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Representative Marlin Stutzman

The third district of Indiana is expertly represented by congressman Marlin Stutzman. Stutzman hails from Howe Indiana, a mere seven minutes from my house. Howe is a very small town in Northeast Indiana and it could actually be classified as a village. He has been our representative since 2010, so he has served us proudly for two terms. District three stretches from the Michigan-Indiana line all the way down to Jay county, and from Kosciusko county to the Indiana-Ohio line. This is quite a large district for just one man, but he seems to manage just fine.

Although our district is quite large, it is not as diverse as you would think. Our population is 729,747 Indiana citizens, and only 6% of these people are African American. The Latinos have even less in our area with a whole 5.7%. With a dominating white population of 87.9% most are employed in the manufacturing setting, more precisely 26.9% of all Indiana people, and the second highest industry in Indiana is Educational services and Health Care at 19.3%. These jobs present households with an average household income of \$46,697. But not all families are lucky enough to earn that, some 11.3% fall under the poverty line in Indiana; and that number only rises in families with children. Those with enough money and aspirations can go on to college and get a higher education and even a bachelor's degree, like 21.1% of Indiana population.

Marlin Stutzman, along with almost all the other politicians, has a committee to put his website together for him, and they did a darn good job at that. In his biography section they emphasize his small town religious family origins as well as his family farm back home in Howe. Also in his bio they tell his story of how he came to be as well as what he has been, such as: Representative from 2002-2008, Senate from 2008-2010, and now Congressman. Stutzman has several awards in his name and he is not afraid to show us, like: “Small Business Champion of the Year,” “Friend of Farm Bureau,” and “Congressional Sentinel.” The pictures and images on his website also back up these words as well as add to them. It shows that he is a regular person, a simple farm man, a small town man, a people person, and a patriot. Another way to tell that he is a people person is his use of contact information and social medias such as: three different office addresses, email, “Hoosier Solutions” forum, Newsletters, Twitter, Facebook, Youtube, and RSS Feed. This way we can always stay connected with him, and he can always stay connected with us.

“It’s simple: Farm policy and food stamp policy are different. Washington should consider them separately.” This quote was taken right from Stutzman’s website and it emphasizes one of his main issues, Agriculture/Environment. He thinks that Farmers are the backbone of the Hoosier economy; they are responsible for putting food on Hoosier tables. His second main issue is that of the 2nd amendment. He is a strong supporter of the 2nd amendment, and thinks that it is a total violation of our rights to take it away and/or amend it. Because of his beliefs he serves on multiple committees such as: House Financial Services, Domestic Monetary Policy and Technology, and Financial Institutions (and Consumer Credit). His beliefs and ethics as a politician also lead him to sponsor multiple bills such as H.R. 3501 and H.R. 4811. H.R. 3501 was a bill that Stutzman got passed on August 10, 2012. This bill was to designate the

facility of the United States Postal Service located in Rome City, Indiana as the “SPC Nicolas Scott Hartge Post Office.” This was a local bill, but it was admired by all. The next bill H.R. 4811 is still pending and it is a bill to provide for a notice and comment period before the bureau of consumer financial protection issues guidance, for all other purposes. Marlin Stutzman's effectiveness as a congressman is very, very good. He exceeds expectations and has a rating of 1.564 when acceptable is anywhere from .5-1.5.

Elections and campaigning are very expensive. That is why politicians must raise as much money as possible if they want to be successful. In the last two election cycles Stutzman managed to raise \$2,260,100. Of this massive amount of money 54% came from PACs (Political Action Committee) and 45% came from individual donors. Also, Marlin Stutzman didn't just limit his fund raising to Indiana because 11% of his total raised came from out of state donors. The two top contributing interest groups for Stutzman in the most recent election were Triton Energy and Every Republican is Crucial PAC. Triton Energy was first with donations adding up to \$21,500, and Every Republican is Crucial PAC was second with donations adding up to \$15,000. In the most recent competitive election the incumbent spent \$806,800 and his opponent spent \$42,700 on campaigning and various other expenses. Stutzman's ratings are only going up because he is doing everything in his power to aid with what the majority of Hoosiers want and what his donors want.

Marlin Stutzman will get re-elected. His ratings are unbelievably high for a congressman, and he has only gone up since assuming office. I would definitely vote to re-elect him because he is very familiar and his views coordinate with mine very well. He has been doing a fantastic job as our (the third district) congressman, and that shows with his rating level. Being a small-town

farm man I can relate to him in many ways, and this is what first grabbed my attention about him.

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