

Buffalo Niagara Partnership State Legislature Candidate Questionnaire 2008

Candidate Name William T. Stachowski

District NYS Senate – 58th District

E-mail Address senstachowski@yahoo.com

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN TO:

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Attn: Glenn Aronow
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This document is necessary for consideration of support by the Partnership and may be used for future voter education purposes.

Campaign Information

Campaign Manager Dennis Kozuch
Campaign Address 2030 Clinton St. Buffalo, NY 14206
Campaign Phone (716) 822-1495
Campaign Fax _____
Campaign Committee Name Friends of Bill Stochowski
Communications Director Bob Koshinski
Web Site Address www.stachowski.org
Party Affiliation Democrat
Party Endorsements Received Democrat, Conservative, Working Families

Candidate Information

Current employment NYS Senator

Name of employer (if applicable) _____

Employer address: _____

Have you ever been elected or appointed to public office? Yes No

If yes, years of service and office(s) 7 years – County Legislator

27 years – NYS Senate

If no, have you ever run for an elected office? Yes No

Election year and office(s) _____

If you are (re) elected to office, list your top three priorities for your first/next term and why:

1. Cut property taxes.

2. Create new jobs utilizing economic development programs that work.

3. Cut unnecessary regulations and reduce burdensome paperwork.

What is the top issue employers in your district are facing? Increasing property taxes.

If elected, on which committees would you most like to serve?

1. I am currently the Ranking Democrat on the Finance Committee and hope to become the Chairman in 2009.

2. Rules, Racing & Wagering, Investigations, Insurance, Agriculture (2008)

NYS REGULATIONS		
Do you support legislation repealing or reforming NYS's Scaffold Law to allow juries to consider an employee's comparative negligence? If (re) elected, would you sponsor legislation repealing or reforming Scaffold Law? Comments: _____ _____	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES YES	NO NO
Do you support legislation reforming NYS's Taylor Law to make a municipality's ability to pay the primary determining factor? If (re) elected, would you sponsor legislation to reform the Taylor Law? Comments: _____ _____	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES YES	NO NO
Do you support repealing NYS's Wicks Law? If (re) elected, would you sponsor legislation to repeal Wicks Law? Comments: <u>I would continue to work at keeping it, but moving it in a progressive manner, with increased levels if possible.</u>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES YES	NO NO
FISCAL ACCOUNTIBILITY		
Do you support a cap on school property taxes at 4% or 120% of inflation, whichever is higher? Comments: <u>Already voted in favor of tax cap.</u>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES	NO
Do you support a cap on state spending? Comments: <u>We spend too much!</u>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES	NO
Do you support Governor Paterson's efforts to cut state spending by \$2.6B in FY 2008 and 2009? Comments: <u>I supported it, and have a plan for further cuts.</u>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES	NO
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT		
Do you support linking wage and apprenticeship requirements to economic development incentives? Comments: <u>I think as we reform incentives, we must consider ALL parties at the table</u>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES	NO

<p>Do you support maximizing replacement and expansion power generated at the Niagara Power Project for use within a 30-mile radius of the NPP for economic development purposes? Comments: <u>Have always been a proponent for an increased radius.</u></p>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO
<p>Do you support the use of Tax Increment Financing (TIF) as a means to spur brownfield remediation and redevelopment? Comments: _____</p>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO
<p>Do you support the state's renewal of the Empire Zone program when it is due to expire in 2011? Comments: <u>I believe there must be some reform to get a better outcome and less abuse.</u></p>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO
TAX REFORM		
<p>Do you support changing the standard deduction for people 18-25 to encourage young NYers to stay in NY? Comments: <u>Seems like a positive.</u></p>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO
<p>Do you support legislation allowing student loan interest to be deducted from taxable income statewide? Comments: <u>It would be helpful with the heavy debt associated with college loans today.</u></p>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO
HEALTH CARE		
<p>Do you support allowing self-employed individuals to deduct health care premiums from payroll taxes? Comments: _____</p>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO
<p>Do you support allowing tax incentives for the purpose of health insurance? Comments: _____</p>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO
<p>Do you support requiring employers to provide health coverage to their employees? Comments: <u>As long as we help them with credits or something similar.</u></p>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO

<p>Do you support using a payroll tax or employer "fair share" fee to finance a health care insurance program/plan? Comments: _____ _____</p>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO
<p>LEGAL REFORM</p>		
<p>Do you support tort reform legislation to protect small businesses from frivolous lawsuits? Comments: _____ _____</p>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO
<p>LABOR ISSUES</p>		
<p>Do you support lowering or eliminating the small business exemption (50 employees) to the Family and Medical Leave Act? Comments: _____ _____</p>	<input type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO
<p>Do you support legislation requiring employers to pay for employee sick leave? Comments: _____ _____</p>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO
<p>Do you support legislation requiring unions to notify its membership of their right to refuse to pay for union political activities? Comments: _____ _____</p>	<input type="radio"/> YES	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO
<p>Do you support allowing family-time (comp-time) that gives private sector employees the ability to choose time off instead of overtime pay? Comments: _____ _____</p>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO

OTHER		
<p>UB2020 is the Partnership's #1 economic development advocacy priority for the job creation and business investment potential it brings to the Buffalo Niagara region. Will you support the state policy changes and allocation of resources necessary to help UB2020 accomplish its goals?</p> <p>Comments: <u>Have been in full support since it was first presented.</u></p>	YES	NO
<p>Do you support the "Millionaire's Tax"?</p> <p>Comments: <u>Only as a last resort, with a sunset provision.</u></p>	YES	NO
<p>If (re) elected would you support legislation allowing a referendum for a state constitutional convention?</p> <p>Comments: <u>There already is a periodic process for a Constitutional Convention.</u></p> <p>If (re) elected, would you sponsor such legislation?</p> <p>Comments: _____</p>	YES	NO
<p>Do you support expanding the "Restore New York" program to recognize smaller communities and communities that have experienced high levels of population loss and higher proportions of vacant and blighted property?</p> <p>Comments: _____</p>	YES	NO
<p>Do you support recapitalization of the NYSDEC Environmental Restoration Program?</p> <p>Comments: _____</p>	YES	NO
<p>Do you support reducing cities' reliance on state aid by allowing utilization of revenue opportunities that do not burden taxpayers, such as authorization for a red light camera system and elimination of the state practice of sharing certain locally generated revenue streams, for example, motor vehicle moving violations, marriage licenses and handicapped parking fees?</p> <p>Comments: <u>I don't really support red light cameras, but I'd look favorably on everything else.</u></p>	YES	NO

List reasons employers should support your campaign:

1. I have a great voting record on issues involving small business and have been endorsed by the NYS Business Council (only Dem. Senator)
2. I am positioned to greatly help WNY. _____
3. I am a fiscal conservative. _____

If (re) elected, what specifically will you do to help increase private sector investment and jobs in Buffalo Niagara?

(Please feel free to attach additional pages)

To increase private sector investment and job creation in Buffalo Niagara, I would propose the creation of a One-Stop Shop economic development center to centralize and improve access to information about federal, state, and local economic development programs, providing businesses with materials on everything from obtaining start-up funding to providing their employees with low-cost health insurance. This One-Stop would put Buffalo Niagara on track for economic growth by putting structure and organization where there currently is none. This proposal would help small and micro businesses get the information and resources they need to create real jobs and create a more effective use of economic development resources.

William T. Stachowski
Candidate

9/25/08
Date

I understand that the Buffalo Niagara Partnership considers the responses to this questionnaire to be formal policy positions and maintains the right to disclose responses for education purposes.

