

Margo Davidson
Candidate for PA House District 164

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10 am

1. What do you hope to accomplish as a member of the Pennsylvania General Assembly?

One of the things that I am most passionate about is small business development. I think that PA needs to be more business friendly. That is the way that we are going to create jobs. We need to create an environment that fosters growth. I am also very passionate about youth programs. We have to keep taxes low, especially in this economy. We have to make some tough decisions. Jobs and education are the two main priorities.

2. What do you believe are the major problems facing the Commonwealth and your legislative district?

I think that taxes, property taxes in particular, are stifling growth. People are losing their homes because of this. The education system is something that people are not satisfied with in Upper Darby.

3. Would you support or oppose legislation which would increase taxes relative to the real estate transaction, such as the realty transfer tax and/or taxes on services?

I am really not in favor of raising taxes of any kind, especially when it relates to the family and the number one purchase that people make to secure their home. I am not for anything that would impede the economic strength of families.

4. The property tax is the principal source of revenue for localities to fund schools, but is also a burden to the Commonwealth's citizens and reduces the affordability of home ownership. What do you believe is the best way to provide adequate funding to our schools while also supplying relief from property taxes?

I am not a big proponent of gaming in PA, but the legislation is already in place. It is doing well in PA, but those revenues are just going into the General Fund, I would like to see those funds get earmarked specifically to education to provide greater relief to the taxpayers.

5. Pennsylvania's Municipalities Planning Code provides local municipalities authority for comprehensive planning and zoning. What sort of authority do you believe local governments should have in this area?

That is an area that I really have to take a look at. My general understanding is that there is a lot of corruption, patronage and red tape there. It can be one of the most frustrating thing that a property owner can go through. If we can go through a

6. Many properties in Pennsylvania suffer from blight as a result of tenant neglect and/or absentee property management. What role do you believe government should play in this area?

Planning commissions have a role in helping to stabilize this. I think that they can Property Managers should manage their properties tenants should be held to a certain standard. There should be rules in place to control blight. Some of the section 8 rules need to be looked at as well. I do not believe that we should have a government that is intrusive, but we do need to look at ways that we can reduce blight.

7. States are struggling with the issue of providing affordable housing to its residents. What do you feel are the necessary components to address this issue?

Part of this has to do with the recent financial meltdown. There have to be regulations against predatory lending. More education of prospective homeowners is needed. Education is very important for new homeowners...the government needs to protect consumers. Homeownership is the cornerstone of a family's financial stability.

8. Do you favor or oppose legislation that limits the right of individuals to use their private property?

I am opposed to eminent domain. I do not believe that the government should be in the business to seizing property from homeowners. Having homeowners in a community helps to stabilize the area.

9. What is your position on campaign finance reform in Pennsylvania and to what extent do you believe PAC's should be restricted in state legislative campaigns?

I do not believe that there should be restrictions. There are some groups that I am opposed to because I

10. What are your views of the REALTOR® profession and the role of your local REALTORS® in this community?

I have always said that if I were to choose another profession, it would be a REALTOR. I love how it helps to create wealth for families. I have a great deal of respect for the business.

11. Please outline your campaign's grassroots efforts. Has your campaign been endorsed by any other state or local organization?

I am the endorsed Democratic candidate. I have been endorsed by the townships. I have also picked up the House Democratic Committee for the state. We are knocking on doors. We have the advantage we have a lot of momentum.