



Nebraska Student Vote

Candidate Profiles

ADRIAN SMITH – U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES/District 3

Age: 43

Hometown: Gering, NE

Party Affiliation: Republican

Years in Current Office: 8 years

Congressional Committees on which you serve:

Committee on Ways & Means, Subcommittee on Trade, Subcommittee on Health

Education: Gering High School, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Prior Public Offices Held: Gering City Council (1994-1998), Nebraska Unicameral (1999-2006)

Political Heroes: Ronald Reagan

1. There's been a great deal of debate concerning the implementation of the Affordable Care Act. Why is it, or is it not, a good program for Americans?

The Affordable Care Act makes health care more expensive and less accessible for most Americans. It also limits patient choice, burdens providers with hundreds of new regulations, increases the national debt, and hurts our economy. This misguided law should be repealed, and replaced with market-based reforms.

2. What would you say is a fair and reasonable policy toward illegal immigration in this country?

Our current immigration system is broken because it is overly-bureaucratic and encourages otherwise well-intentioned individuals to break our laws. We need an immigration policy which does not reward those who enter our nation illegally, and values the contributions of immigrants.



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3. Since September 11, 2001, our nation has made public safety from terrorism a high priority. Have we achieved a sustainable level of public safety or are more steps necessary to protect public safety?

Unfortunately, the nature and brutality of modern terrorism require the United States to always stay on alert and adapt our tactics to keep the homeland safe. While we have prevented and avoided a major terrorist attack, more can and should be done to keep Americans safe.

4. As we witness the current unrest in places like Syria, Iraq and the Ukraine, America must decide the nature and depth of our involvement in foreign affairs. What parameters should guide us in making those decisions?

Our involvement should be guided by our strategic interests, our alliances, and to our democratic values and respect for life and liberty. While we cannot resolve every conflict, America must lead. When we do not, our advisories fill the void and greater chaos and conflict often occur.

5. Many young people only have a general understanding of the dynamics of politics and elective government. What steps could and should be taken to help people appreciate their freedoms and encourage them to become civic-minded adults?

I encourage all young people to become more engaged in their communities by volunteering for a political campaign, a charitable organization, or by becoming involved in school or church activities. These activities would allow young people develop closer ties to their communities and become better informed citizens.