

Sarah Lloyd

WI-06 Democrat for US Congress

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### **1. If the Republicans retain control of the House, how would you work with the majority?**

Bipartisanship is often presented as a desired process or outcome. I agree with this, but in order to have bipartisanship you need the other side to also be willing to come to the table in good faith. It takes two to tango. With that said, of course to get anything done in Washington DC and to move away from the obstructionist rut that we are in, we will need to work diligently and methodically to find common values and things that can be moved forward. We do have an opportunity to begin to chip away at some of the economic inequalities that have been structurally created and maintained through tax breaks and tax loopholes, bailouts of entities too big to fail and unfair trade deals. With both the Bernie Sanders campaign and the Trump campaign issues of economic inequality have come to the fore. This is an opportunity to strategically bring resolutions and legislation to Congress and have both Democratic and Republican legislators address the structural issues creating the inequality. One opportunity right now is, for example, the Trans-Pacific Partnership. There is increasing skepticism towards the actual benefits of these trade deals. I would work to rally a bipartisan rejection of the TPP and use this as a base for additional work with the other side of the aisle.

### **2. What do you think is the biggest issue in your district and why?**

In the 6th Congressional District and across Wisconsin we see that the economy is leaving many people behind. Powerful economic interests control the economy and we see an increasing and dangerous gap between those in control and the rest of the population. This inequality is caused by and in turn causes by the hijacking of democracy by these same powerful special interests. My husband and I dairy farm with his family and we can attest to the fact that the economy is not working for people in the 6th Congressional District. Washington has allowed special interests to create a rigged economy, which does not allow small business owners like us to succeed. The economy is not supporting small businesses, it is not supporting workers, and in turn not supporting families and communities.

This economic inequality and withering of the core of democracy has been caused by systematic failure to invest in infrastructure that would support a broad base of the economy, instead investments have been steered to the powerful economic interests. In addition tax breaks and tax loopholes have been instituted or in the case of many loopholes, ignored, so that again the powerful interests can accumulate vast amounts of wealth to the detriment of the many. This situation has been co-created by an erosion of the basic democratic structures of our country. We have seen voter suppression and disenfranchisement overtly instituted, as well as a continual circus of distractions designed to draw attention of the voter away from their rights and responsibilities as citizens. These distractions have been facilitated and amplified by the media, which itself is now controlled by the powerful economic interests and is not serving its purpose of informing people of what is really going on.

An output of this is that as a state and a nation we have been fed the idea that we are broke and we can't afford to invest in our families and communities. If elected I will stand up to the powerful interests in Washington and fight for a vibrant economy in which everyone is supported. Wisconsin, and especially the 6th CD, has great opportunity in its agricultural and manufacturing sectors to build fair markets and solid supply chains, which can once again be the engine of community wellbeing. We can create jobs by investing in our infrastructure at the local, county, state and national level. We can re-localize our economy with agriculture, manufacturing, and renewable energy at the base.

### **3. What is your approach to the federal budget raise taxes? Cut spending?**

As described above, we have gotten to this place of dangerous economic inequality because of tax breaks and tax loopholes afforded to the powerful. And this has been exacerbated by a systematic defunding of spending on important infrastructure by the government to support our families and communities, to support an economy that will provide equal access to opportunity for all. To remedy this we need to rescind the tax breaks to the powerful people and corporations and close the tax loopholes. This will bring money into the government that can be spent on the critical infrastructure building and re-building that must take place. I would increase investment in schools (K-12 and colleges and universities), worker training, roads, rails, trails, renewable energy, etc. Another piece of critical infrastructure is health care for all. Small businesses, families and communities would have the dark cloud of unequal and uncertain access to affordable health care lifted with a transition to a single-payer system. Besides creating a more secure space for people it would also be a great boost to the economy by lessening the drag of health care costs and uncertain access. At the same time I would work to reduce spending on our military. By eliminating sweetheart tax deals for the powerful people and corporations and closing loopholes and strategically reducing spending on our military we can build a robust economy that works for the many and not the few.