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Q1

About Candidates

Candidate Name John R. Bradford, III

District NC House - District 98

Party Affiliation Republican

Campaign Website https://www.electbradford.com/

Q2

Q1. Please tell us about your personal experiences with nonprofits. These may include experiences with any organizations that have served you and/or fellow residents of your community, or specific nonprofits for which you've served as a board member, staff person, volunteer, or donor. How do these experiences shape your policy positions? (Limit: 300 words)

I am a staunch supporter of non-profits and have been engaged with many in our area. I have served as a Board member for the Cornelius PARCS Department as well as the Lake Norman Chamber of Commerce. I have been a multi-year volunteer and personal donor for Big Day at the Lake which raises money for United Way of Central Carolinas' Big Brother Big Sister program. I am very engaged and involved as a donor and volunteer within the Down syndrome community. I have personally donated to these causes and, as a legislator, secured state funding for three different Down syndrome-related non-profits in NC: GiGi's Playhouse Raleigh, NC Down Syndrome Alliance and GiGi's Playhouse Charlotte. I made a significant personal donation to become a member of the Founder's Society of the Cain Center for the Arts. I also secured over \$2.5M in funding for the Cain Center of the Arts in our state's budget. When COVID negatively impacted Davidson Community Players I sought and secured \$100,000 for their program to help them get back on their feet and on stage. Lastly, I helped secure \$10M in state funding for the soon-to-be-built Charlotte Aviation Museum which will showcase NC's commitment to aviation as well as host the Miracle on the Hudson airplane. I believe that giving back is essential to one's quality of life. Giving back takes many shapes such as advocacy, volunteering, or financial support. I was raised to always try and help others, when possible. I am teaching my children the same values by ensuring they, too, are involved with various meaningful non-profit organizations.

Q3

Q2. If elected, what would be your top three policy priorities? (Limit: 250 words)

If re-elected, my top three priorities are:

1.) Economy: I will continue my work to help reform burdensome regulations and reduce taxes to help solve the supply-chain issues driving inflationary costs for consumers. 2.) Education: I will focus on making our schools safe and make investments in safety improvements while also establishing a task force of mental health care providers to retool state services for at-risk children. I have always been a leader for better teacher pay and have voted for teacher pay raises every single year of my elected service. I will continue to support teacher pay during my next legislative term. 3.) IDD: I will continue my advocacy and funding efforts for the IDD community such as individuals with autism and Down syndrome. My specific focus is on non-profit and private-public-partnership programming for independent living and employment. For example, I have already hired 4 different individuals with Down syndrome to work in my office as legislative interns and I plan to continue leading by example by hiring more legislative interns in the future.

Q4

The Center advocates on public policy issues that affect North Carolina's nonprofit sector and works with the NC General Assembly and North Carolina's members of Congress to develop laws and policies that save nonprofits time and money, help nonprofits operate more effectively, and preserve the public's trust in North Carolina's nonprofit sector. Our policy agenda includes: Ensuring that all 501(c)(3) nonprofits are fully exempt from federal, state, and local taxes. Promoting new and expanded tax deductions and credits that encourage individuals and businesses to give generously to support their communities through the work of charitable nonprofits. Supporting policy solutions that will address the nonprofit workforce shortage, including increased funding to support jobs in the nonprofit sector and investment in accessible and affordable child care. Seeking solutions to long-standing challenges that nonprofits face when they provide public services through government grants and contracts, including late contracts, late payments, overly complicated application and reporting requirements, and underpayment for indirect costs. Promoting laws that will help nonprofits and businesses alike to provide affordable and high-quality health care and other benefits to their employees.Q3. If elected, which of these policy goals would you support most enthusiastically, and why? (Limit: 250 words)

I have supported tax-reform policies within NC to make sure our economy is business friendly to both for-profit and non-profit entities. I have helped lead the way to reduce taxes for individuals and businesses which creates an environment that fosters economic growth, sustainability and vitality. When we have a tax climate that offers low taxes it allows hard-working individuals to keep more of their hard-earned money and spend it as they see fit. This is notably important in the non-profit sector so that job candidates are willing to consider non-profit because they will take home more money each paycheck instead of paying higher taxes. My top three policies for non-profits are: 1.) Ensuring that all 501(c)(3) nonprofits are fully exempt from federal, state, and local taxes; 2.) Promoting new and expanded tax deductions and credits that encourage individuals and businesses to give generously to support their communities through the work of charitable nonprofits 3.) Supporting policy solutions that will address the nonprofit workforce shortage, including increased funding to support jobs in the nonprofit sector and investment in accessible and affordable child care. I support these policies because non-profits fill the gaps that private sector is often unable or unwilling to do. We need to make sure the playing field is level so that non-profits can compete with their hiring needs, benefits and more. We should preserve non-profit tax exemption status while also incentivizing more individuals and business to give to non-profits through a favorable charitable giving tax policy.