

2024 PRIMARY CANDIDATE INTERVIEW

GOVERNOR

BRAD CHAMBERS Republican

Chambers for Indiana chambers for indiana.com

QUESTION 1:

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

As we grow the state's population and build an economy of the future, we need more housing available for our growing workforce. We have shortages in housing at all income levels across numerous communities in the state. I will modernize the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDA) and create a 10-year strategic plan to support the increased construction of all forms of housing across the state. I will also work with the state legislature to create a Revolving Down Payment Assistance Loan Fund, which can be repaid over 10 years or from the sale of the home in the first 10 years and evaluate expanding the definition of affordable housing to support the financing of newly constructed homes.

QUESTION 2:

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

Hoosier parents are a vital part of Indiana's workforce, and we must ensure the availability of quality and affordable childcare to allow them to return to work when ready. To address this issue, we will explore strategic expansions of all-day Pre-K for three- and four-year- old's, including potentially increasing the income eligibility level for state-funded Pre-K programs, and create a state-level childcare tax credit that requires recipients to work to be eligible to receive it. We also must reevaluate the bureaucratic red tape surrounding childcare and early childhood education – while prioritizing safety and well-being – and evaluate incentives for employer-sponsored childcare solutions.

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, credentialling)?

Education is our toughest challenge but also our greatest opportunity. We must improve educational outcomes because when students learn more, they can earn more. Currently, 20% of our third graders aren't mastering basic reading skills. We must ensure that we increase choice, make sure money follows the student, and require all students to read before leaving third grade to get these better outcomes.

We must also develop career pathways starting in 7th grade that inform Hoosier students of all their options for earning a great wage in Indiana. This of course includes college, but also includes trade pathways, pathways to technical degree programs, and even a civics pathway to police and fire careers.

QUESTION 4:

As you evaluate future development projects, what are the most important considerations in granting economic development incentives, and what types of incentives do you most support?

In my two years serving as Indiana's Secretary of Commerce for \$1 a year, I implemented a paradigm shift for the state's economic development strategy. No longer do we just accept the low wage projects that come to us. I lead Indiana to Play to Win in the global economy, focusing on projects with high wages and future focused industries that are good for Hoosiers and will keep our kids and grandkids here. As governor I will continue this strategy, incentivizing projects that bring our average wage above the US average wage and look to the future. I support a diverse tool kit of incentives that allow us to compete in the global economy and build an economy of the future for Indiana.

QUESTION 5:

How will you best advocate for the business community? And what do you need from the business community to be that advocate?

I will be the best advocate for the business community because I know what it is like to be an Indiana business owner. For 40 years I have been CEO of my real estate firm that started from nothing and now has grown into a nationwide company. I believe that small and medium sized businesses are the backbone of communities across our state. To support them, we must urgently reduce bureaucratic red tape and unnecessary fees. We will work to allow for the full expensing of short-lived capital investments and expand the Manufacturing Readiness Grant program to assist more small- and medium-sized businesses looking to increase efficiency by adopting new technology.



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CURTIS HILL Republican

Curtis Hill For Governor curtishill.com

QUESTION 1:

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

Homeownership is being hampered by high-interest rates and an unstable market. We will work with the various local communities and the federal government in a collaborative process, homeownership, and housing availability for Hoosiers. My economic plan includes a young earners tax credit and tax breaks for the elderly. These two groups face the hardest strain on homeownership under Bidenomics. Young earners will have more money in their pockets for down payments and monthly installments, while the elderly will have greater resources to stay in their own homes.

QUESTION 2:

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

Hoosiers are struggling to make ends meet, and the rising costs and unavailability of childcare just add to the burden facing Hoosier families. The government is not responsible for providing childcare for private-sector employees. Its responsibility is to dismantle the licensing and regulatory burden that prohibits new childcare providers from entering the market. If we want to lower the cost of childcare, we must cut the government regulations forcing childcare facilities to either close or raise prices to meet unnecessary government requirements.

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, credentialling)?

On day one, I will end the state Office of Equity, Inclusion, and Opportunity, which prioritizes skin color or sexual preference over the quality of performance. We do not need "check the box" social adjustment hiring. We need qualified and competent individuals in every position. My administration will increase education standards and opportunities and provide tutoring for all students who fall below academic standards, which will be disproportionately beneficial to students from marginalized communities.

QUESTION 4:

As you evaluate future development projects, what are the most important considerations in granting economic development incentives, and what types of incentives do you most support?

Whether a single company relocation or importation of an entire industry, it is important to consider cultural fit and the proposed beneficiaries. Development projects need to be reviewed with an eye on sustainability long after initial incentives have faded. New development projects and locations should not be prioritized over existing businesses, and the state should refrain from picking winners and losers. Priority should be given to projects aimed at improving distressed or marginalized communities that maintain our Hoosier values.

QUESTION 5:

How will you best advocate for the business community? And what do you need from the business community to be that advocate?

By establishing aggressive public safety improvements, education enhancements, and reducing excessive state regulatory burdens, Indiana's business climate will be primed for a robust free market economy. I have the background and experience to successfully take on these challenges and win. We need the business community to support my campaign and vote on May 7th. Supporting my campaign now will ensure that we get the government out of the way of small business owners.



2024 PRIMARY CANDIDATE INTERVIEW

GOVERNOR

JAMIE REITENOUR Republican

Jamie Reitenour for Indiana Governor 9801 Fall Creek Rd, PO Box 145, Indianapolis IN 46256 jamie4ingov.com admin@jamie4ingov.com

QUESTION 1:

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

Indiana is a generational state where we want to encourage good people to put down roots. They should not need to "pay rent" to the government for the rest of their lives on a property they've bought and paid for. Property taxes are increasing from rising assessments and school district referendums, putting pressure on homeowners instead of fiscal accountability on localities. The solution will require State AND local collaboration. I will take on property taxes from the ground up for all Hoosier homeowners. While finding State budget cuts to make up the difference, I'll work with the legislature to reduce property tax rates until we can achieve my goal of ZERO property tax on Indiana homesteads.

QUESTION 2:

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

Daycare is an enormous expense for workers, and Indiana Goodness opens the conversation for employers to consider on-site daycares as an employee benefit. Assistance with even a portion of daycare hours could be a tremendous help, as well as a benefit to attract qualified employees. Employers can consider hosting growth centers on-site, giving parents time during breaks to spend with their children, cultivating an environment of goodness for the workplace and the family. In its need for a quality workforce, the private sector, not the government, should lead the way in this endeavor. We will always support and uphold family and community, and encourage community involvement for parents who are in need.

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, credentialling)?

I'll bring a true conservative approach to all State programs; many have grown out of control in spending without a corresponding improvement in quality. Less government, more accountability, more transparency!

An overhaul of our state's failing public education system has been my campaign's #1 priority. We'll get back to basics, rooting out SEL and CRT, and rewarding teachers for excellent academic outcomes with their students. We won't treat every student as college-bound, but instead introduce trades, apprenticeships, and private sector partnerships that will encourage each student to meet his or her own potential considering their own aptitude. This is just the beginning of Indiana Goodness!

QUESTION 4:

As you evaluate future development projects, what are the most important considerations in granting economic development incentives, and what types of incentives do you most support?

My most important consideration in every decision will be Hoosiers! I am appalled to hear of farmers displaced against their will (like Link 101 and LEAP). IEDC politicians tout billion dollar company investments that will be "transformative," but at what cost? Major business deals, many international, are made behind closed doors by politicians with taxpayer money. This does not sound like conservative, Hoosier values!

Our generational farmlands are not economic development sites. Our rivers don't belong in pipelines. The government is safest in the hands of the people, and economic development is safest in a free market. I will reduce government involvement and regulation to invite industry in.

QUESTION 5:

How will you best advocate for the business community? And what do you need from the business community to be that advocate?

The Hoosier business community recognizes we need quality products and services. That quality is directly impacted by the ability to hire good employees. Indiana has to cultivate an environment for the best workforce. We will do it because we are a State that works, and we are going to overhaul public education to produce workers who are ready for their careers.

I'm a shoulder-to-shoulder leader. When there are problems affecting business owners, I will listen to them, and I will ask them to bring leaders to the table who are ready to take on those problems. We are the beautiful State of Indiana - we are NOT GOING DOWN TO THE POLITICAL ELITE IN BED WITH CHINA. We want our State back and we are willing to work to get it.