educate our children in classrooms in which 15 different languages are spoken. It needs to provide the means to educate, while local decision makers decide the how.

(1)	Hanson,	Rep.	How about let's just start all over in Chicago. Books have been written for years about how terrible Chicago schools are

	Tom		and they haven't improved that much in all the years. I think too many people who have shaped this initiative have been involved in education for too long and have lost their objective opinion to PAC's and lobbyists and self-interest. Only teachers and parents can truly advise us what needs to be done to resolve this issue.
(2)	Stewart, Jon	Rep.	We need: Money to repair schools; Money to buy materials and computers; and backbones to fire bad teachers!
(3)	Bedell, Gregory A.	Rep.	I am researching further into the theory, implementation and results of Urban School Reform. I cannot at this time provide an answer which would properly address this question. I will at the time of the forum, supplement my response and be ready to explain my views and answer questions about it.
(5)	Kay, Daniel S.	Rep.	Urban school reform can only truly be achieved by cooperation from all members of the communities affected. Both parents, clergy, community organizations, etc. One entity alone, be it the school system, the police department, the local alderman or other governmental division, can't achieve anywhere near the goals by themselves.
(6)	Anderson, David J.	Rep.	Repeal No Child Left Behind. Control of schools should be LOCAL, not Federal. The performance of our educational system is at risk because of the external factors related to economic opportunity in many urban communities, and a pervasive hopelessness. The idea that more money equals more success is a feel-good answer, but is simply not true. Some of the major urban systems spend the most money per student and are among the most undesirable school systems.

(1)	Gordils, Deb Leticia	Green	I need to know more about it. I have lots of thoughts about education and how to better serve the families in the 5th district.
(2)	Fredrickson, Mark Arnold	Green	Civic leaders recognize that we must emphasize the family as the basis of school reform. It's not what parents do for their children as much as the role models which parents provide to their school age children. My mother taught school for many years & the most successful teachers developed strong relationships with caring parents. Parents must take responsibility for their children's education not just by paying taxes but, more importantly, by assisting with homework & having nurturing and supportive conversations about dreams & aspirations.
(4)	Reichel, Matt	Green	We will never arrive at a sustainable solution to our urban education crisis until we stop funding schools based on property tax. Our education system should be paid for with federal income tax with an eye towards just and equitable education across the board.
(5)	Ribeiro, Simon	Green	I support reform in the school system, particularly in the urban areas. As a school teacher, I know how to fix the school system. We need to reform school funding; academic curriculum; scheduling; class-room structure, management and discipline. The school's academic curriculum should reflect the working world with more emphasis on critical thinking, speaking properly (no Ebonics or other slang), grammatically-correct writing, more mathematics, mechanical engineering, science, business planning, foreign languages, and the arts. School scheduling should be on a "block schedule," in which academic subjects like math or reading get long "blocks" of time, rather than a little 40 minute period. The schedule should start later, so children get more needed sleep, and students should not be overwhelmed by too much homework. Gym or P.E. should be extended into longer periods of time, everyday, and should be catered to prevent childhood obesity and other problems. Art and Music should be emphasized as well.

			Students that are disobedient should be sent out of the class right away so that they do not take away from the learning that students are trying to attain. Students must obey the rules of the class room, if they do not, they do not belong in the class room.

Question: What are your views about a child's home life and how it relates to their potential in school?

Ballot #	Name	Party	Response
(1)	Wheelan, Charles J.	Dem.	Countless studies have shown that a safe, secure home life translates into a positive and rewarding school experience. Government can not mandate families, nor should it. But the government should be in a position to assist those who need the most help, by providing day care and after school programs, for instance, so working parents can be home with their children at night. Government also has an obligation to assist with nutrition. Children who have breakfast outperform those children who do not.
(2)	Feigenholtz, Sara	Dem.	While schools and teachers are charged with the great task of providing their students with a quality education, parents must also share this responsibility. Homes that lack structure or are broken ultimately increase the likeliness that a child will not succeed. Parents have a responsibility to turn off the television, help with homework, promote reading, encourage healthy extracurricular activities like after-school athletics and provide positive reinforcement for achievements made. The process of educating our children cannot exist in a vacuum – it requires both a school system that has the adequate supports in place and engaged parents. Only then can we begin to address the endemic problems in American education.
(3)	Fritchey, John A.	Dem	As the proud parent of a middle school student, I know how powerful a supportive home environment can be in helping students engage in the classroom. I think nothing limits a child's potential, however, except our failure to provide universal access to high-quality educational opportunities. In Congress I will continue to fight for better school funding, more rigorous curricula and greater support for innovation and teacher training. I will also work to increase the support systems for children and families throughout Chicago, both as a legislator and as leader of the John Fritchey Youth Foundation.
(4)	Forys, Victor A.	Dem.	Too many children come from households where both parents work. With this current economy, it takes two incomes to make ends meet. Children are often without supervision in the afternoon before parents come home. We need after-school programs for children who need them and want them. We need to guarantee that families can earn a living wage to create a home environment that is secure and conducive to learning and good citizenship. Strong families are the foundation of our community. Strong families require decent health care and fair wages. We must ensure that the United States of America remains a meritocracy. Although we cannot guarantee success to every citizen, we must guaranty a fair chance to succeed.
(6)	Donatelli, Jan H.	Dem.	Hungry children are poor learners. Children who do not get good nights sleep, or who suffer from neglect and or abuse have a very difficult time succeeding in school either socially or academically. America needs to support families. I will advocate for programs to offer better after school programs for working families and increased early childhood involvement in targeted communities combined with better support for parents and families.
(7)	Annunzio, Frank	Dem.	I believe that most children who excel in school are very well adjusted in both their home and school environment.
(8)	Monteagudo, Carlos A.	Dem.	The home is the first school and the parents are a child's first and most important teachers. A child's home life can give a child a head start or hinder their development. All humans learn through experiences. When a family is able to give children a variety of experiences before they go to school, their verbal and readiness skills to support formal learning are developed and sharpened. Sometimes parents are not able to do it alone because they themselves were never exposed to the experiences necessary to develop their own knowledge and skills on how to raise their families. In that case, the ability of school and community to help the parents give the children the necessary development experiences to support formal

			learning will make the difference between a child who succeeds and one who fails in school.
(9)	Bryar, Paul J.	Dem.	As a teacher, I know that a child needs a good learning environment at school and at home. Parental involvement in school programs and with homework helps students succeed. I believe that improving our schools should be done while simultaneously improving our communities.
(11)	Geoghegan, Tom	Dem.	As a labor lawyer I believe the best thing we can do for our children is to raise the wages of their parents. I would support programs that encourage more early childhood education. I also support funding of the learning standards imposed by the State of Illinois on local school districts. I've written in the past that "The only way to really improve education, and thus ensure access to economic opportunity for all, is to end the shocking disparities in per-pupil funding in U.S. public schools. In my state, Illinois, it ranges from $5,000 per child in poor districts to almost $20,000 in blue-chip districts" (American Prospect, 9/22/2008). We must end the funding disparity between our schools. But increasing funding will only do so much to improve the quality of education. A decent education is dependent upon a commitment to the economic security of working Americans. It's more than simply a paycheck – it is a wage that affords a decent quality of life, health care that prevents disease rather than simply treating it, and a home that families don't have to shut the lights off in order to afford.
(13)	Quigley, Mike	Dem.	A child who does not have access to basics needs – food, shelter, health care will have greater difficulty succeeding in school. It is hard to focus on school when you do not know where your next meal is coming from or if you are losing your home due to foreclosure. That is why I support strengthening our safety net, especially in these tough economic times.
(14)	O'Connor, Patrick J.	Dem.	I believe they are intertwined and closely related. This is why I believe we need to address social issues comprehensively. If parents cannot find jobs, they cannot provide for their children. If children do not have housing, food, medicine, clothing, and are not safe in their homes and on the street on the way to school, they cannot learn. Improvements to the actual school system will not matter. This is why, for the last 4 years, I have supported city funding for CeaseFire, an evidence based program that significantly reduces shootings, when children are dying almost daily. By reducing this violence we save health care and criminal justice dollars that can be rerouted to other necessary programs and we save lives. This is just one example of the type of comprehensive approach I believe is necessary to ensure children excel in school. It is why I introduced and passed the city ordinance for school based health clinics, often the only health care the children receive. Congressman Rush has been able to get federal funds to increase school health clinics in his district in schools in Englewood and I would work for this in the 5th CD.

(1)	Hanson, Tom	Rep.	I believe 100% that there is a direct correlation with home and school/education. This is my #1 priority for the 5th District by implementing qualified day care, preschool, after school programs that are affordable, in every neighborhood. Concordia Avondale is a perfect example of what I am striving for. Studies show that kids who sit down to dinner 3 or more days a week with their guardian/parent are over 80% less likely to join a gang! Kids need to be nurtured, listened to, feel safe and that they matter. If you have an absentee parent or turmoil you have a child who is stifled and can't learn, can't focus and may not even be getting enough food stimulate their brains if the family is struggling financially. These children are our future - our leaders, our caretakers. We have got to show them that they matter from birth on and it starts in the home.
(2)	Stewart, Jon	Rep.	If the parents are not involved in the child's life at home and school….that child will not succeed. We need to challenge parents to take part in their child's school life.

(3)	Bedell, Gregory A.	Rep.	The most important factor in a child's success in school is the support and dedication a child receives at home. The family and community of families which participate in education are the keys to success; there is no substitute. From y discussions with teachers and principles, I am convinced that this is the critical aspect of education; and it is the most difficult to influence. It is for this reason that I support school choice. Families which are committed to their children's education must have the ability to search out schools where the community of families are likewise committed. Vouchers provide this choice. In addition, creation of viable and sustainable charter schools will provide not only more choice but more competition to spur the increase overall. And, because the home environment is so key, it is clear that money is not the panacea to our education problems. I do believe, however, that we must dedicate more resources to compensating our teachers. Better initial pay and merit increases will attract more highly qualified individuals into the teaching profession and give them incentive to stay.
(5)	Kay, Daniel S.	Rep.	It's imperative that a child's home environment, nutrition, healthy balance between studies and play, and exposure to many different aspects of learning are taught. An abusive or neglected home environment will always deter a child's learning capacity and self-determination.
(6)	Anderson, David J.	Rep.	I believe home life is probably the major contributing factor to a child's success in school. Most importantly, if the parents value education, then, the children will benefit. In most cases, I doubt that a good school can overcome a bad home life, especially for very young children. Education is complex because, in many discussions, we forget that the individual student plays a role in his own success too, so, I would not give up on any child.

(1)	Gordils, Deb Leticia	Green	If the home life is troubled the child may still excel however the performance and the level of completion in school would be directly affected.
(2)	Fredrickson, Mark Arnold	Green	That's the key to academic excellence. Most of the immigrant families I know insist on the European standard of four to six hours of homework each school night. Turn off the television, holster the iPod & put the cell phone in its cradle if you want to ensure family-focused academic success.
(4)	Reichel, Matt	Green	An unstable and insecure home life poses a great challenge to the capacity of children to succeed in school. Stress and emotional disturbances at home will ultimately conquer a child's mental capacities, ultimately damaging their educational pursuits. I am particularly worried about the high levels of emotional disorders present in this nation, and the lack of attention given to these disorders by all levels of government. This is why I support a system of single-payer universal health care wherein psychological disorders are covered equally as much as physical ailments.
(5)	Ribeiro, Simon	Green	By and large, there is a direct correspondence between student performance and student's home life. Some parent are not doing their job, and the students become the victims. We need a more pro-active system that investigates child abuse more and will take some of these students away from bad home environments. After-School programs, tutoring, and other programs can help. Also Head Start or a universal pre-school system would be great to accelerate student performance.