

The Bagsby Plan: 22 Commitments for District 22

Leadership is responsibility — and District 22 deserves a fighter.

This is the plan I will take to the Indiana Senate.

1. Lead with Courage — Not Convenience

Leadership means taking responsibility when it's hard.

- **No abstaining on tough votes:** Commit to voting on hard issues, not ducking them. Voters deserve to know exactly where their senator stands.
- **No disappearing** when leadership is needed: Show up in the community, at hearings, and on the Senate floor — especially when the issues are controversial.

No bending to the establishment: Put the people of District 22 first — not party bosses, lobbyists, or political insiders.

2. Secure Our Communities

I will make public safety the first duty of government.

- **Back law enforcement:** Support legislation that increases funding for local police, sheriff's departments, and prosecutors' offices in high-need areas, with priority for departments struggling with staffing and violent crime caseloads.
- **Strengthen penalties for violent crime:** Support tougher sentencing for repeat violent offenders, gun-involved felonies, trafficking, and crimes against children and the elderly. No revolving door for violent criminals.
- **Hit fentanyl and drug trafficking hard:** Support laws that increase penalties for trafficking fentanyl and cartel-linked substances, expand tools for multi-county task forces, and ensure local law enforcement has direct support to go after drug houses and organized networks.

3. Lower Utility Bills

Indiana families should not be punished by rigged systems and monopoly pricing.

- **Oppose unjustified rate hikes:** Scrutinize and oppose utility rate increases that are not tied to clear, demonstrated infrastructure or reliability needs.

- **Reform the approval process:** Support reforms to the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) that require stronger consumer protections, transparent justifications, and clear value for ratepayers before any major hike is approved.
- **Stand up to monopoly abuse:** Support policies that increase competition where possible, require more frequent review of monopoly privileges, and push utilities to prioritize affordability and reliability over profit games.

4. Defend Parental Rights

Parents, not bureaucrats, should be in charge of children's upbringing.

- **Transparency in education:** Support laws that require curricula, library materials, and instructional content to be accessible for parents to review and question.
- **Notification rights:** Require schools to notify parents about significant issues involving their child's behavior, social changes, or health and mental health interventions.
- **Protect parent authority:** Oppose any policy or bill that attempts to sideline parents or keep them in the dark about what is happening with their child in the classroom or school office.

5. Protect Integrity in Education

Schools should teach, not indoctrinate.

- **Back to basics:** Support legislation that prioritizes reading, writing, math, science, American history, civics, and discipline over political or ideological agendas.
- **Age-appropriate content:** Support clear boundaries on sexualized or inappropriate content in lower grades, and require honest review mechanisms for parents to challenge questionable materials.
- **Accountability for performance:** Tie funding incentives and flexibility to actual academic performance and improvement, not trendy bureaucratic programs.

6. Strengthen the Economy

A strong economy starts with stable costs and real opportunity.

- **Fight inflation drivers at the state level:** Oppose state policies and fees that raise costs on energy, housing, and transportation.
- **Encourage investment and hiring:** Support tax and regulatory structures that reward employers for expanding in Indiana and hiring Hoosiers, especially in trades and high-demand fields.
- **Protect working families:** Oppose policies that punish work, overtax overtime, or make it harder for families to get ahead.

7. Champion Small Businesses

Small businesses and contractors should not be outgunned by powerful players.

- **Strengthen contract protections:** Support reforms that help small contractors collect payment, reduce abusive contract terms, and make it harder for large companies to walk away from obligations.
- **Cut red tape:** Streamline permits, licensing, and inspections that weigh heavily on small operators while doing little for public safety.
- **Level the playing field:** Oppose carve-outs and special deals that favor big corporations over local, family-run businesses.

8. Fight Rising Costs

Hoosiers feel the squeeze every week. State policy must ease that pressure — not add to it.

- **Target cost drivers:** Identify and reduce state-influenced costs in areas like property taxes, fees, insurance mandates, and regulatory burdens that impact housing and small business.
- **Property tax relief and reform:** Work toward real, structural relief for homeowners — especially seniors and working families — and support responsible alternatives to hammering people out of their homes with rising assessments.
- **Protect grocery and fuel affordability:** Oppose new taxes, levies, or mandates that hit fuel, food distribution, or everyday essentials.

9. Promote Responsible American Energy

We can be pro-family, pro-farmer, and pro-energy at the same time.

- **Protect Indiana energy reliability:** Support policies that keep our grid stable, affordable, and secure — not dependent on fragile or experimental systems.
- **Local control over big projects:** Support local decision-making on big wind and solar farms to protect farmland, property values, and rural quality of life.
- **Balanced energy mix:** Encourage an “all-of-the-above” American energy strategy that uses Indiana resources responsibly while keeping families’ utility bills under control.

10. Honor Veterans

Veterans deserve more than ceremonies — they deserve actual support.

- **Streamline access to benefits:** Support measures that make it easier for veterans to navigate state and local benefits, including help with documentation and appeals.
- **Mental health and transition support:** Prioritize funding for veteran-focused mental health, addiction recovery, and employment transition programs.
- **Prevent homelessness:** Coordinate with local governments and nonprofits to identify at-risk veterans and intervene early with housing and support options.

11. Hold Government Accountable

Government should answer to the people — not the other way around.

- **Sunlight on spending:** Support strengthened open-records requirements and public disclosure of major contracts, subsidies, and economic-development deals.
- **No insider carve-outs:** Oppose legislation designed to advantage specific donors, industries, or politically connected groups at the public’s expense.
- **Term limits and ethics reforms (where feasible):** Support realistic, enforceable reforms that reduce careerism and conflicts of interest in state government.

12. Protect Faith and Religious Freedom

Faith and conscience must remain free.

- **Defend religious liberty:** Oppose any law or regulation that punishes individuals, churches, ministries, or faith-based organizations for acting according to sincerely held beliefs.
- **Protect faith spaces:** Support protections for houses of worship against vandalism, targeted harassment, and discriminatory application of codes or policies.
- **Respect for conscience rights:** Back protections for professionals and citizens who decline to participate in services or actions that violate their faith.

13. Defend Constitutional Rights

The Constitution is not negotiable.

- **Free speech:** Oppose efforts to censor or punish lawful speech — including political, religious, and viewpoint-based expression — in schools, universities, and public life.
- **Second Amendment:** Support the right of law-abiding Hoosiers to keep and bear arms, and oppose backdoor attempts to erode that right.
- **Due process and equal treatment:** Oppose policies that create double standards or politicize enforcement of the law.

14. Reinforce Election Integrity

Every legal vote should count — and only legal votes should count.

- **Secure voter rolls:** Support legislation that requires accurate voter registration records and prompt removal of ineligible entries.
- **ID and verification:** Support strong, commonsense ID requirements and verification standards for voting and absentee processes.
- **Transparent processes:** Require transparent election procedures, chain of custody standards, and public reporting that restores public confidence in results.

15. Protect Indiana Farmers & Land

Farmers are the backbone of Indiana — and land is not replaceable.

- **Stop foreign land grabs:** Support bans or strict limits on foreign adversaries acquiring Indiana farmland or land near critical infrastructure.
- **Defend agriculture in regulation:** Oppose policies that burden farmers with excessive environmental or land-use regulations that do little for actual conservation.
- **Protect farmland from reckless development:** Prioritize smart land-use policies that protect productive farmland from being lost forever to poorly planned projects.

16. Expand Mental Health & Addiction Recovery

We must break cycles, not just manage decline.

- **Increase access to treatment:** Support funding and policies that expand bed space, outpatient services, and rural access to quality mental-health and addiction care.
- **Coordinate with criminal justice:** Back diversion and recovery-oriented programs for non-violent offenders that prioritize treatment, accountability, and restoration.
- **Support families in crisis:** Promote programs that help families navigate a loved one's addiction or mental-health struggle instead of leaving them to face it alone.

17. Support Law-Abiding Gun Owners

Responsible gun owners are not the problem.

- **Protect self-defense rights:** Oppose measures that limit law-abiding citizens' ability to defend themselves, their homes, and their families.
- **Target criminals, not citizens:** Focus enforcement and penalties on violent offenders, traffickers, and felons who misuse firearms — not hunters, sportsmen, or concealed carriers.
- **Education and safety:** Support voluntary firearm safety and training initiatives, especially for new gun owners and youth programs.

18. Strengthen Public Safety Resources

First responders must have what they need when it matters.

- **Modern equipment and training:** Support upgrades to communications, vehicles, protective gear, and training for police, fire, and EMS.
- **Rural and small-town support:** Ensure smaller communities are not left behind in statewide funding formulas and grant programs.
- **Emergency response performance:** Encourage transparent reporting on response times and outcomes to identify gaps and fix them.

19. Elevate Workforce & Trade Careers

College is one path — not the only path.

- **Expand trade and apprenticeship pipelines:** Support partnerships between schools, unions, trade groups, and employers to create clear skilled-trade pathways for young Hoosiers.
- **Promote career education in schools:** Encourage exposure to trades, manufacturing, logistics, IT, and healthcare careers in middle and high school.
- **Cut barriers to work:** Reform licensing and credentialing requirements that unfairly block entry into trades and skilled professions.

20. Prioritize Indiana Families

Family stability is the foundation of everything else.

- **Strengthen family stability:** Support policies that reduce financial pressure on families, such as property tax relief, fair utility rates, and reasonable cost of living.
- **Protect children:** Back laws that protect children from exploitation, trafficking, and exposure to inappropriate content.
- **Support marriage and parenting:** Encourage policies that support parents in raising children — not systems that replace or undermine them.

21. Restore Trust in the Justice System

Justice must be fair — and seen to be fair.

- **Equal justice standards:** Oppose any policy that openly politicizes prosecutions, selective enforcement, or unequal treatment under the law.
- **Judicial transparency:** Support clear, accessible information about judicial decisions that affect public safety and community trust.
- **Victim-focused reforms:** Ensure victims' rights and community safety are prioritized over convenience in sentencing and early release decisions.

22. Put Tax Dollars to Work for Taxpayers

Every dollar should serve Hoosiers — not insiders.

- **Prioritize core services:** Support budgets that put roads, bridges, drainage, schools, and public safety at the front of the line — not pet projects.
- **Audit wasteful spending:** Push for independent performance and financial audits of agencies and programs that repeatedly overspend or under-deliver, and redirect those dollars back to taxpayers and priority services.
- **Stop political pork:** Oppose back-room earmarks and “surprise” spending deals that do not go through a clear and public review process.

This is the plan.

These are the commitments.

This is what I will fight for in the Indiana Senate on behalf of District 22.