

FRANK MRVAN in his own words ...



Climate Change It is regrettable that this needs to be said, but I believe in science and I believe in climate change. It is past time that the federal government recognizes the changes that are occurring in our environment and takes tangible action to begin to mitigate this crisis. As your Congressman, I will support the investments that are necessary to prepare for climate change and also enable the workers of Northwest Indiana and our country to produce the innovation and alternative energies that are necessary to address this threat.

Gun Law Reform More must be done to protect all Americans, children, and students from gun violence. There is a path forward to address this issue in a way that also respects the rights established in the Second Amendment. As a Member of Congress, I will work to find the common ground that we need to take action and protect every American from unnecessary gun violence. We must eliminate access to military-grade weapons that are used in wars, reduce the size of magazine clips, and require stringent background checks at all points of sale. It simply is not right that an individual can fire over 1,100 rounds from an assault weapon in under 11 minutes, resulting in 58 deaths and nearly 900 injuries.

Healthcare One of my main priorities as the Representative for Indiana's First Congressional District will be to improve access to affordable health care options. My North Township Trustee office has represented and advocated on behalf of thousands of people who came into my office struggling to secure access to quality health care. I know firsthand the struggles of vulnerable individuals in our region, including the elderly who are in need of assistance paying for prescription drugs, and I will work to enact legislation that creates an affordable public option and enhances health care for everyone.

Immigration As we have an international point of entry right here in Indiana's First Congressional District at the International Port in Burns Harbor, I believe we must remain an inviting country to all immigrants and refugees, and also know who is entering our country as a national security risk. As a Member of Congress, I would prevent the use of any funds to construct a wall on the southern border, and instead would aim to ensure that we keep the promise that our government made to Dreamers and also promote E-Verify requirements for employers to prevent the exploitation of undocumented workers -

Reproductive Rights I am a Pro-Choice Democrat and believe that the government should not intervene in a woman's medical decisions. As a federal Member of Congress, I will promote policies that support the reproductive rights of all women. We must do more to support the health of women and improve policies so they can make the best choices for themselves and their families.

Economy/Taxation/Structural Change As North Township Trustee, I have spent 15 years helping people find a good-paying job. My experience has focused on working to identify federal, state, local, private and nonprofit resources that allow Northwest Indiana residents to get a good-paying job, take care of their family, and succeed in a career that allows them to have a good quality of life. As Congressman, I will use my years of experience to continue to work with all stakeholders to create more economic opportunities for everyone and help retain and attract investments to Indiana's First Congressional District.

College Tuition/Student Loan Forgiveness/Public Education More must be done to make it easier for individuals to receive the education or apprenticeship programs they want that helps them reach their full potential. Student debt is a legitimate and growing concern for too many individuals and families in our region and throughout our nation. As Congressman, I will work to stop predatory lending and ensure that the federal government takes greater action to support robust student loan assistance and forgiveness programs.

Criminal Justice Reform/Racial Justice/Legalization As Congressman Visclosky mentioned during his Town Forum remarks earlier this year, racism exists in Northwest Indiana and there are systemic problems in our public policies that hinder the ability of minority communities to be healthy and economically successful. In the U.S. House of Representatives, I will lead by example to create a more just and tolerant society for all, and also promote good jobs, education, health care, and housing opportunities for all communities.

Corporate PAC Money? I am very concerned about the influence of corporate money in the American electoral process. I am opposed to the Supreme Court's Citizens United decision and believe that Congress must take action to curtail the use of corporate money. I would support the House measure, H.R. 1, the For the People Act, which would aim to address the Citizens United decision, increase transparency requirements for Super PACs, and prohibit campaign contributions from corporations with significant foreign ownership.

Statehood for DC and Puerto Rico? I believe that Rep. Visclosky has provided us with a model for how we must remain focused on the people and the economy of Northwest Indiana. Therefore, my priorities include creating more good-paying jobs in our region and increased access to affordable health care options for everyone. With regard to legislation on statehood for the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, I would further assess any legislation in its final form and determine how it could impact our region and the U.S. Constitution prior to taking a position.

Are you now or have you ever been a lobbyist? I am not currently a lobbyist, nor have I ever been.

Should lobbyists be allowed to run for public office? I applaud any individual who is willing to step into the arena and run for public office. It is ultimately up to the voters to decide upon the strength of their candidacy. To ensure that public officials are fully committed to being public servants and working solely on behalf of their constituents, I will continue to work in Congress to strengthen and expand transparency requirements regarding tax releases and financial holdings for all candidates for public office.