# **Todd's Platform**We have more in common than we have differences.

The United States of America is a great country, **BUT** our current Congress is broken and continues to fail us, over and over again, to act in the public interest. Corporate money flows around Washington DC, and works to distort what our priorities should be.

## The Rights of Women

-Humane reproductive laws will protect and improve the lives of Kentucky women and families (see Todd's op-ed on the website).

-Our nation's reproductive laws should recognize women as individuals and protect their constitutional right to privacy.

-All women, with the guidance of their doctors, make the best choices for themselves and their families.

## **Healthcare**

-Adoption of single-payer healthcare is the consensus of the country, but it will not pass given the current makeup of Congress.

-The Affordable Care Act (Obama Care) should be protected, coverage expanded, and out-of-pocket costs reduced.

-Since 2012, health insurance company revenues have increased by 300% and profits have increased by 287%.

-Health insurance companies use 20-30 cents of every healthcare dollar for marketing, salaries, administrative costs, and commissions.

-Kentucky families are hurt when health insurance companies ration and deny care.

#### **Fair Taxation and Protection From the Financial Sector**

-80% of Kentucky families live paycheck to paycheck.

-The poverty rate of the 16 counties of Kentucky's 6th Congressional District is 16%, and our child poverty rate is 23%.

-To reduce their cost of living, Kentuckian families should be able to deduct a portion of their rental payments from their income taxes.

-In 2021 consumers were charged \$14.5 billion in credit card late fees. Kentuckians should be protected from excessive fees and penalties.

-Payday lenders and the interest that they charge should be strictly watched and regulated.

-For Kentucky families to thrive, individuals needing an income, or wages to pay their monthly bills, should not pay a higher tax rate than those who enjoy capital gains, dividends, or interest income.

## The Environment

-The transition to renewable energy is in the public interest and should be a national priority.

-Burning fossil fuels pollutes the environment, warms the planet, and makes the average American hostage to Saudi Arabia and its oil monopoly.

#### **Decriminalization of Cannabis**

- -The disproportionate enforcement of cannabis laws has unnecessarily wrecked the lives of many Black Americans and their families.
- -The decriminalization of cannabis is the only course in a state where bourbon is the signature industry and where gambling is legal.

#### **LGBTO+ Folks**

-Our gay and trans friends deserve as normal a life as anyone.
-Democrats should lead by example when it comes to the safety and rights of LGBTQ+ folks.

The will of our country is clear: Women want control over their own bodies; No one should suffer and be left out of our healthcare system; We want protection from financial predators; We want a fair tax system; We want a clean environment; We want sensible gun laws; We want to rectify the harm that criminalizing cannabis laws have inflicted in our Black community; We want our LGBTO+ communities to live without fear and intimidation.

This is my idea of patriotism and love of country. If you agree then please join us.