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« Meet the Candidates

Decision 2018: Meet the candidates

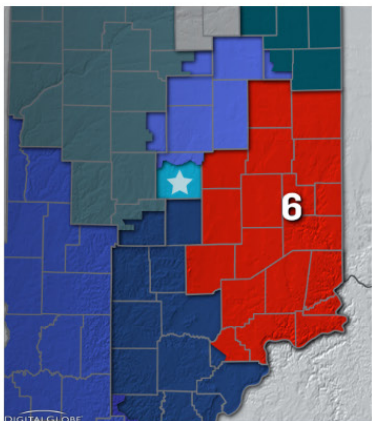
Between Joe Donnelly's seat in the Senate and Indiana's nine seats in the House of Representatives, there are dozens of candidates in the mix heading into November's election.

As part of our Decision 2018 coverage, we have compiled background information for those candidates to help you make your decision before you cast your ballot.

U.S. House of Representatives: District 6

This district covers portions of east central Indiana, eastward to the Ohio border and south to Kentucky, including Muncie, Greenfield, Richmond, Greensburg and Columbus.

This is the seat currently held by Luke Messer, who gave it up for the chance to challenge Joe Donnelly for his seat in the Senate. Republicans have held the 6th Congressional District since 1983. For 12 years of that time, it was held by Vice President Mike Pence.



Tom Ferkinhoff



Party Affiliation: Libertarian

Background

- Describes himself as a "compassionate conservative"
- CPA and business consultant
- Indiana Wesleyan grad

The Issues

- **Health Care**
 - Supports full repeal of the Affordable Care Act
 - Proposes allowing any American who is willing to pay the Medicaid premium to sign up for the program
 - Proposes using Medicaid to cover Americans who have hit their lifetime maximum under private insurance
- **Immigration**
 - Says changes need to be made to the nation's policies, but the first priority is securing our borders
 - Wants to look at options for reducing "tourism births"
- **Tax Reform**
 - Says President Trump's tax reform law did lower taxes for many American families, but didn't eliminate enough disincentives to success that were in the tax code
 - Calls the current tax system backwards - we should be paying more in local taxes and less in federal taxes because too much money in Washington ends up going toward bureaucracy and red tape instead of local projects
 - Wants any major changes to tax or health law to not take effect until 6 months to 2 years after being passed to give families and businesses time to plan for the changes
- **Social Security**
 - Wants to drop the clause allowing children under 18 to get benefits simply because their parent is getting benefits (would continue to allow minors to get benefits in the case of death or disability)
 - Continue to increase benefit amounts the longer someone puts off collecting benefits instead of capping that increase at age 70 to encourage more people to continue deferring collection
- **Term Limits**
 - Wants to change House terms from 2 years to 4 years because two year terms force Representatives to spend the majority of their time campaigning instead of governing
 - Wants to limit Representatives to four of those new 4-year terms and Senators to three of their current 6-year terms

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Jeannine Lee Lake

Party Affiliation: Democrat

Background

- founder of Muncie Matters Alliance
- married, 4 grown kids, 2 grandkids

The Issues

- **Economy**
 - Supports raising the minimum wage, but does not offer a target number on her website
 - Opposes outsourcing of jobs
- **Health Care:** Supports fixing the Affordable Care Act because premiums are too high and there needs to be greater access, but does not support repeal & replace
- **Infrastructure:** Supports new investment into the nation's crumbling infrastructure, helping lower the unemployment rate of construction workers in the process
- **Education**
 - free community college for the first two years
 - continued free education to get a bachelor's degree if they maintain a certain GPA during those first two years

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Greg Pence

Party Affiliation: Republican

Background

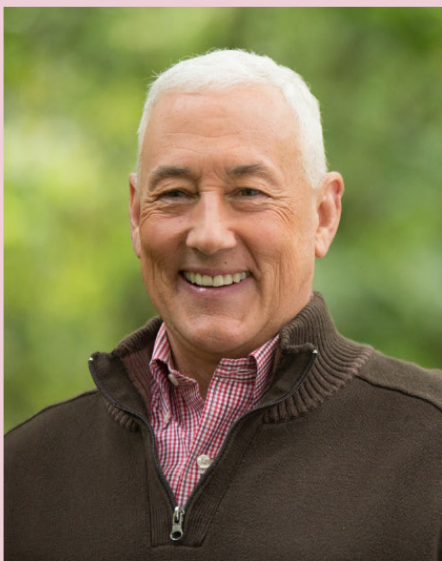
- married, 4 grown children
- Marine Corps veteran
- older brother of Vice President Mike Pence

The Issues

- **Abortion:** pro-life
- **Gun Control**
 - "I don't want the federal government telling me what guns I can have and can't have."
 - "absolute, adamant supporter of the Second Amendment"
- **Tax Reform:** Supports Trump tax plan
- **Infrastructure**
 - Says Indiana needs to get "our fair share" of tax dollars we send to Washington invested back into our state
 - Supports Trump plan to invest infrastructure money in rural America
 - Supports public-private investments and partnerships

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