

using market incentives to reduce global warming pollution in the most efficient and cost-effective way possible. Taking on climate change now will save us money, make America more energy independent, and give us all a cleaner, greener world.

Ensuring quality, affordable health care for everyone. I support health care reform that is focused on providing quality, affordable health care to all Americans. Current policy has made progress on access to health insurance, but has not addressed the fundamental incentives for quantity versus quality in our health care system, which drives up costs. There needs to be a continuing effort to alter this trend and ensure quality, affordable health care for everyone.

We need to support critical healthcare innovation that can help lower rising health care costs by helping to diagnose, prevent and treat the chronic diseases that impact millions of Americans. New information technology can help streamline the administrative costs of sharing information between doctors and patients. Investments in innovation not only lower escalating health care costs, they also create jobs that support our economy. Finally, we must continue our efforts to educate and inform all Americans on how to best prevent health problems before they arise.

Holding government accountable. Government must be responsible for a sound fiscal policy that reduces our national debt and reduces the tax burden on our small businesses and on our working families. We need to reform our financial system, get taxpayer money back, and get out of the bailout business. In the business world you are accountable to those that have invested in you – shareholder, personal investors, consumers – and the same should be true for government.

6. Please give us an example of when you had to make a critical decision that, due to its impact on others, was difficult. Tell us why you made your decision and what, if any, actions you took to mitigate any negative results.

The most recent decision that I had to make, that had a big impact on others, was my decision to run for Congress. While running requires a great personal commitment, it also requires the support of many others who directly and indirectly become part of the campaign—in particular my family and friends. I believe that whenever decisions involve multiple parties the most important way to move forward is to engage everyone in a discussion. I spent a great deal of time talking with my family and friends about why I felt we needed new leadership and they were the ones who encouraged me to run. They also helped provide ideas and feedback on how to make the time commitment and media attention something we could all prepare for. It has to be a group effort.

7. What methods will you employ to communicate with your constituency on a regular basis?

I try to be available to everyone and plan to do so when elected. One of the main criticisms I hear about my opponent is that he is not accessible to his constituents and I want to change that. I will return frequently to the District, travel throughout it when here, and hold town halls to meet with people in their communities. I will be accessible when in D.C. by phone, email and for in-person meetings. I also plan to use web-based communications and am open to new ideas on how to