

Voters Guide 2022

State Senator District 28

Mark Koran

The 2023 Legislature will convene with a significant surplus. How should the money be used with respect to spending and/or tax relief? “My core focus for spending will be in the area of critical need. Our facilities which serve our children, disabled and the elderly are in dire conditions. There was a 20k loss of employees serving these industries in the last two years, we must make investments in training and wages to strengthen those industries serving this vital need. The remaining surplus priorities will be meaningful reductions of the tax burden for many segments of our population. Removing income tax on social security for senior citizens. Permanent income and property tax reductions for Individuals and businesses. Each area of focus is to make MN the best state to live, work, start a business and raise our families.”



Mark Koran

The U.S. Supreme Court has put abortion law back in the hands of the state legislatures for now. Do you support any specific changes to state law regarding abortion? “The US Supreme Court ruling moved this issue back to the states where it belongs and with the Doe vs. Gomez ruling by the MN Supreme Court in 1995, created a constitutional right to abortion. With these rulings, the pro-life MN Senate Majority supports policies to ensure all mothers and babies have the care they need throughout every stage of life. From extended care for pregnant mothers, expanding post-partum care, and workplace protections for nursing mothers, we’ve supported women throughout their pregnancy and recovery. We should look for consensus policies that reduce unwanted pregnancies and mothers facing hardships. Being pro-life isn’t just about pregnancy, it’s about providing safe communities, supports for families, and education options that give children the tools they need to thrive as adults. I will continue to support policies that deliver for families all across the state. That means my role as a legislator, is to build commonsense agreement on how we best protect life at all stages; and continue to support women, children and families.

What, if anything, would you change with the state’s election security process? Why? “There are a variety of key election issues which are needed and supported by a majority of citizens, to ensure everyone has great trust in the outcomes of each election. Voter ID, provisional ballots for same day registration and making the statewide voter registration data (Which is classified as public data) available publicly. Since 2008 the detailed voter record, through policy has been restricted. By being restricted, it prohibits citizens from accessing the very data, which would allow for the validation of each election, that only eligible citizens cast ballots in an election. These changes must be in a bipartisan manner. We must also stop efforts which seek to by-pass the legislature or using the courts to change election law. At the end of the day, we want an election process which is easy to vote, but hard to cheat.”

Victoria Ann Bird



Victoria Ann Bird

The U.S. Supreme Court has put abortion law back in the hands of the state legislatures for now. Do you support any specific changes to state law regarding abortion? “I believe the right to choose. I believe children need to be loved and wanted. Sometimes there is no choice. Especially, when it comes to fatal accidents. A doctor should not be put in that ‘choice,’ but it happens. Let alone a Mother or Father. An abortion is between a Mother, Father, or protentional caregivers and their Doctor. Not Government!”

What, if anything, would you change with the state’s election security process? Why? “Election security process? We already have auditors. Most places are safe to go vote in. I do believe an identification of some kind should be presented. Not necessarily picture ID. For example, a social security card, birth certificate and utility bill with current address. Now days anything can be counterfeited. Double checking and re-checking are the key. That is another reason the census it very important.”

Legislative gridlock has become more prevalent. Specifically, how would you fix it? “I think there’s opportunity for us to work together on public safety. Legislators of both parties are fed up with the rise in violent crime we’ve seen across the state over the past few years, and there’s opportunity for us to work together on tougher penalties for carjackings and fentanyl trafficking, and to increase funding for law enforcement. Public safety should not be a partisan issue, so I look forward to working to make that a priority next session — finding those areas of bipartisan agreement is important to combating gridlock.”

Do you think our elections are secure and fair? Why? “I believe we could strengthen security and confidence in our elections by passing legislation requiring an ID to vote. More than a dozen other states have Voter ID requirements, and it’s actually shown to increase overall turnout. You have to show an ID to pick up a prescription, buy alcohol, or check into a hotel — it’s just common sense you should have to show an ID when you go to the polls. These simple steps will increase voter confidence and participation in our elections.”

Brian Johnson



Brian Johnson

Do you think our elections are secure and fair? Why? “Yes. Our elections are secure and fair. We must acknowledge that baseline of fact. Claims of election fraud have been categorically debunked. Yet, after the 2020 Presidential election, the losing candidate filed and lost at least 63 lawsuits contesting election processes, vote counting, and certifications. Election officials are bound to federal and state election laws. They represent both political parties and work together to ensure security and fairness. Reject disinformation — it stokes dangerous rhetoric that erodes public confidence and sows division. Critical points on election security: 1. Election fraud lawsuits have been categorically rejected in courts; 2. Election officials are bound to federal and state election laws; 3. Election officials represent both political parties; 4. We must reject disinformation. It undermines the democratic process when people only view elections as secure or fair when they win, or the candidate they support wins but is illegitimate if they lose.”

How will you help rein in inflation and what is the root cause? “Price gouging and corporate greed are driving inflation. The global climate coming out of the pandemic while combating inflation set the stage for rampant price gouging from greedy corporations. Additionally, it gave corporations a window to raise prices exponentially in a way they usually wouldn’t. Hardworking Minnesotans are being taken advantage of while profits from those same predatory corporations are at or near record highs. Important information on addressing inflation: 1. Price gouging and corporate greed are rampant; 2. Corporations are seeing fatter margins and record profits; 3. Minnesotans are being taken advantage of; 4. Legislation needed to lower gas prices and keep money in your wallet. Legislation is needed to lower gas prices and keep your money in your wallet. This problem requires a bipartisan effort in the Minnesota Legislature that takes swift, decisive action—protecting our constituents. Count on me to deliver that.”

Legislative gridlock has become more prevalent. Specifically, how would you fix it? “My primary objective is to serve the constituents of District 28A and deliver meaningful results — not play political games. Never forget that your elected representatives work for you. Legislative gridlock negatively impacts our families and strains our communities. You can count on me to negotiate across the aisle in good faith to find bipartisan solutions. Challenging solutions require compromise on both sides. How I will work to avoid legislative gridlock: 1. Bipartisanship emphasized, 2. Negotiations in good faith, 3. Establishing common ground, 4. Willingness to find challenging solutions, 5. Serving for the greater good of District 28A & Minnesota. Electing representatives to the Minnesota Legislature with this approach will alleviate gridlock. Serious leaders are needed to deliver meaningful change—that’s what a vote for Erik Johnson signifies.”

Erik Johnson



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Berg is my Vote for County Commissioner

I have lived in Cambridge Township for 70 years and out of these years have known Bill Berg and his family for thirty of them. Ever sense he came to town in 1992 Bill has been serving the community in the schools, active on non-profit boards, coaching, championing area churches, and involved in local chambers. My children benefited from Bill’s leadership both in within the school and church setting. In running for County Commissioner, Bill did not decide to start serving but has been serving all along. The following are only a few of his many involvements in our county over the years.

As Rotary President he led the revitalization of the City Park as you are experiencing it today. Bill has served many years and continues as a volunteer Isanti County Sheriff Chaplain. He started “Every Meal” backpack program in our schools serving students with low food resources. It now serves ten schools. Bill helped start New Pathways, a family homeless shelter that serves five counties including Isanti. He has served ten years as President of East Central Ministerial group for area Pastors and is the present chair of the Foundation Board for our Medical Center.

Bill is not seeking to become a public servant but has been since day one in this county. I have seen it firsthand over and over. Bill’s character and consistency in how he lives makes him a strong candidate for County Commissioner. I hope you would agree and vote Bill Berg for County Commissioner, District 2. (City of Cambridge Precinct 2, Cambridge Township and Spring Vale township).

Bruce L Mickelson
Cambridge, MN

Prepared and paid for by Bruce Mickelson. 34301 Polk Street NE, Cambridge, MN 55008.