



# Health Care Voter Guide

For Champaign-Urbana Residents

**Your quick guide to the  
Tuesday, November 6, 2012  
Illinois General Election**



A special publication of  
Champaign County Health Care Consumers

*Remember to VOTE on Tuesday, November 6  
between 6:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.*

To find your polling place please contact:

**Champaign County Clerk's Office**

217-384-3720 or on the web at <http://www.champaigncountyclerk.com>

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[www.healthcareconsumers.org](http://www.healthcareconsumers.org)

## About This Voter Guide:

The 2012 Health Care Voter Guide is produced by Champaign County Health Care Consumers (CCHCC) of Champaign, Illinois. CCHCC is a non-profit, grassroots, citizen action organization dedicated to quality, affordable health care for all. CCHCC is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and does not endorse elected officials, candidates for office, or political parties. However, CCHCC does participate in voter education and encourages everyone in the community to exercise their right to vote.

We hope this Health Care Voter Guide provides local consumers with useful information on candidates' positions on relevant healthcare, social, and economic issues. Contact CCHCC for more information on these issues or for other ways to get involved.

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## About the Candidates:

CCHCC surveyed 7 candidates from the Champaign-Urbana area for this Health Care Voter Guide. CCHCC surveyed candidates running for U.S. House of Representatives, State Senate and State Representative. The candidates that were surveyed are listed in the table below, in alphabetical order by office sought.

<b>Candidate &amp; Affiliation</b>	<b>Office Sought</b>	<b>Completed Survey?</b>
<b>Candidates for U.S. Congress</b>		
Rodney Davis (R)	U.S. House of Representatives (IL – 13 <sup>th</sup> District)	NO
David Gill (D)	U.S. House of Representatives (IL – 13 <sup>th</sup> District)	YES
John Hartman (I)	U.S. House of Representatives (IL – 13 <sup>th</sup> District)	YES
<b>Candidates for State Legislature</b>		
John Bambenek (R)	State Senate (IL – 52 <sup>nd</sup> District)	YES
* Michael Frerichs (D)	State Senate (IL – 52 <sup>nd</sup> District)	NO
* Naomi Jakobsson (D)	State Representative (IL – 103 <sup>rd</sup> District)	YES
Robert Meister (R)	State Representative (IL – 103 <sup>rd</sup> District)	NO

*Please note: Some candidates provided further comments and explanations for their responses, or commented on the survey questions but did not check a response box. To see the full Health Care Voter Guide with candidates' comments, go to our website at [www.healthcareconsumers.org](http://www.healthcareconsumers.org).*

### Symbol Key

\* = Incumbent, D = Democrat, I = Independent, R = Republican

# Congressional Candidate Questions

\*Congressional candidates are running for U.S. House of Representatives for the 13<sup>th</sup> District\*

1. **If elected to office, would you work to maintain, weaken, or repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act – the national health reform law passed by Congress in March 2010?**

Candidate & Affiliation	Maintain	Weaken	Repeal	No Stance/ Undecided	No Response	Responded, Did Not Check Box
Rodney Davis (R)					X	
David Gill (D)	X					
John Hartman (I)						X

2. **Single-payer health care is a system in which the government sponsors health insurance, while health care providers (doctor, hospitals, etc.) remain in the private market. Do you support or oppose the passage of legislation that establishes single-payer health insurance in the United States, such as Medicare for all?**

Candidate & Affiliation	Support	Oppose	No Stance/ Undecided	No Response	Responded, Did Not Check Box
Rodney Davis (R)				X	
David Gill (D)	X				
John Hartman (I)					X

3. **Do you support or oppose privatizing Medicare by providing Premium Support Credit, commonly referred to as a “voucher,” to Medicare beneficiaries to purchase their health insurance coverage through either private insurance or original Medicare Plans?**

Candidate & Affiliation	Support	Oppose	No Stance/ Undecided	No Response	Responded, Did Not Check Box
Rodney Davis (R)				X	
David Gill (D)		X			
John Hartman (I)		X			

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# Congressional Candidate Questions cont'd.

4. Medicare is currently prohibited from using the bulk buying power to negotiate for lower drug prices for Part D recipients, such as how the VA operates. Do you support or oppose allowing Medicare to negotiate for lower drug prices?

Candidate & Affiliation	Support	Oppose	No Stance/ Undecided	No Response	Responded, Did Not Check Box
Rodney Davis (R)				X	
David Gill (D)	X				
John Hartman (I)	X				

5. Do you support or oppose privatizing Social Security?

Candidate & Affiliation	Support	Oppose	No Stance/ Undecided	No Response	Responded, Did Not Check Box
Rodney Davis (R)				X	
David Gill (D)		X			
John Hartman (I)		X			

6. Do you support or oppose raising the Social Security retirement age?

Candidate & Affiliation	Support	Oppose	No Stance/ Undecided	No Response	Responded, Did Not Check Box
Rodney Davis (R)				X	
David Gill (D)		X			
John Hartman (I)	X				

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# Congressional Candidate Questions cont'd.

**7. Do you support or oppose cutting Medicaid funding in order to balance the federal budget?**

Candidate & Affiliation	Support	Oppose	No Stance/ Undecided	No Response	Responded, Did Not Check Box
Rodney Davis (R)				X	
David Gill (D)		X			
John Hartman (I)	X				

**8. Do you support or oppose the Comprehensive Dental Reform Act of 2012, which would expand comprehensive dental coverage through Medicare, Medicaid, and the Veterans Administration, and increase community dental services?**

Candidate & Affiliation	Support	Oppose	No Stance/ Undecided	No Response	Responded, Did Not Check Box
Rodney Davis (R)				X	
David Gill (D)	X				
John Hartman (I)		X			

**9. If elected to office, would you work to strengthen, maintain, or repeal the President Bush tax cuts, which are set to expire on December 31, 2012?**

Candidate & Affiliation	Strengthen	Maintain	Repeal	No Stance/ Undecided	No Response	Responded, Did Not Check Box
Rodney Davis (R)					X	
David Gill (D)						X
John Hartman (I)						X

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# Congressional Candidate Questions cont'd.

**10. Do you support or oppose the "Buffet Rule," which would require the wealthiest Americans who make more than \$1 million to pay at least a 30% federal income tax rate?**

Candidate & Affiliation	Support	Oppose	No Stance/ Undecided	No Response	Responded, Did Not Check Box
Rodney Davis (R)				X	
David Gill (D)	X				
John Hartman (I)	X				

**11. If elected to office, would you work to strengthen or reverse the Supreme Court's *Citizens United* decision, which allows corporations to spend, without disclosure, unlimited sums of money on political advertising?**

Candidate & Affiliation	Strengthen	Reverse	No Stance/ Undecided	No Response	Responded, Did Not Check Box
Rodney Davis (R)				X	
David Gill (D)		X			
John Hartman (I)		X			

**12. Do you support or oppose the Student Loan Forgiveness Act, which would cap interest rates and payments on federal student loans, provide loan forgiveness after 10 years of repayment, and allow private student loan borrowers to obtain federal consolidation loans?**

Candidate & Affiliation	Support	Oppose	No Stance/ Undecided	No Response	Responded, Did Not Check Box
Rodney Davis (R)				X	
David Gill (D)	X				
John Hartman (I)		X			

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# State Candidate Questions

1. Do you support or oppose the implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act – the national health reform law passed by Congress in March 2010, at the state level?

Candidate & Affiliation	Support	Oppose	No Stance/ Undecided	No Response	Responded, Did Not Check Box
<b>State Senator</b>					
John Bambenek (R)	X				
*Michael Frerichs (D)				X	
<b>State Representative</b>					
*Naomi Jakobsson (D)	X				
Robert Meister (R)				X	

2. The Affordable Care Act mandates certain consumer protections, but much of the implementation is left up to the states, such as the establishment of a Health Benefits Exchange. The Exchange will provide access to affordable health insurance for individuals, families, and business starting in 2014. Gov. Quinn announced that Illinois will operate a federal-state partnership Exchange, but the state will need to decide whether or not to move to an entirely state-operated Exchange by 2015. Do you support or oppose an Illinois-controlled Health Benefits Exchange?

Candidate & Affiliation	Support	Oppose	No Stance/ Undecided	No Response	Responded, Did Not Check Box
<b>State Senator</b>					
John Bambenek (R)	X				
*Michael Frerichs (D)				X	
<b>State Representative</b>					
*Naomi Jakobsson (D)	X				
Robert Meister (R)				X	

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# State Candidate Questions cont'd.

**3. Do you support or oppose the state participating in the expansion of Medicaid eligibility (up to 138% Federal Poverty Level) and eliminating the categorical requirements to receive Medicaid (age and disability status, mothers with young children, etc.) outlined by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act?**

<b>Candidate &amp; Affiliation</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>Oppose</b>	<b>No Stance/ Undecided</b>	<b>No Response</b>	<b>Responded, Did Not Check Box</b>
<b>State Senator</b>					
John Bambenek (R)			<b>X</b>		
*Michael Frerichs (D)				<b>X</b>	
<b>State Representative</b>					
*Naomi Jakobsson (D)	<b>X</b>				
Robert Meister (R)				<b>X</b>	

**4. Single-payer health care is a system in which the government sponsors health insurance, while health care providers (doctors, hospitals, etc.) remain in the private market. Do you support or oppose establishing single-payer health insurance for the State of Illinois?**

<b>Candidate &amp; Affiliation</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>Oppose</b>	<b>No Stance/ Undecided</b>	<b>No Response</b>	<b>Responded, Did Not Check Box</b>
<b>State Senator</b>					
John Bambenek (R)		<b>X</b>			
*Michael Frerichs (D)				<b>X</b>	
<b>State Representative</b>					
*Naomi Jakobsson (D)	<b>X</b>				
Robert Meister (R)				<b>X</b>	

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# State Candidate Questions cont'd.

**5. Do you support or oppose the passage of state laws to regulate health insurance premium increases in Illinois?**

Candidate & Affiliation	Support	Oppose	No Stance/ Undecided	No Response	Responded, Did Not Check Box
<b>State Senator</b>					
John Bambenek (R)			X		
*Michael Frerichs (D)				X	
<b>State Representative</b>					
*Naomi Jakobsson (D)	X				
Robert Meister (R)				X	

**6. Do you support or oppose restoring pharmaceutical assistance for low-income seniors who lost their IL Cares Rx benefits?**

Candidate & Affiliation	Support	Oppose	No Stance/ Undecided	No Response	Responded, Did Not Check Box
<b>State Senator</b>					
John Bambenek (R)	X				
*Michael Frerichs (D)				X	
<b>State Representative</b>					
*Naomi Jakobsson (D)	X				
Robert Meister (R)				X	

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