

Candidate and Campaign Information:

Candidate Name: David Segal

Campaign Address: David Segal for Congress
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Office for which you are running: Congress, District 1 Rhode Island

Date of Election: Primary: September 14 2010
General: November 2, 2010

Registered Political Party: Democrat

Campaign Manager: Rachel Miller

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Healthcare:

Do you support or oppose Medicare for All?

Yes

Comment:

Quality, affordable and accessible health care for every person in the country is a key tenant of healthy communities and economic well being. As a Rhode Island State Representative over the last four years I have consistently opposed and fought decreases in healthcare funding in our state budget. Additionally, when the state's Health Insurance Commissioner's Office was under attack in a budget year, I successfully organized my colleagues to ensure that Rhode Island's first state agency dedicated to healthcare system oversight retained the funding and resources necessary to carry out its mission to regulate insurers, protect consumers and actively engage health care providers.

As both a State Legislator and City Councilor over the last eight years I have never shied away from challenging big interests. I do not take corporate PAC money and I will continue to champion the vital needs of working families as a Representative in Congress.

Warfare:

Do you support reducing the military defense budget of all wasteful and unnecessary military spending and redirecting those funds to meeting human needs at home and abroad? Yes

Do you support the escalation of troops to Afghanistan as a means to ending our military involvement in Afghanistan? No

Do you support redirecting most of the war funding to the rebuilding of Afghanistan's infrastructure, including schools, hospitals and clinics, roads and utilities, and providing employment to Afghanistan's unemployed as means to end US military involvement in Afghanistan and stabilizing the country? Yes

Do you support closing all military bases in Iraq and bringing home all US troops and military contractors? Yes

Do you support a realignment of US policy towards Israel and Palestine to achieve a more balanced and fair approach between both parties? Yes

Comments:

Over the last eight years I have played an important role in Rhode Island's active community of peace activists. I have worked shoulder to shoulder with dedicated organizers, helping to restart the anti-war student group at Brown University, and attending meetings. As a legislator I have used my voice to bring public attention to our local anti-war movement and move forward a public conversation that prioritizes peace. My track record speaks for itself:

- While on the Providence City Council in 2003 I sponsored an anti-war resolution in 2003. One of my current opponents in the Democratic primary in this Congressional race, the Mayor of Providence, refused to sign our resolution.
- Providence was the first city in the country to divest from Darfur thanks to my efforts on the council.

I was a co-host of the founding of the J Street chapter in Rhode Island, and like J Street, I believe we must actively pursue diplomatic solutions over military force. Since I announced my candidacy for U.S. Congress I have actively refused AIPAC's request for meetings.

Economic Social Justice

Do you support the Employee Free Choice Act? Yes

Do you support the TRADE Act? Yes

Do you support Fair trade as opposed to Free trade? Yes

Do you support a budget freeze, which does not include military spending? No

Do you support President Obama's bi-partisan National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform, which some claim will be used to balance the budget by reducing the social safety net without reducing defense spending? No

Do you support prosecuting individuals for their participation in the Wall Street crash of 2008? Yes

Do you support tough new regulations on Wall Street like those in Glass-Steagall? Yes

Do you support efforts to limit corporate speech? Yes

Do you support gay rights to marry? Yes

Do you support gays openly serving in the military? Yes

Comments:

Throughout my career, I have been a true champion for working families and an advocate of social economic justice. From the picket line to the House floor I have stood up for a workers' right to organize, for fair trade and global justice and for an economy that works for everyone.

I have stood up to the big banks, fought foreclosures and predatory lenders. I have worked to strengthen and protect Rhode Island's social safety net, and brought increased scrutiny to tax treaties to fight good paying family wage jobs for Rhode Islanders.

I have stood soundly for equality for all, marriage equality and LGBT issues.

When the mayor wouldn't enforce rules requiring companies that benefit from taxpayer dollars to hire locally, I sued in court and won a victory for local workers. Recently, when the Providence Westin management cut worker pay by 20%, I announced a local-national coalition that pushed back, personally delivering

thousands of signatures to the management on behalf of the hotel's workers and worked with my colleagues at the State House to advocate for accountability on those workers' behalf. I passed an anti-sweat ordinance in the City of Providence and at every opportunity have made connections between and among local worker and social justice issues and global justice.

Elections:

Do you believe that every voter has the right to have his or her vote counted? Yes

In the case of a too close to call election, or evidence of election tampering, do you support a manual recount of the ballots? Yes

Will you support removing corporate control of elections by prohibiting closed-source voting machines? Yes

Do you support the 2009 Fair Elections Now Act? Yes

Comments:

I have been a strong and consistent voice to support reforming our elections to count every vote and increase every voice and in promoting action that removes the influence of big money special interests from our political process.

I helped to found FairVote Rhode Island and served as a senior analyst to the national organization. I have supported measures to promote clean elections in Rhode Island, played a critical role in the 2006 ballot measure that restores the right to vote to people as soon as they are released from prison, and sponsored many progressive electoral reform bills at the State House.

Accountability

Will you introduce a bill instructing the House Judiciary Committee to begin impeachment proceedings for Jay Bybee? Yes

Will you publicly lobby the chairs of congressional committees to restore the power of subpoena by use of inherent contempt? Yes

Will you vote No on bills that fund illegal activities, such as the war in Iraq, the war in Afghanistan, drone attacks, lawless imprisonment, warrantless spying, and torture? Yes

Will your answers to the questions above be alterable by pressure from the leaders of your party, your major funders, or the opinions of the corporate media? No

Comments:

Please see above answers.

Energy and Environment

Will you support Larson's America's Energy Security Trust Fund Act of 2009? Yes

Will you protect EPA's regulatory role? Yes

Will you support efforts to encourage a transition to a green and sustainable economy to create new industrial jobs and industrial innovation? Yes

Will you support direct carbon pricing and revenue recycling to households as the preferred mechanism to combat the climate crisis? Yes

Will you support efforts to eliminate mountain-top mining, oil-shale development, and Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS)? Yes

Will you support establishing and maintaining tax breaks or credits to taxpayers for upgrading the energy efficiency of their homes, appliances, and automobiles? Yes

Do you support the protection of American wild lands and species, and will you oppose efforts to open our pristine public lands to mineral and energy exploration, drilling, mining, and timber harvesting? Yes

Will you support the Red Rocks Wilderness Act? Yes

Comments:

I have a long history of passing legislation to create green jobs and protect the local environment both as a member of the Providence City Council and as a State Representative. As a councilman, I helped lead Providence to be the first capital city to commit to buying a significant amount of its energy from renewable sources, increased the city's fleet of hybrid public vehicles, and created the "Renewable Energy Task Force." Later as State Representative I passed "net metering" legislation which directly promotes the development of wind and solar energy installations and green jobs. And just last week I passed legislation to create a "climate change adaptation commission" to help Rhode Island determine how to effectively adapt to climate change and incentivize weatherization, energy efficiency, and renewable energy. I will continue my commitment to the environment and developing our adaptability to a green economy.