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# Thinking About Voting for Bruce Rauner? Think Again

by Barbara Altman

Change has allure.

It buoyed Barack Obama into the White House in 2008.

But change doesn't always make things better.

Remember when the Speaker's gavel changed hands in 2010?

Be assured, whatever prospects for change Bruce Rauner is dangling in front of Illinois voters, a change from Quinn to Rauner would be a change for the worse—right up there with the change from Pelosi to Boehner.



*So just what kind of change would Bruce Rauner bring were he governor?*

To answer this question, we searched for clues from his politics (i.e., party affiliation), his record of public service (if any), his website, his choice of running mate, his public statements, and his biography. What  
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# Tenth News

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OCTOBER 2014 Illinois Tenth Congressional District Democrats Newsletter Volume 11, Edition 10

## A Mother Votes For Quinn

by Eleonora di Liscia

In September, my husband and I brought our teenage daughter to college, launching her into a new phase of her life brimming with both promise and, yes, fear.

Promise because of all the opportunities ahead of her. Fear, because I can no longer protect her. And as I let go, I hope that my daughter will be safe. I hope that my daughter will be wise.

But if she is not safe or she is not wise, I hope that my daughter will be allowed to make decisions about her own body and what she wants for her own precious life. That if she should become a victim of either her own bad judgment or someone else's bad intentions, my daughter will not in turn become a victim to her own biology.

Further, I hope my daughter will find her own special path through life. And when she does, I hope that she will have the same opportunity for success as her male classmates.

If my daughter should decide that her happiness lies with a same-sex partner, I hope she will be able to marry the person she loves just as she could a partner of the opposite sex.



*Gov. Quinn signs a referendum for the November 4 ballot affirming a woman's right to access basic healthcare without interference from her employer.*

If my daughter starts a family, I hope that she will not be forced to choose between her health, her child, and her profession. That an employer will not force her to work longer hours than a pregnant woman, let alone anyone, can stand, for fear of losing her job.

And that is why I, her mother, will vote for Governor Pat Quinn.

Governor Pat Quinn has been termed the "greatest champion of women and children of any sitting governor." Governor Quinn has fought for laws that allow me as a mother to rest easier at night,

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**See page 7 for 21 Reasons to Re-Elect Brad Schneider**

**Also, find stories and photos from TDU classes featuring candidates Jason Patt and Mike Frerichs starting on page 8**

laws that allow my daughter to reach for all the good things I want for her.

Governor Quinn fully supports a woman's right to make decisions about her own body. He supports Planned Parenthood and medically accurate sex education. He is 100 percent pro-choice at a time when many Republicans push legislation that requires a woman to undergo unnecessary and invasive medical procedures or allows a woman who miscarries to be prosecuted. Under Governor Quinn, she will not face the Kafkaesque laws of states like Mississippi, Kansas, Virginia, Arizona and Texas.

Governor Quinn supports women in the workplace. He fought to bring Illinois in line with the Lilly Ledbetter Act, allowing victims of pay discrimination a more reasonable time frame in which to bring suit. He is a leading advocate of earned sick leave for Illinois workers, 78 percent of whom are working mothers.

With Governor Quinn's help, Illinois became the 18th state in the union to legalize same-sex marriage.

For pregnant women, Governor Quinn promoted legislation that required Illinois employers to make reasonable accommodations for pregnant workers so that women will not have to choose between their health, their babies' health, and their jobs. He launched the Birth to Five initiative, providing prenatal care and early childhood support.

Governor Quinn also advocated laws to help victims of sexual trafficking rebuild their lives and to help victims of sexual assault.

As the mother of a teenage daughter, I know that I am not the only one concerned for her well-being. I know that Governor Quinn cares about her and other young women like her.

Am I still afraid for my daughter? Of course. But at least I know Governor Quinn is a partner in helping her meet life's challenges. **TD**

## Twenty Reasons To Vote For Governor Pat Quinn

by *Eleonora di Liscia*

I have a confession to make. I have had a secret crush on Governor Pat Quinn since 2004.

Back then, a developer wanted to build 50 luxury homes on what would become the Plum Island Eagle Sanctuary, practically inside Starved Rock State Park. The island is a prime winter roost for Bald Eagles and in view of the park's visitor center. But Lt. Gov. Pat Quinn, along with the Audubon Society, spearheaded opposition to the project. That's when he got my attention.

Now the island is a sanctuary instead of another piece of paradise lost.

Since then, Gov. Quinn has struck me as a man who is not afraid to make the hard call over the politically expedient one. He actually proposed raising taxes during his 2010 election. How many politicians would risk that?

And there's so much more:

1. With Gov. Quinn's support, Illinois was the 16th state to legalize same-sex marriage.
2. Gov. Quinn has been recognized as the most women-and-children-friendly sitting governor in the U.S.
3. He fought to bring Illinois in line with the Lilly Ledbetter Act, allowing victims of pay discrimination a more reasonable time frame to bring suit.



*Tenth Dems volunteers Hon. Karen McCormick, Pat Lind, Founding Chair Hon. Lauren Beth Gash, and Deputy Intern Coordinator Daniel Berkowitz with Gov. Pat Quinn in Springfield a few weeks ago.*

4. Gov. Quinn avidly supports Planned Parenthood. He pushed for the Comprehensive Sexuality Education Bill requiring public schools to provide medically accurate information to teens.
5. He launched the Birth to Five initiative providing prenatal care and early childhood support.
6. Gov. Quinn is a leading advocate of earned sick leave for Illinois workers, 78 percent of whom are working mothers.
7. He launched the first ever Women Business Owners Symposium.
8. Gov. Quinn completely supports a woman's right to make decisions about her own body.

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## 20 Reasons for Quinn *continued from page 2*

9. He promoted and signed the law requiring Illinois employers to make reasonable accommodations for pregnant workers so that women will not have to choose between their health, their babies' health, and their jobs.
10. The Illinois Education Association and the Illinois Federation of Teachers (IFT) endorsed Gov. Quinn. The IFT called him "the only candidate with a commitment to ensure that all students have the resources to succeed from their first day of school through college graduation." In contrast, the IFT expressed "outrage over Bruce Rauner's efforts to demonize teachers and public employees and dismantle the unions who fight for our rights and the communities we serve."
11. The Illinois Teamsters Union has endorsed Gov. Quinn, calling Illinois a "battleground for workers' rights this November....The Teamsters know Pat Quinn is the leader workers across Illinois need right now. He is committed to the future of organized labor and he understands its role in rebuilding America's middle class."
12. Gov. Quinn has worked to support the Illinois Dream Act, which makes scholarships, college savings, and prepaid tuition programs available to undocumented students who graduated from Illinois high schools.
13. He advocated and signed legislation to protect migrant workers from unsafe working and living conditions in migrant labor camps.
14. Under Gov. Quinn, Illinois became the first state to ban the manufacture and sale of personal care products containing microbeads, such as facial scrubs. The toxic beads have been piling up by the millions in Lake Michigan and other waterways.

15. While fracking is not one of our favorite things, the oil industry has rushed to fund conservative Republican

challenger Bruce Rauner while shunning Gov. Quinn. Apparently, the governor isn't moving fast enough for them. "The oil industry is beside itself with Pat Quinn," said Republican State Representative David Reis.

16. Gov. Quinn has pushed to increase the Illinois minimum wage, even pressing to include a minimum wage referendum on this fall's ballot.
17. Gov. Quinn supports healthcare reform, even its expansion. (As opposed to Republicans who want to kill, kill, kill.) He supported a law enabling the state to issue volunteer licenses to healthcare workers, such as retired doctors, in order to expand healthcare access for the poor.
18. Gov. Quinn invests in job creation and infrastructure. He recently invested \$102 million in upgrading the high-speed railway line between Chicago and St. Louis.
19. Republican governors want to take voting rights back to the 18th century when only white, male property-owners could legally vote. In contrast, Gov. Quinn supported and signed legislation making it easier for Illinois voters to exercise that most fundamental right. The new bill allows same-day voter registration, removes voter identification restrictions, and expands the early and grace period voting, among its many other reforms.
20. Gov. Quinn supports the Illinois Right to Vote Amendment on this fall's ballot which prohibits voter discrimination, helping to plug the loophole left when the U.S. Supreme Court overturned a key portion of the Voting Rights Act.

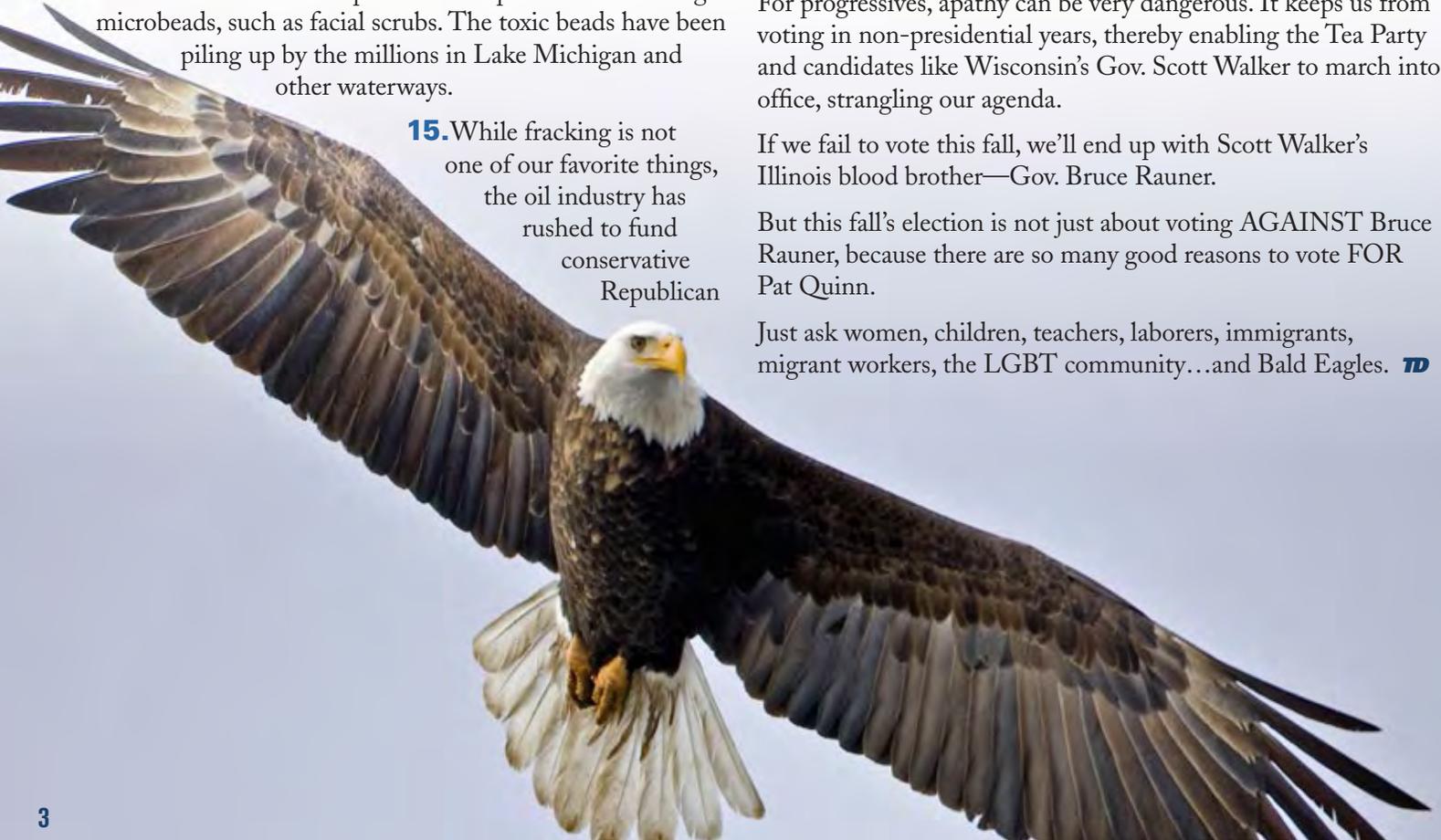
Now, doesn't any of this get you just a little bit excited?

For progressives, apathy can be very dangerous. It keeps us from voting in non-presidential years, thereby enabling the Tea Party and candidates like Wisconsin's Gov. Scott Walker to march into office, strangling our agenda.

If we fail to vote this fall, we'll end up with Scott Walker's Illinois blood brother—Gov. Bruce Rauner.

But this fall's election is not just about voting AGAINST Bruce Rauner, because there are so many good reasons to vote FOR Pat Quinn.

Just ask women, children, teachers, laborers, immigrants, migrant workers, the LGBT community...and Bald Eagles. **TD**



## *Thinking About Rauner?* continued from page 1

we found was your garden-variety Republican who, if he were to attain office, almost certainly would govern in the mold of Wisconsin's Scott Walker and Michigan's Rick Snyder, Republican governors whom he has said he admires.

**What about Rauner's record?** Bruce Rauner has no record of public service. He is a self-congratulatory political outsider who has never so much as sat on a local school board. He offers voters no history of public policy implementation or legislative votes by which to evaluate him.

Rauner is a Republican. If, as your reading this newsletter



suggests is the case, you are a proponent of Democratic values, Rauner's party affiliation tells you nearly all you need to know about him. (See "Vote for the Party, Not the Person," *Tenth News*, August 2014.)

**What can we glean from Rauner's campaign website?** Much of what can be found on Rauner's official website is generalization and platitude and empty slogans like "Shake up Springfield" and "Bring Back Illinois." Rauner also invokes the usual Republican bogeymen. For example, with a silent nod to Scott Walker, Rauner stokes anti-union sentiment, proclaiming in Republican-speak, "Government union bosses and trial lawyers run this state. They wholly own the Democrat Party...."

Rauner lists six issues on his website: Jobs, Spending, Taxes, Government Reform, Pension Reform, and Education. Regarding "Government Reform," he says he will "[c]ontrol spending, because bigger government means more corruption." Which leaves open the real questions (which Rauner never addresses): Just what should government spend taxpayers' money on? And how would less spending improve services? And just what "corruption" is he talking about?

Another ingredient in Rauner's recipe for government reform is "Limitations on government-employee unions"—a point right out of Scott Walker's playbook.

More standard Republicanisms abound when Rauner addresses his other issues. To attract more jobs to Illinois, he proposes lowering personal income taxes (along with an unspecified

"overhaul of the tax code" to make it "fair"); tort reform; and "right to work zones," (i.e., union-free zones).

Regarding spending, he says he advocates "pension reform" and "accountability." Who doesn't? But as with his so-called plans for tax reform, Rauner remains silent on exactly how he would achieve either goal.

Rauner's formula for improving education includes subsidizing private schools at the expense of our state's public school system. No wonder teachers' organizations are endorsing Governor Quinn.

**What else has Rauner said about issues?** Rauner would have vetoed the marriage equality legislation that Governor Quinn signed into law. He also would have vetoed legalization of medical marijuana.

A supporter of assault weapon ownership, Rauner advocates for "gun rights," not gun safety: "I am a gun owner and a hunter and a gun rights supporter," he said. "I believe we are long overdue to have a gun rights bill in Illinois."

Rauner has proposed reducing Illinois' minimum wage by one dollar an hour, to match the current federal minimum wage of \$7.25.

Although in July he wrote an op-ed about the need for the federal government to reform our broken immigration system, Rauner previously donated \$400,000 to the right-wing anti-immigration activist who led the fight to defeat the Illinois DREAM Act that Governor Quinn recently signed into law.

We have not been able to find any Rauner statement about healthcare or early childhood education, two of the many issues on which Gov. Pat Quinn is particularly strong.

### **What does Rauner's choice of running mate tell us about him?**

Rauner's Lieutenant Governor designee is Tea Party Republican Evelyn Sanguinetti, a first-term councilwoman from Wheaton and a great fan of Texas Republican Senator Ted Cruz, the Tea Party darling who led the charge to shut down the government last fall because the President wouldn't abandon healthcare reform. One local news outlet likened Rauner's choice of Sanguinetti to McCain's choice of Sarah Palin. "On the issue of life...I must say, my mother chose me and she had me at age 15. For this reason, I am pro-life. I also believe in marriage with the traditional definition," Sanguinetti said. See <http://www.nbcchicago.com/blogs/ward-room/Rauner-and-Sanguinetti-in-Danger-of-Being-McCain-and-Palin-227820191.html#ixzz3AxLNz8Nq>

Rauner won't portray himself as a far-right candidate like Sanguinetti; but by selecting her as a possible successor-governor (remember how Pat Quinn first became governor), he is either way less progressive than he would have voters believe or is pandering to the Republican base without regard for the welfare of Illinois.

**What about Rauner's personal qualifications?** Well, we know that Bruce Rauner is very rich. We also know that he protects his considerable wealth by minimizing his income tax liability.

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## Thinking About Rauner? *continued from page 4*

Rauner argues that he is too rich to be corrupt: “I’m not interested in a political career and don’t need money from the special interests,” he says on his campaign website. Still, according to *Crain’s Chicago Business*, Rauner-the-outsider did not hesitate to use his political contacts to help get his child into Walter Payton College Prep High School.

Rauner calls himself a successful businessman and touts his “business experience,” along with his lack of government experience, as his major qualifications for governing Illinois. He claims that as a “political outsider” and “businessman,” he will run the state “like a business.” Some may conclude that a successful businessman would be a good steward of taxpayers’ funds. But government is not a business.

The goal of a successful business is to maximize profits for the owners, whereas the goal of good government is to provide services to the taxpayers.



Rauner may have a proven track record of generating profits for himself and his partners, but he has no record of furnishing quality services to consumers or anyone else. To the contrary, he made his money as a venture capitalist. His firm buys and sells businesses. Sometimes those businesses become more profitable by laying off employees; sometimes they become more profitable by offshoring operations; and sometimes, as in the case of some nursing homes Rauner’s firm invested in, they become

more profitable by degrading their services. None of this would qualify Rauner to serve as Governor of Illinois.

The only kind of change Bruce Rauner would bring to Illinois is the kind of change Mitt Romney offered the country in 2012. Change more solicitous of the wealth of the one percent than the aspirations of the middle class. Change more concerned with gun rights than the right to a decent wage, marriage equality, or affordable healthcare.

**Why would any progressive want to vote for change like that? TD**

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## The Republican War on Women Continues as Equal Pay for Women Remains Elusive

by Steve Gan

On September 16, Senate Republicans again blocked the Paycheck Fairness Act, a bill proposing to close the pay gap between men and women. This was the third time Republicans kept this bill from coming to the floor. And this time not a single Republican had the courage to cross party lines and vote to consider the bill.

For the record, Illinois Senator Mark Kirk, who doesn’t have to face the voters until 2016, was one of those gutless, party-line Republicans.

The Paycheck Fairness Act has one goal—equal pay regardless of gender. Simply put, women who perform the same job as men and have the same qualifications are entitled to be paid the same amount. Why is this something Republicans oppose?

Well, the sad truth is that I expect these kinds of political maneuverings by Republicans. Whether women deserve equal pay or not is completely secondary to the Republicans’ goal of voting against any legislation that could in any way enhance the favorability ratings of Democrats or President Obama.

Forget the fact that Republicans in the Senate (and the rest of Congress) must have wives, sisters, daughters, and mothers whom they love and cherish. Never mind that these same Republicans probably would feel disgust if their loved ones’ compensation was short-changed merely because of their gender. No. What’s most important is for Republicans to stand shoulder-to-shoulder and maintain a united front, regardless of whether that also means standing by while women are treated as second-class citizens.

Democrats point to statistics showing that women working full time earn, on average, 77 percent of what their male counterparts

earn. According to a Pew Research study, which is based on hourly earnings of both full- and part-time workers, women earn 84 percent of what men earn. Neither of these statistics is acceptable.

Women are more likely to have career breaks to care for children, something that can have a severe impact on long-term earnings. Again, according to the Pew Study, 39 percent of mothers say they have taken a significant amount of time off from work and 42 percent have reduced their working hours to care for a child or other family member. Roughly a quarter of women (27 percent) say they have quit work altogether to take care of family. Conversely, just 24 percent of fathers say they have taken a significant amount of time off to care for a child or other family member.

Whether women earn 77 cents to the male dollar, as the White House claims, or the figure is closer to Pew’s findings of 84 cents, the playing field is still not equal and the disparity is related to gender. To add insult to financial injury, recent cases have shown that women who ask for pay increases often don’t get them. What they get instead is criticism that they are “demanding.”

Republicans say they are in favor of equal pay for women’s work, but they haven’t articulated their alternatives to the Democrats’ bill. Instead, they say women are already protected and argue that the gap isn’t as big as the statistics say. But while it’s true that many factors go into the gender wage gap, discrimination almost certainly is partly to blame.

Unfortunately, until some Republicans agree to make Equal Pay a fairness issue rather than a political one, their party’s war on women will continue. **TD**

# Ex-Congressman Robert Dold's Voting Record on Women's Rights Disgraceful

One would expect that candidates for Congress use their websites to inform voters of their positions on key issues. Not former 10th District Congressman Robert Dold, who is challenging incumbent Brad Schneider in the November election, hoping to reclaim the seat he held for one term during the 112th Congress, which sat for the two years beginning January 2011. Ex-Congressman Dold conspicuously omits stating his position on some of the most important issues of our time, notably the environment and women's rights.

Last month, this column exposed ex-Congressman Dold's anti-environment votes during his term in Congress (See *Tenth News*, September 2014). This month, we turn the spotlight on Dold's voting record on women's rights, a record equally disgraceful. No wonder Dold's campaign website is silent about these critical issues.

Fortunately for Tenth District residents, Dold has a record. Informed voters may study his votes during his term in Congress by going to <http://votesmart.org/candidate/key-votes/116548/robert-dold#.VBerZmd0wdV>.

Or just read this column.

The bulleted list that accompanies this column shows how Dold spent his two years in Congress trying to help his fellow Republicans roll back decades of hard-won progress on women's rights. He voted repeatedly to restrict abortion rights and limit access to legal abortion; to allow health insurance companies to discriminate against women (by raising premiums or denying coverage); to weaken environmental laws that protect pregnant women; to eliminate women's access to maternal and preventive care; and to weaken programs that protect women from violence and discrimination. According to a report prepared by Democratic congressional staffers in September 2012, during the 112th Congress in which Dold served, the Republican-controlled "House passed an average of one anti-women vote for every week that it [w]as...in session..." votes

## ***Here is a sampling of some of the many anti-women votes Dold cast during his two-year term in the Republican-controlled House as the 10th District's Representative:***

- H.R. 1, H. Con. Res. 34, and H. Con. Res. 112: The 2011 Full Year Continuing Appropriations Act and the 2012 and 2013 Ryan Budget all allow health insurance companies to discriminate against women; cut women's access to preventive care; restrict access to legal abortion; cut key nutrition programs for women; block access to reproductive and maternal care services; undermine the Medicare and Medicaid programs; and weaken environmental laws that protect pregnant women.
- H. Res. 667: Prevents the House from debating and voting on the Paycheck Fairness Act.
- H.R. 3: The No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act prohibits private insurance companies from offering abortion coverage as part of any health plan that insures small businesses or individual beneficiaries that receive federal subsidies to pay for coverage, even if the business or women pay separately for the abortion coverage.
- H.R. 358: The Protect Life Act prohibits private insurance companies from offering abortion coverage as part of any health plan that insures small businesses or individual beneficiaries that receive federal subsidies to pay for coverage, even if the business or women



that the authors estimated constituted almost five percent of all votes taken (See <http://democrats.energycommerce.house.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Anti-Women-Votes-2012-9-5.pdf>).

In addition to supporting anti-women legislation, Dold voted with fellow Republicans to kill legislative proposals aimed at protecting women. Most notably, he voted against the Protect Life Act (H.R. 358), which preserves requirements that hospitals provide emergency abortions to women whose lives are in danger. Ex-Congressman Dold also opposed bringing the Paycheck Fairness Act up for a vote on the House floor.

These are just some of the reasons why we must come together in November to reelect Congressman Brad Schneider, who is truly committed to "protecting a woman's personal right to make her own choices about her health and well-being," as he proudly states on his website.

Expressing a deep respect for individual choice, Schneider explains his belief that the right to choose must remain a personal health decision a woman makes with her doctor and loved ones, without government intrusion. "We must vigilantly protect this right by ensuring all women have access to the comprehensive healthcare services they need," Schneider declares.

And voters in the 10th District "must vigilantly protect this right" by turning out to vote for Brad Schneider. **TD**

pay separately for the abortion coverage, and overturns requirements that hospitals provide emergency abortions to women whose lives are in danger or transfer them to hospitals that will.

- H.R. 2 and H.R. 6079: Both measures propose to repeal provisions in the Affordable Care Act (ACA, known as Obamacare) that protect women from health insurance discrimination and provide preventive care benefits.
- H.R. 1, H. Amdt 88: Prevents the EPA from enforcing regulations designed to protect pregnant women from exposure to mercury pollution.
- H.R. 1, H. Amdts. 95, 102, 104, 105, 138, 161, 165: All would eliminate funding for implementation of ACA (Obamacare) provisions protecting women against health insurance discrimination.
- H.R. 1217 and H.R. 4628: Both bills propose to repeal the Prevention and Public Health Fund, which promotes healthcare initiatives for women.
- H.R. 2550 and H.R. 2681: Both measures delay EPA regulations protecting pregnant women and women of child-bearing age from mercury exposure.
- H.R. 5652: Cuts women's access to preventive care and key nutrition programs and undermines Medicare and Medicaid. **TD**



# THE BRAD BEAT: Doubling Down – 21 Reasons To Re-Elect Brad Schneider

by Eleonora di Liscia

The number one reason to vote for Brad Schneider for Congress may be that he's not conservative Republican ex-Congressman challenger Robert Dold. But to say only that is to sell Brad short.

In his first term in office, Brad has demonstrated compassion and integrity.

He has fought tirelessly to promote the progressive principles that we believe in.

And the battle has not been an easy one since the radical right wing of the Republican Party has hijacked the democratic process. But Brad, and others like him, ensure that our progressive voices continue to be heard.

Here are 21 reasons to vote for Brad:

**1** Brad has been endorsed by a host of organizations that progressives love: the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, Planned Parenthood, Sierra Club, the League of Conservation Voters, NARAL Pro-Choice America, Human Rights Campaign, AFL-CIO, the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, and the American Federation of Teachers, among others.

**2** Brad has voted against the Ryan Budget every time. The Ryan budget would be devastating to the environment, seniors, students, hungry children, the middle class, and just about everything else progressives care about. In contrast, when Dold served in Congress, he voted for the Ryan Budget every time.

**3** Brad cosponsored a bill that would reverse the Supreme Court's *Hobby Lobby* decision that expanded the personhood of corporations to include religious rights.

**4** Brad was an original cosponsor of the Paycheck Fairness Act that would expand equal protections and close loopholes in the Equal Pay Act.

**5** Brad is a member of the Pro-Choice Caucus, protecting a woman's right to make decisions about her own body.

**6** Brad fought to overturn Citizens United, the Supreme Court ruling that equated money with speech, allowing corporations to pump unlimited funds into the political process.

**7** For the long-term unemployed, Brad pushed for better job training and got key provisions passed in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. The Act contains elements from Brad's own AMERICA Works Act and the Learn Act.

**8** Brad has advocated persistently for the long-term unemployed, voting to extend benefits. In August 2014, Brad hosted a hiring event to enable job seekers to meet with

potential employers, learn job-seeking strategies, and make valuable connections.

**9** For veterans, Brad introduced the GI Internship Program Act which creates a new internship option for post 9/11 GI bill recipients. A veteran can use his or her GI bill stipend to intern with a business.

**10** Brad supports equal marriage rights. He opposed the Defense of Marriage Act.

**11** Brad helped introduce the Employment Nondiscrimination Act (ENDA) that would end discrimination against LGBTs in the workplace. He also helped introduce a bill to allow same-sex partners to receive the same Social Security benefits as heterosexual couples. Concerned about bullying in the schools, Brad introduced bills to end discrimination and bullying against LGBTs there.

**12** Brad cosponsored reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act.

**13** For seniors, Brad cosponsored the Improving Access to Medicare Coverage Act, which would help Medicare patients get coverage of skilled nursing facility care. He also cosponsored the Social Security Fairness Act to repeal the government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions that unfairly burden those who devoted careers to public service.

**14** Brad is a proven leader in support of a strong U.S.-Israel relationship and is focused on preventing Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons.

**15** Brad has sided firmly with unions, a familiar Republican target. He voted against a bill that would cripple the National Labor Relations Board and against a bill that would allow employers to pay comp time instead of overtime.

**16** As a call to reduce gun violence, Brad hosted a roundtable with mental health experts and leaders from local law enforcement agencies and gun violence prevention organizations.

**17** Faced with a flood of unaccompanied immigrant children across the U.S. border, Brad voted against the Republican response, which was to reduce safeguards for victims of human trafficking. Brad also voted against Republican attempts to undermine the President's Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program (DACA).

**18** Brad cosponsored the comprehensive Border Security, Economic Opportunity and Immigration Modernization Act, which would provide a path for citizenship for the undocumented while strengthening border security and increasing visas for skilled workers.

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# Jason Patt, Candidate For Lake County Sheriff, Stars In CSI: Lake County

by Adrienne Kirshbaum

Jason Patt is running for Lake County Sheriff. Pop a ten-gallon hat on his head and he'd look at home on the sets of TV westerns like *Deadwood* and *Gunsmoke*. But on Tuesday evening, September 16, at the Flame Charhouse in Riverwoods, he proved that he belongs on a very different kind of TV show. Patt would be ideal as the star of *CSI: Crime Scene Investigation*. Before a fascinated overflow crowd, he talked about some of his experiences at crime scenes.

Patt, who may be the best-prepared man ever to seek the office of Lake County Sheriff, has been trained in many facets of criminal investigation. For example, he recently completed a course in entomology, which is the study of insects. Fans of the CSI series may remember that William L. Peterson's Gil Grissom was an expert on bugs.

For the last 18 years, Patt has served in law enforcement, first as an officer and then with the Lake County Coroner's Office as an investigator. He is also an eight-year veteran of the United States Navy. In his stint with the Lake County Coroner, he has investigated nearly 5,000 fatalities. These cases include traffic deaths, train accidents, fire scenes, firearm

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## Patt Stars in CSI: Lake County *continued from page 8*

related deaths, stabbings, drug overdoses, drownings, hangings, strangulations, and other acts of physical violence. Saddest among these are the deaths of children. Drug-related crimes are becoming more common in Lake County. Bone identification is an important part of criminal investigations, as are x-rays that can provide clues to understanding the circumstances of a crime.

Patt talked about three specific cases he has investigated and helped solve. One was the death of a pregnant woman in Deerfield who



including the victim's physician, thought that death was from the COPD. But Patt found a dead bee at the scene, which seemed suspicious, given that it was winter, so he



investigated further. It turned out that the decedent was allergic to bees, and after an entomologist was called in to do an insect study, it was determined that a bee sting was the cause of death by anaphylaxis. Patt's further investigation led to the discovery of a nest of German yellow-jacketed wasps attached to a heating element underneath the decedent's trailer.

As lurid as stories of a shooting, a fatal battery, and death from a bee sting may be, the most shocking moments of Patt's presentation came when he described the current state of the Lake County Sheriff's Office. Under the current Sheriff, the office has been plagued by lawsuits, with settlements costing

taxpayers millions of dollars. For example, a woman canine corps officer who was let go "to give the boys a chance" successfully sued for sex discrimination. And a suspicious death in the county jail, administered by the Sheriff's Office, is currently under investigation.

was shot by her boyfriend's ex-girlfriend. In that case, a friend of the shooter wore a wire and was able to get a confession from the shooter.

Another of Patt's cases involved a 64-year-old man who was a victim of road rage in Romeoville. When the two drivers confronted one another, the other, much younger driver punched the 64-year-old in the face, causing him to fall over backward and hit his head. Although the victim regained consciousness, he never recovered. After his death some months later, a neuropathology exam established that the fall resulting from the blow to the face was the cause of death. The attacker was found guilty of second-degree murder and sentenced to 18 years in prison.

In a third case, a 58-year-old man who suffered from COPD was found dead in his Beach Park trailer by his brother. Everyone,

As lurid as stories of a shooting, a fatal battery, and death from a bee sting may be, the most shocking moments of Patt's presentation came when he described the current state of the Lake County Sheriff's Office. Under the current Sheriff, the office has been plagued by lawsuits, with settlements costing taxpayers millions of dollars. For example, a woman canine corps officer who was let go "to give the boys a chance" successfully sued for sex discrimination. And a suspicious death in the county jail, administered by the Sheriff's Office, is currently under investigation.

In addition to his exceptional law enforcement background and experience, Patt has the intelligence and determination needed to clean up the Lake County Sheriff's Office and restore it to its critical role as an efficient and effective guardian of public safety.

The evening ended neatly, as most CSI episodes do. During the lively question-and-answer session, a 10-year-old boy in the audience asked Patt why he wanted to be sheriff. The candidate replied that he would like to keep the county safe for all its residents. That seemed to be a good answer to a very pertinent question. **TD**

# Meet Mike Frerichs, Candidate for Illinois Treasurer

Tenth Dems University's Meet-the-Candidate forum on Tuesday evening, August 26, featured State Senator Mike Frerichs, candidate for Illinois Treasurer. Mike spoke informally to the gathering, filling us in on his background and qualifications and telling us how he would improve the office of the Illinois Treasurer.

Mike Frerichs grew up in the small farming town of Gifford, Illinois. The son of two proud union parents, Mike learned from a young age about the importance of community service and Democratic values.

After graduating from Yale and spending some time abroad, Mike returned to rural Illinois. He taught at his old high school and managed a safety engineering company.

Mike entered public service in 2000, when he was elected to the Champaign County Board. From there he was appointed Champaign County Auditor. During the five years he served as Auditor, Mike worked hard to bring transparency and strong oversight to Champaign County's budget. He became a Certified Public Finance Officer and was awarded a Certificate for Excellence in Financial Reporting for his time as Auditor.

In 2006, Mike was elected to the Illinois State Senate to represent the 52nd District, which includes parts of Champaign

and Vermilion Counties. As a senator, Mike has worked tirelessly for Illinoisans on issues of economic development and government transparency.

As Chair of the Higher Education Committee, Mike worked to reduce disparities in education funding; as Agriculture and Conservation Committee Chair, he worked to provide financial assistance to Illinois farmers. Mike has also been a strong champion of the environment, advocating for the expansion of alternative fuel use and pushing for legislation to combat climate change.

As a member of the Green Energy Caucus in the General Assembly, Mike seeks to implement environmental improvements in a fiscally intelligent way. Mike also understands the difficulties that face small business owners in Illinois. As co-chair of a special committee designed to preserve and extend enterprise zones across the state, he worked to make sure Illinois local

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Join the Tenth Congressional District Democrats  
for our Annual Fall Fundraiser, presenting  
Congresswoman Tammy Duckworth  
Illinois 8th Congressional District

Thursday, October 23, 2014  
7:00 to 9:00 p.m. (buffet/cash bar)  
Hyatt Deerfield, 1750 Lake Cook Road  
(I-294 at Lake Cook), Deerfield  
SPACE WILL BE LIMITED



*Named a rising star in 2012, Tammy Duckworth is "well on her way to becoming a household name..."  
The Washington Post "Six Rising Stars Elected Tuesday" (Nov. 7, 2012)*

*"Duckworth tops the Democrats' list of lawmakers who could run for Senate in Illinois someday."  
Roll Call (Jan. 27, 2014)*

- Enrolled at Northern Illinois and worked on her Ph.D. until she was called to serve in Iraq
- Served in combat as a helicopter pilot in the U.S. Army
- Lost both legs and use of her right arm when her helicopter crashed after being hit by a missile
- Awarded a Purple Heart
- Appointed to the post of Director of the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs
- Selected by President Obama to serve as Assistant Secretary, U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs
- Served as a featured speaker at the 2012 Democratic National Convention
- Defeated Tea Party icon Joe Walsh in the 2012 race for Congress in the 8th District of Illinois
- Advocates in Congress for helping small businesses, investing in infrastructure, and improving the lives of our veterans
- Considered a leader on issues like a woman's right to choose, gun violence prevention, and protecting our environment
- Continues to drill as a Lieutenant Colonel in the Illinois Army National Guard
- Learned to fly a fixed-wing plane, took up scuba diving and skydiving, and twice completed the Chicago Marathon in an adaptive bike since being injured in combat
- Considered by many as the strongest Democratic candidate for a U.S. Senate race in Illinois in years to come
- Lives in Hoffman Estates with husband Bryan, a U.S. Army Major; expecting their first child in December

We also take pleasure in honoring:  
Terry Wrem Jones, Founders Award recipient;  
Joe Adler, Rosenblit Volunteer Award recipient  
Congressman Brad Schneider, Mikva Leadership Award recipient

For more information, or to RSVP: 847-266-VOTE (8683), [events@tenthdems.org](mailto:events@tenthdems.org), or [www.tenthdems.org](http://www.tenthdems.org).



(Host committee in formation.)



**19** Brad believes climate change is real and fights to protect the environment. He is a member of the Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition. He has called for urgent action on the National Climate Assessment, which detailed the impacts of climate change.

**20** Brad cosponsored a bill to protect the Great Lakes from invasive species. Brad also offered a measure to safeguard the Great Lakes from gas and oil drilling, as well as a measure to protect the Great Lakes and Ogallala Aquifer from pipeline spills by preserving important environmental reviews for new infrastructure projects and preventing companies with a track record of pipeline spills that result in environmental contamination from receiving special treatment to build additional pipelines.

**21** He's not Dold! But we think we've given you 20 good reasons beyond that. **TD**

**Mike Frerichs**

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businesses remain competitive with those in neighboring states.

Mike is running for Treasurer to restore the State's highest fiscal office to one of smart investment and transparency. He will push to make the Treasurer's Office work for Illinois taxpayers by intelligently investing directly in Illinois jobs. Mike will also be a strong advocate for ending corruption within the Treasurer's Office. And he plans to reinstitute a college savings program so that Illinois parents have the opportunity to invest funds that will pay for their young children's future college education. **TD**



Paid for by the Illinois Tenth Congressional District Democrats ([www.tenthdems.org](http://www.tenthdems.org)) and not authorized by any candidate or candidate's committee. Contributions are not tax deductible.