

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.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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This is the plan.

These are the commitments.

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