



2024
PRIMARY
CANDIDATE
INTERVIEW

**STATE SENATE
DISTRICT 37**

**RODRIC D.
BRAY**
Republican

Rodric D. Bray for State Senate

QUESTION 1:

What are the community's housing needs and how will you help address them?

There is a shortage of housing. That lack of supply causes prices to rise significantly.

In the last two years, I have supported and helped pass a bill, House Bill 1005, that provides money for communities to build infrastructure such as roads, water, and sanitary sewers. These are all costs that would be built into the cost of the home if developers had to build them. This should encourage more homes to be built at lower costs. I have also supported steps to decrease regulations in the housing sector to help keep costs down. Regulations can add as much as 20% to the cost of a home.

QUESTION 2:

How can you help employers address the affordability and availability of quality childcare?

Childcare is a serious challenge. Many cannot find it at any cost; when families can find it the cost is exorbitant. Families are left to decide whether one spouse should stay home due to that cost.

Indiana should not get into the daycare business. Private industry is to provide this service.

I helped make daycare a priority this session with SB 2. This bill addressed several needs including decreasing regulations and attempting to encourage employees to work in this industry.

QUESTION 3:

What one or two opportunities do you see for improvement in any state program, funding, or policy that could help grow and shape a quality workforce (e.g., quality of place, health, education, credentialing)?

Here are only a couple. We restructured Indiana's public health program and added about \$225 million new dollars in an effort to improve its delivery and make Hoosiers healthier. Admittedly, our overall health has not been where it should be. We also strengthened our mental health programs and provided more robust funding for them.

Finally, we are working to create a robust apprenticeship program for high school students so they can work and get credit at the same time. This helps employers and gets students ready for the workforce.

QUESTION 4:

How will you evaluate proposals to modify the Indiana tax code during the next legislative session? What proposals do you intend to champion or oppose?

I am proud to say Indiana's tax structure is perennially ranked as one of the top ten most competitive in the nation. We have cut or eliminated at least 15 taxes in the last ten years and each time the result has been more revenue.

In fact, we have cut income tax at least three times and by 2027 the rate will be down to 2.7%.

However, we are not done. I have set up a tax commission of experts to review all of Indiana's taxes. The commission's work should be complete for the 2025 legislative session.



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**JAY
HART**
Republican

A Better Option
hartforindianasenate.com

QUESTION 1:

What are the community's housing needs and how will you help address them?

Encourage custom home building.

QUESTION 2:

How can you help employers address the affordability and availability of quality childcare?

Simplify tax code, cut spending, and allow hard-working families to keep more of their own money. Providing childcare is not the role of government.

QUESTION 3:

What one or two opportunities do you see for improvement in any state program, funding, or policy that could help grow and shape a quality workforce (e.g., quality of place, health, education, credentialing)?

Shutting down illegal immigration will increase wages, reduce unnecessary burdens on public education, and public safety. Getting serious about Indiana's illegal immigration problem will also reduce crime and poisonous drugs. Indiana needs to mandate serious felony sentences for those who knowingly hire and house people who illegally enter the United States. Implement an illegal labor task force.

Takeaway incentives for companies that pump in cheap foreign products that attack local manufacturing and manufacturing wages.

QUESTION 4:

How will you evaluate proposals to modify the Indiana tax code during the next legislative session? What proposals do you intend to champion or oppose?

Simplify, simplify, simplify. The current tax code is complicated and benefits special interests while burdening hard workers and small business owners. Simplification will provide transparency and accountability.