Wisconsin Gubernatorial Debate

Full Speaker-Labeled Verbatim Transcript

Transcription wording, repetitions, interruptions, and errors are preserved exactly as provided.

MODERATOR

Tonight, the candidates on WISN 12, their first and only televised debate-- Crowley, the 40-year-old Milwaukee County executive who served in the state legislature and was raised in Milwaukee's central city. Listen, as county executive, you proposed property tax increases. Tiffany, the 68-year-old congressman from central Wisconsin, who also served in the state legislature and was raised on a Wisconsin dairy farm. You have been a big supporter of the president. Is that going to help or hurt you? And now, live from the Marquette University Law School, tonight's moderators, WISN 12 political director Matt Smith, and up-front co-host, 12 news anchor, Sharon Jordan. Good evening, everyone, and welcome live, Ty Nett from Marquette University Law School. We thank our audience across Wisconsin for joining us for the first and only televised and live stream debate between the candidates for WISN Governor. David Crowley and Tom Tiffany, we thank you both for being here with us tonight. Thank you for having us. It's great to join you. With Tony Evers not seeking reelection, this is the first open seat for governor in 16 years. So before we begin tonight, a few ground rules. This is a debate and a conversation about the issues facing Wisconsin voters. The candidates are asked to stay on topic and to be concise. Our guests may speak to each other, but we will manage the time on any given topic and move the conversation along, if necessary. At the end, each candidate will deliver a closing statement. We flipped a coin to choose who will get the first question, so let's get right to it. We begin with David Crowley. Mr. Crowley, your critics describe you as a liberal, prolific spender who consistently raises taxes on his constituents. Why should voters trust what you're going to say tonight and if elected, you won't just continue to raise their taxes?

DAVID CROWLEY

Well, I'm proud of my record being county executive. Every single year, we've been able to bring down the property tax rate. We deliver the largest property tax cut in history, and every single year, we've balanced the budget. And I did that by working with Democrats and Republicans on a bipartisan level to make sure that we can deliver for our communities. And that's what's really at stake with this election. This is about having a governor who's going to work for you, someone who's going to invest in your future, or someone who's going to work for the billionaires that are paying for their campaign, or doing exactly what Donald Trump wants them to do because they voted with them 100% of the time. This is about making sure that every single person in the state of Wisconsin can move forward, and I want to make sure that what I've done here in Milwaukee County and what we've done across this state together, we can continue when I'm the next governor.

MODERATOR

Mr. Tiffany, your critics describe you as a mega extremist who has voted with President Trump 99% of the time. So why should voters trust what you're about to say tonight and won't just have the president's interest at heart?

TOM TIFFANY

I feel like as a lifelong resident, I will make sure that we are going to do what's right for Wisconsin. But first, Matt, I just want to say, happy anniversary to my wife, Chris. 31 years ago today, we met at the Thirsty Whale in Managua, been together ever since. We need, the key issue in this campaign is affordability, and that's solely what I am focused on at this point, is making sure that Wisconsin is more affordable. There's some things that we can do as governor. One, we should return all of the $3 billion budget surplus to the people of Wisconsin. They overpaid into state government. We should return that money to them. There's a surplus at the state level. I think taxpayers out there, they don't have a surplus in their bank accounts. We're gonna end the 400 year property tax increase. Back in December, largest increase in property taxes in 30 years, we're taxing people out of their homes. Young people are not able to afford to be able to buy a new home. We're gonna reduce taxes on the middle income taxpayers of Wisconsin, and we're gonna do no taxes on tips and overtime, just like I did federally. We're gonna put more money into people's pockets. Now, contrast that with my opponent, and that

is one of the clearest contrasts in this election. He said to you that he believed that higher taxes were not a burden when he nearly doubled the sales tax. That was the one year that property taxes went down. He raised the sales tax instead. Taxes have went up. Every single year that David Crowley has been county executive, you know what he's going to do as governor.

MODERATOR

So let's talk about taxes. Tonight, Wisconsinites say inflation and the cost of living is the most important issue this election cycle. Wisconsin's top income earners are already among the highest taxed in the Midwest. Mr. Crowley, would you create a new income tax bracket for the state's highest earners?

DAVID CROWLEY

Well, we have to, one, recognize that the affordability crisis is absolutely real, and we need to make sure that everybody in the state of Wisconsin can get access to groceries, can afford a roof over their head. And so when Congressman Tom Tiffany says, he's focusing on affordability, I mean, let's be very clear. He voted for the big ugly bill. That cut a trillion dollars for, a billion dollars for some of the highest earners here in the state of Wisconsin. We need to make sure that we have a fair tax system. A simpler tax system that allows people to get ahead. At the end of the day, we need to be focusing on accountability and transparency.

MODERATOR

Is that a new bracket for the highest earners?

DAVID CROWLEY

What I'm focusing on is making sure that we take a holistic view as it relates to our tax spending here in the state of Wisconsin. The current tax system that we're under, which happens to be under what Congressman Tom Tiffany helped create under the Scott Walker era, is not working for local municipalities. It's not working for anybody. And so as the next governor, we need somebody who's gonna take a holistic view, making sure that those who are making enough money pay their fair share. But more importantly, we need to be focusing on making everything that much more better when it comes down to how we take it.

MODERATOR

What is that level in terms of making them more than their fair share? Do you have a number in a percentage?

DAVID CROWLEY

What I have is is that we have to make sure that we're working with the state legislature to make sure that we're creating a fair and taxable system that works for all income earners.

MODERATOR

Mr. Tiffany, you're proposing an immediate 10% income tax cut for families making less than $150,000. So would your first state budget include other tax increases or cuts to programs to offset that?

TOM TIFFANY

I will not be raising taxes on the good people of Wisconsin. I think I laid it out in my opening remarks. The tax reductions we're going to do. First, it starts with a 400 year property tax increase. We are going to end that. And after some, many people will see a lower property tax burden as a result. And then we're going to freeze those taxes. Then we're gonna have a 10% middle income tax cut and no taxes on tips and overtime. Just like we did federally, we're gonna put more money into people's pockets. We are not going to raise taxes on the good people.

MODERATOR

That's a lot of income not coming into the state then. Do you make cuts in your first budget proposal to offset that?

TOM TIFFANY

We are going to have sufficient money in this budget to be able to fund the things that are important to Wisconsinites, education, transportation, and infrastructure, healthcare. We're gonna have money there. And here's why. When you look at the last budget that was passed a year ago, it went up $15 billion. Went from $99 billion to $114 billion, a 15% increase. The largest increase ever in a state budget. There is plenty of money in

Madison to be able to provide more shared revenue, to give increased aid to our schools. There is enough money in Madison to be able to backfill those things that we need to. And by the way, we have that experience. I have that experience in my background. When I was in the legislature, I helped write three budgets. We reduced taxes every single budget, yet the next budget had more revenue come in. And why is that? Because we had a growing economy. That's the most important thing we can do in Wisconsin. Put more money into people's pockets and Wisconsin's economy will grow.

DAVID CROWLEY

Now I wanna make sure that we heard exactly what the congressman just said. He wants to do exactly what they did in Washington, D.C. They literally gave $80 billion in tax breaks to billionaires throughout the entire country. On the backs of hardworking Wisconsinites who are losing their healthcare, 270,000 folks. Look, we cannot afford congressmen as the next governor if we're literally gonna be balancing tax breaks for billionaires on the backs of hardworking Wisconsin family members. What we need to be focusing on is how do we make sure that we can give them access to better paying jobs? How we can actually make sure that they can actually afford food on the table? When congressman Tom Tiffany had the ability to lower costs for families just at the gas pump, he voted to actually protect the warranty around. He did it five times. And we've seen our diesel and our gas prices skyrocket. We even voted to protect the Canadian terrorists, which is increased costs on our farmers and on their manufacturers. We don't need what is happening in Washington, D.C. coming into the state of Wisconsin. It is very clear that he is working for Donald Trump and the billionaires who are funding his campaign.

TOM TIFFANY

Hey, so while I'm my opponent, you can see early on in the debate is consistently focused on being against Donald Trump. I'm for Wisconsin. And rather than creating a bunch more programs that are going to end up taxing the people of Wisconsin more, I wanna put more money in the taxpayers' pockets.

MODERATOR

Congressman, there's a lot of issues to get to. We're gonna get to the state budget and the state budget surplus. Tonight, the state's projected budget surplus now sits at nearly $3 billion. Mr. Crowley, in our Democratic primary debate, you were the only candidate who said you would have signed the failed tax relief deal negotiated by Governor Tony Evers and Republican leaders.The deal would have delivered rebate checks, lower property taxes, invested more in special education, and eliminated taxes on tips and overtime. So what now is your specific plan for the surplus?

DAVID CROWLEY

You know what the support of that deal, 'cause it would have been a bipartisan effort, is because people made the hard decision to come together as Democrats and Republicans to provide that relief for so many families who are desperately in need. And the reason why it didn't pass the state legislature is because Congressman Tom Tiffany, he caught in some favors and asked and pushed people not to vote for it. He wants to make sure that this surplus is not going to the hardworking families. He wants to deliver this as a tax cut to billionaires, giving him a 0% income tax, like he has said while he's been campaigning for this position.

MODERATOR

Mr. Crowley, what is your specific plan?

DAVID CROWLEY

We need to be utilizing this surplus to provide relief, to make it more affordable for families across the state of Wisconsin. We can be using this surplus to actually put towards our public schools, to make sure that we're buying down the property tax rate that so many folks are struggling under because they've had to go to referendum after referendum because of decisions that Congressman Tom Tiffany has made.

MODERATOR

So how would you do that? How would you do that?

DAVID CROWLEY

We need to make sure that we are working directly with our municipalities, making sure that we can help lower their property taxes. As a county executive, we have tried to, we have had to figure out year after year, like all municipalities, how to pay for mandated services because the state of Wisconsin broke their promise. Because under Congressman Tom Tiffany, when he was in the state legislature, they voted to slash shared revenue coming to local communities all across the state.

MODERATOR

So does all of your money go to education and to lower the property tax level, all of this surplus, is that what you're saying?

DAVID CROWLEY

When it comes down to the surplus, it's about making sure that you're not only listening to the communities in need, but you're working with the state legislature. We've learned that just because a governor decides what they wanna do, you have to make sure you're working with legislative leadership to get it passed. It's not just about focusing on education. It's also about focusing on childcare, healthcare, because that's the affordability crisis that was created under this Trump administration with the help of Congressman Tom Tiffany.

MODERATOR

Thank you, Mr. Tiffany, you voiced opposition to this initial deal that Republican leaders and the governor negotiated. You've now said you're gonna return every cent to taxpayers. Are these rebate checks? When does it happen?

TOM TIFFANY

So first of all, let's be real clear. There was not a single Democrat in the state Senate that voted for that bipartisan, that supposed bipartisan deal. It failed because not a single Democrat senator would vote for Governor Evers' bill.

MODERATOR

There were three Republicans who voted against it as well.

TOM TIFFANY

There were, but if they would have gotten Democrat votes, they could have passed it to make it truly bipartisan. But the question before us is, what are we going to do with the surplus, right? So, we have a $3 billion budget surplus. We should return all of that to the taxpayers. They've overpaid into the state of Wisconsin. Let's go back to where the budget was last year. A $15 billion increase in the budget. $3 billion is about 20% of that. Isn't that the least we can do for taxpayers? So what if that one-- - I mean, think about, while the state has a surplus, the people out there in Wisconsin, they don't have a surplus in their bank accounts at this point, we should return it. And we should return it in long-term tax relief. I would prefer not to do it as a one-time check because people don't plan their futures based on one-time checks. They want to have the certainty that they're going to be able to have this for the future. So I want to see long-term tax reductions that are going to, people are going to benefit from not just next year, but in the future also.

MODERATOR

Are you talking income tax or property tax or a combination?

TOM TIFFANY

It'd be a combination. One of those things. I mean, one of them I already laid out, the middle income tax cut for those families--

MODERATOR

So that's part of the surplus.

TOM TIFFANY

That's, the families, if they make $150,000 and less as a couple, they're going to get a tax cut. We'll work out the details, but I know one thing. We are going to return all of that $3 billion budget surplus to the people of Wisconsin.

MODERATOR

Thank you. Let's talk about property taxes. Next month, Wisconsinites will receive their new property tax bills. Last year, homeowners saw the biggest increase in nearly two decades, 5.8% on average statewide, some even higher, according to an analysis by the Wisconsin Policy Forum. Mr. Tiffany, you've promised to repeal Governor Evers' 400-year veto. It allows schools to increase their spending for the next 400 years, and that increase is generally paid for by property taxes, if not offset by the state. So if you take that revenue option away from schools, which is up to $760 million in this current budget, specifically how much more, if any, would your budget invest in K-12 education?

TOM TIFFANY

So we've heard from Loudon Clear from property taxpayers. They have been hit so hard. I hear from seniors across the state. As I criss-cross the state, covering all 72 counties, I hear from seniors all the time. We paid our mortgage off years ago, and now we're being taxed out of our home. We hear from young people. They can't buy a home. Think about the average age to buy a new home in Wisconsin. In just 10 years, went from 29 years of age to 40 years of age. The property taxes, part of that, with those increases, we have to get control of it. And by the way, I will never do a veto, like was done to have a 400-year property tax increase. The veto authority should not be used to increase taxes. So we're going to end the 400-year property tax increase, and then we're gonna take that additional $15 billion that was in the last state budget, and we're going to use that to help fund our schools as well as other local units of government. When you look at the founding of shared revenue in this state, over 100 years ago, it was meant to go to local communities.

MODERATOR

So how much specifically for education?

TOM TIFFANY

Through the years, the state continues to siphon more and more of that off. We need to reverse that and take shared revenue and school funding back to its origins where we return money from the state.

MODERATOR

- Quickly.

TOM TIFFANY

We are going to backfill. We will backfill those dollars to schools across Wisconsin. And how do I know we can- MODERATOR is there an increase, a decrease, or is it flat? How do we know that we can do it? How do we know we can do this? Because we did it a decade ago. I helped write a couple of those budgets. Let's go back to the--

MODERATOR

- Increase, decrease, or flat, though, do we know that yet?

TOM TIFFANY

For school funding?

MODERATOR

Yes. In your first budget.

TOM TIFFANY

We will increase school funding.

MODERATOR

Okay.

TOM TIFFANY

Yes, including for mental health. Now let me finish my thought if I may, please. In 2019, I helped write the budget where we had the largest increase in school funding. We also had a tax cut. My opponent voted against that budget bill. Governor Ebers signed it into law.

MODERATOR

Mr. Crowley.

DAVID CROWLEY

Now, let's-- I want to correct the record on something because you cannot trust Congressman Tom Tiffany when it comes down to education. I mean, we're talking about somebody who actually supported the elimination of the United States Department of Education. We're talking about someone, when he served as a senator, voted for one of the largest cuts to our UW systems, as well as K-12 through education. I went to Milwaukee public schools. My daughters go to public schools, and I know that they need an increase in funding from the state of Wisconsin because of the fact that we have been dealing with decades of cuts ever since that he was a legislator.

MODERATOR

So let me ask you about that. Taxpayers are spending on an average $16,000 per student in Wisconsin right now through a combination of federal, state, and local funding. Wisconsin is in the middle of the pack in the Midwest, according to the Census Bureau. So how much more money will you give K-12 education? And is there a point that money is no longer the problem?

DAVID CROWLEY

Well, I think that you have to peer the money and making sure that we're having standards and making sure that we're actually raising the bar for all of our public schools. You have to work with our teachers. You have to work with our school boards because there isn't a cookie cutter solution for each school district. What works in La Crosse, what works in Madison, may not work in a Green Bay, may not work in a Monroe. So we have to bring communities to the table when it comes down to actually tackling education because it's not just about making sure that the teachers are there because teachers, they've had to become the guardian, the nurse, the behavior health specialist, you name it. We need to make sure that all of our schools have the resources and the personnel to make sure that our children are in safe spaces and getting the type of education they deserve.

MODERATOR

How much more money and where does that come from?

DAVID CROWLEY

Well, I think it comes from making sure that we're taxing individuals like who are funding Congressmen and Tiffany's campaign. We have three billionaires in this race who have spent to the tune of about $40 million. Those are the types of dollars that can be invested in education all across the state of Wisconsin. But again, it's about working with the legislature. I wanna put together long-term a blue ribbon commission that's gonna bring academics, that's going to bring local units of government, state government, labor leaders, CEOs, you name it. The last time we've taken a holistic view of taxing and spending in Wisconsin was in 1986 when Governor Tommy Thompson was first governor. We need a long-term solution, not just quick fixes.

MODERATOR

I'll give you one more chance. You don't have a threshold though for where taxes will go up, what that income level is.

DAVID CROWLEY

This is about making sure that we're working with the legislature. They're the ones who have the power of the purse. And so as I'm crafting my budget, I look forward to working with it.

MODERATOR

Do voters deserve to know that ahead of the election?

DAVID CROWLEY

I think voters wanna make sure that they have somebody who's going to work for them. I think that's the premise of this entire election. Who is your governor going to work for? I'm gonna be the governor's gonna make sure that everybody has a seat at the table. I was told that if you don't have a seat at the table, you're on the menu. And many people in this state don't feel like they've been able to lend their voices to the solutions that's going to work for them because you have politicians like Congressman Tom Tiffany who feels that they have to do the bidding of folks like the billionaires and Donald Trump who he's voted 100%.

MODERATOR

Let's talk about school vouchers since we're on education. This fall, the enrollment caps were lifted. We'll come back to it. This fall, the enrollment caps were lifted for the statewide school voucher program, which means more students than ever could receive a taxpayer-funded voucher to attend private school. Mr. Crowley, other Democratic candidates have proposed ending the program, including in the city of Milwaukee where it started, and some 30,000 students are currently enrolled. Their concern is it diverts taxpayer money from public schools to private. Will you sign legislation that ends Milwaukee's school voucher program?

DAVID CROWLEY

I think it's extremely important that folks understand that we cannot expand the voucher program in the state of Wisconsin. We have to make sure that we are increasing the funding for our public schools, increasing and closing the special education reimbursement gap to make sure that our public schools have access to everything that they need. Look, I went to public schools. My daughter, my oldest daughter just graduated from Milwaukee Public Schools, and my two youngest are there as well. And I wanna make sure that all public schools across the state of Wisconsin, did they get access to the resources that they need? But I don't think that you can just abruptly shut down this program because that will create an even burner on our public schools. I mean, we have been seeing school districts go to referendum after referendum because the state has not fulfilled its obligation, but also because they don't have the resources.

MODERATOR

So you would veto any attempt to end Milwaukee's voucher program?

DAVID CROWLEY

Yes, I will veto that.

MODERATOR

In terms of the statewide expansion, you said you don't want it expanded. Would you keep the current statewide program intact?

DAVID CROWLEY

We need to make sure that all voucher schools in the state of Wisconsin, I wanna be very clear about this, that they're held accountable, that they're transparent, and that they're held at the same standards of our public schools. The way that they written the legislation related to vouchers and public schools, it doesn't give us the ability to compare apples to apples, apples to oranges. And that's why I'm running to be the next governor to make sure that we're holding these schools accountable unlike the current time.

MODERATOR

Would you keep it intact? The current program intact?

DAVID CROWLEY

Keeping the current program intact? This is about, I will work with the legislature, but as of this moment, we are not in a position to push all these children towards any of our public schools.

MODERATOR

Thank you. Mr. Tiffany, income limits are still in place with the program. Are you pushed to remove those limits?

TOM TIFFANY

So let's unpack what has been talked about here. And this is really good that we're talking about education because it's always been one of the cornerstone issues that we deal with because Wisconsin has a long, proud tradition of educating children well. So first of all, we're spending 18, over $18,000 per student in Wisconsin at this point. $24,000 in Milwaukee. We put a lot of money into our educational system. We need to make sure that we have results. I talk about three things out in the campaign trail, affordability, accountability, and common sense. And this falls under accountability. We need to make sure that our schools are accountable for success. We look at our department of public instruction. Ever since, in particular since COVID, we've had declining standards in Wisconsin. That's unacceptable. We have to set higher standards. We're going to put in the Tiffany administration, we're gonna put more money into schools, but we're gonna demand that accountability. We're gonna set higher standards. We're gonna get parents' honest report cards. We're gonna make sure that when money goes to schools, it goes in the classroom. We should pay good teachers more money.

MODERATOR

On the income limits providers.

TOM TIFFANY

And we should make sure that teachers are safe in the classroom.

MODERATOR

The income limits providers. Would you push to remove those income limits on the vouchers?

TOM TIFFANY

So my wife and I, we sent our kids to the local public school up in Minocqua. I just think people should have whatever choice that they make. We made the choice of public schools.

MODERATOR

Regardless of income?

TOM TIFFANY

And if a child is trapped in a failing school, they should be able to choose the school that they want to go to.

MODERATOR

So would you send a bill about removing the income limits?

TOM TIFFANY

We should make sure that people have choices. Regardless of your zip code in Wisconsin, you should be able to get your kid a good education.

MODERATOR

A bill is on your desk that removes the income limits. Do you sign it?

TOM TIFFANY

I would be willing to raise those income limits, but I would sit down and take a look at where we should move them at this time.

DAVID CROWLEY

I mean, this is a prime example of exactly who the congressman works for. I mean, when this program was started, it was to make sure that low income students all across the state of Wisconsin got access to some type of option. And what ended up happening, they kept lifting the cap in what they do next, they lifted the income limits. Those who are actually paying for private education then started utilizing public dollars to pay for their child's education. I mean, congressman Tom Tiffany, does it sound like you wanna work for the small guys? Sounds like you wanna work for those who have the money and have the means to continue to pay their way. This is what this election is about, and this is why we can't allow governor, there to be a governor Tom Tiffany.

TOM TIFFANY

By the way, he did not answer the question in regards will he raise taxes to pay for what he wants to do. We know what the answer is. Because he said, higher taxes are not a burden. I think we should give people more choices here in Wisconsin in regards to being able to get their children educated. Regardless of your zip code, you should get a good education in Wisconsin. We've had declining standards now. We've fallen behind Mississippi. Seven and 10 fourth graders are not proficient readers at this point. We've gotta get our educational system back and it should matter what school you--

DAVID CROWLEY

Mr. Congressman Tom Tiffany, could you please continue to misrepresent my record because he can't defend what he has done in Washington DC. As county executive, we have been able to make sure that there was affordable housing. We have the lowest unsealed to homeless count per capita that any community in the United States--

MODERATOR

We are gonna move on.

DAVID CROWLEY

We have been able to do all of that.

MODERATOR

We have a lot to get to. Thank you both.

DAVID CROWLEY

We're also lowering the property tax limit for all of our businesses.

MODERATOR

We are gonna move on to transportation funding. Tonight, the average price of gas in Wisconsin is $4.16. The current state budget relies heavily, nearly a billion dollars on using the income and sales tax to fund transportation spending. At some point, a more permanent source will be needed, whether it's increased user fees, tolls, or raising the gas tax. So we're gonna try this one at a time, a yes or no answer. When it comes to transportation funding, Mr. Tiffany, are you open to new user fees, yes or no?

TOM TIFFANY

No.

MODERATOR

Are you open to tolling, yes or no?

TOM TIFFANY

No.

MODERATOR

Are you open to indexing the gas tax to inflation, which hasn't happened since 2005?

TOM TIFFANY

I am not.

MODERATOR

No. Mr. Crowley are you open to new user fees for transportation funding?

DAVID CROWLEY

I am open.

MODERATOR

Are you open to tolling?

DAVID CROWLEY

I think we should be open.

MODERATOR

And are you opening to indexing the gas tax?

DAVID CROWLEY

No.

MODERATOR

Somewhat different answers. Now we can explain, Mr. Tiffany, no to all of the above, how do you fund transportation?

TOM TIFFANY

Yeah, we're gonna put more money into transportation via the budgeting process. We did that when I was in the legislature and serving on the Joint Finance Committee. We are going to put additional money into transportation and we need to. By the way, as I came in tonight, you saw, I saw a very good reason why. As we went past the Brewer Stadium, you see that stretch three and a half miles here in Milwaukee that it's supposed to take eight years to fix that piece of interstate. The current Department of Transportation has now said that it's going to take 10 years. As governor, it is not going to take 10 years. It's not going to take eight years to finish that stretch because I've talked to restaurant tours here in downtown Milwaukee who have talked about how that's harming their business. I talked to people out in the suburbs that say that we don't go downtown Milwaukee because we have to fight our way through that, those delays in traffic. We should not have transportation projects that take eight years for three and a half miles and they will not when I become governor because we are going to put additional money into transportation.

MODERATOR

Thank you, Mr. Crowley. Well, let me get you on your answers first though. Speaker Voss has been a long advocate of tolling, maybe something you both agree on. So yes to new user fees, possibly yes to looking at tolling. Talk to me about your transportation funding plans.

DAVID CROWLEY

Well, I want to first start off by letting folks know that Congressman Tom Tiffany, he doesn't have any plans. I mean, Congressman Tiffany literally just said that he will cut billionaire taxes to 0% and how we're going to fund transportation, he has no clue. How are you going to get the revenues when you continuously cut the amount of revenues coming into government? This is the reason why cities, towns, villages and our school districts all across the state are struggling today. And that's because he doesn't work for the people. He is working for the billionaires. He's going to do anything and everything that they tell him to do because that's who he's been in the pockets of. Look, we have to focus on bringing all of our local communities together. We have to work with everyone when it comes down to how we're going to fund government as a whole because we rely on it. We rely on good bridges and good roads. We rely on great public schools. We rely on getting access to public health and healthcare whenever we need it, wherever we are. Right now, this is a prime example of this is why we need a governor who's going to work for us, who's going to be focusing on doing what's right, not what they're told to do.

MODERATOR

Let's move on to data centers. And so hang on just a second. Go ahead.

TOM TIFFANY

Please. He said that I'm going to cut taxes to zero. That is inaccurate. At any point, you gentlemen have interviewed me various times through this campaign. Have I ever said we're going to cut taxes to zero? I have not. He's misrepresenting our positions and he's over there ranting constantly about billionaires. We need a governor that's going to be focused on people here in Wisconsin to do what's best for Wisconsin, not worrying about others, not announcing what you're against, but telling people what you're for. I'm for putting more money into people's pockets. And we have enough money in the state budget that we can fund things like transportation. We can fund things like education. They just need to be prioritized. And I will prioritize education, transportation, health care, and other things like that first.

MODERATOR

Let's talk about data centers. In Wisconsin Rapids, a new data center is proposed on the old paper mill site. Others are under construction. A resident there recently told us that neither of you are advocating for Wisconsinites saying, quote, "At the end of the day with those two, I don't think any of us have really put any stock into what they're saying because they both make conflicting statements about it in the past," end quote. So, Mr. Crowley, what would you tell that voter?

DAVID CROWLEY

What I would tell that voter is this is about making sure you have a seat at the table. You know, when it comes down to data centers, we need to make sure we're protecting our environment, protecting our land, protecting our farmland, protecting our waterways. But communities need to have a seat because if they don't want a data center, they shouldn't be forced to have a data center. There's no if, ands, or buts about that. I've always sided with communities and the people when it comes down to data centers. Congressman Tom Tiffany, he has done something different. I mean, he provided the tax breaks to the big tech companies who are steamrolling our communities today with these data centers. He also voted to fast track the development of data centers without any environmental review or without local communities having a seat at the table. I want that voter to know, don't pay attention to what Congressman Tom Tiffany has been saying here in the state of Wisconsin. Just look at his record as he's been in Washington, D.C.

MODERATOR

Mr. Tiffany, what would you tell that voter who says that you've both made conflicting statements about data centers?

TOM TIFFANY

I want to meet that voter. And when we get to the, through the final couple weeks here of this campaign, I want them to come to Wisconsin Rapids because we're going to stop in 55 communities across this state. Just like I've been campaigning over the last year, covering all 72 counties, I hope to meet that voter because I'll tell them the same message that I've been doing in my tavern talks across the state, which I've done dozens of them. And it's the same answer every time. Five things, no data centers unless they make sure that our utility rates will not go up. No subsidies for these data centers. That there be local control. Local people should have input and whether a data center is being located in their local community. We're going to make sure that also that they are not built, they are not built on our beautiful farmland here in Wisconsin. And we will also make sure, in addition to that local control, that local communities have that say, they have that say, and I will make sure that that happens. And I would just continue. There's a clear difference between David and myself and he's correct about that. David's been for subsidies. From the very beginning, I would say to that person in Wisconsin Rapids, I've been against these subsidies. Why would the wealthiest, some of the wealthiest companies in the world need subsidies from the taxpayers of Wisconsin? I'm opposed to them. David also called for they be powered by wind and solar. So you take just the Mount Pleasant and Port Washington sites, it would take 100,000 acres of solar panels in order to power them. That's crazy to do that. That's going to raise our electricity rates, but it's also ultimately going to raise our food costs because it's going to sideline some of our beautiful farmland here in Wisconsin.

MODERATOR

All right.

DAVID CROWLEY

Now I want to be very clear. I just said that I was open to reforming the sales tax incentives that these data centers have been getting. And if there's a bill that comes to my desk removing all the sales tax incentives, I absolutely will assign that. But again, you can't trust what Congressman Tom Tiffany is saying today because he's already given them $80 billion in tax breaks today. See, he wants to tell you something different while he's running for governor, but just look at his record.

TOM TIFFANY

So I just want to -- I'm not sure a comment in regards to this. So one part that I missed in there is that there will be no -- there will be full transparency as part of the conditions in order to be able to do this in Wisconsin when I become governor. We should have full disclosure, no non -- Non-disclosures. Non-disclosure agreements that are out there. Also, David just said that he's been always open to this. I have been consistent over the last year that we are not going to pay those subsidies to these companies. He just came around in the last week when he figured out that's where the public is. I will not put my finger to the wind when making decisions like this, in particular when it's the right decision.

MODERATOR

Mr. Crowley, quickly, we'll let you respond. Are you pushing or backing a moratorium at this point?

DAVID CROWLEY

I know that there's an environmental review that is going on, and at this moment we know that there's a pause related to data centers being built, and I support the pause until that environmental review as this environment goes through the process. I want to be very clear. You know, we need to make sure that we actually have more renewables because this helps to actually bring down costs. Yes, we need non-disclosure agreements. Yes, we need to make sure that local communities have a seat at the table. But Congressman Tom Tiffany, the last thing that we need to do when it comes down to energy is burn more coal, which is something that you supported.

MODERATOR

Let's move on. Mr. Crowley, in the primary, you be Democratic socialist franchise, has hung by fewer than 4,000 votes. She recently told us in an interview, quote, "I think it's important that David lets our supporters know he shares our values." So to those who voted for Ms. Hong and are questioning whether to support you, what specific values of the Democratic socialist agenda do you share?

DAVID CROWLEY

You know, as we traveled across the state of Wisconsin, I had an opportunity to talk to not just Hong supporters, but all supporters. I'm talking to Democrats, Republicans, independents, people who don't care about politics. And you know what? They agree with our platform. They agree that we need to expand badger cares and alternatives to for-profit insurance. They believe that we have to hold billionaires accountable when they're making handover fists and receiving tax breaks at the whim of the votes of Congressman Tom Tiffany. They believe that we have to fully fund our education system and make sure that all of our children get access to childcare. And I'm glad to have the support of those who believe in the same things that I believe in because that's what's going to move the state of Wisconsin. That's what's going to show these -- all individuals that I'm going to be a governor for them, not for those who are funding my campaign.

MODERATOR

Do you support any of the platform?

DAVID CROWLEY

Which part of the platform are we talking about? The one thing I'm not familiar with the DSA platform to be answering that question.

MODERATOR

Mr. Tiffany, in Congress, you voted against certifying the results of the 2020 election and attempted to disqualify hundreds of thousands of votes from absentee voters in Milwaukee and Dane counties. Why did you join attempts to overturn the results of the election?

TOM TIFFANY

So before I answer that, I think it's really important to talk about what David was just commenting about. In regards to his support for Democrats' socialism, what he said about a week or two before the primaries, he said there was very little difference between he and Francesca Hong. In fact, one of the only things he could think of is that he was supportive of data centers. In fact, he wants Wisconsin to be the hub globally for data

centers. That's what he said was very little difference. The DSA platform says things like let's eliminate this U.S. Senate.

MODERATOR

Let's circle back to 2020's online congressman in terms of why you joined attempts to overturn the results of the election.

TOM TIFFANY

I think it's really important to know. He said there's very little difference between me and Francesca Hong. That sounds like a socialist to me.

MODERATOR

To the question.

TOM TIFFANY

So to your question.

MODERATOR

Sure.

TOM TIFFANY

Happy answer. Just give me a briefing.

MODERATOR

Why did you join attempts to overturn the results of the 2020 election?

TOM TIFFANY

One of the reasons that I did that is Zuckerberg's, if you remember Mark Zuckerberg, the Facebook billionaire, he put $15 million into Wisconsin. He was trying to privatize our elections via electioneering. The people of state of Wisconsin rejected that a few years later. I objected to Mark Zuckerberg putting $15 million in, primarily in blue cities, not spreading it out throughout the state. And a couple years later, the people of state of Wisconsin, when they had a chance to vote on this in a referendum, they said that we reject that. We should not allow private money to go into what is a public process our elections. That's why I objected because the people of the state of Wisconsin, they did not want that. And by the way, the people of state of Wisconsin have voted to enshrine photo ID into our Constitution.

MODERATOR

That's why you joined efforts to disqualify hundreds of thousands of absentee ballots in Milwaukee and Dane County's with Zuckerberg's?

TOM TIFFANY

Yes, because of what happened there, when there was money coming in privately, that should not have been. And the voters said that that should not be that way. I can give you one other example of what happened there. There was the Dane County clerk who declared that people who are indefinitely confined, they could just declare themselves to be indefinitely confined during the election. That clerk did not have the authority to do that. That requires an action by the state Senate and the governor to change that law. So there were a couple things like that that I thought should be addressed.

DAVID CROWLEY

Now, let's be very clear. That congressman just said that the only reason why he was willing to throw out hundreds of thousands of votes here in the state of Wisconsin is because he disagreed on how somebody spent money. He didn't say anything to the fairies that were going on with our elections. He didn't say anything happened throughout the process. He just didn't like the fact of how money was being spent. This is the reason why we need a governor who is going to work for the people of Wisconsin. Yes, you may be able to disagree, but you still have to have dignity and integrity to make sure that you are actually carrying out the will of the people. You can't trust congressman Tom Tiffany to certify the elections when it comes to the 2020 presidential election because he has shown us that because of one disagreement, he'll throw them out. This is why we

need a governor who is going to work for you. We cannot afford to have congressman Tom Tiffany as governor of Wisconsin.

TOM TIFFANY

If I could just add, I added one other item in there and that was the indefinite confinement. He broke the law, David. Clerks across the state of Wisconsin, they do a terrific job.

DAVID CROWLEY

One clerk in a different municipality has nothing to do with the entire state of Wisconsin.

TOM TIFFANY

May I finish my comment? Clerks across the state of Wisconsin do a terrific job, but in that instance, that clerk declared that people can just claim to be indefinitely confined. That required a law change by the legislature to do that.

MODERATOR

I do want to look to the future. The next governor will be responsible for certifying the results of the 2020 presidential election. Mr. Tiffany, will you commit to doing so no matter the outcome?

TOM TIFFANY

I will certify the election in 2028 regardless of who the winner is.

MODERATOR

Mr. Crowley, will you commit to doing so no matter the outcome?

DAVID CROWLEY

Absolutely.

MODERATOR

Mr. Tiffany, would you like to eliminate the Wisconsin elections commission?

TOM TIFFANY

I think we need to sit down and have that discussion about do we make changes to the Wisconsin elections commission. I mean, I'm one of the people that voted for it a decade ago. We thought that we hit on the answer to be able to have an effective body, but we need to make sure that there's accountability by the Wisconsin elections commission and they're carrying out their job. I mean, there should be a simple principle in regards to our elections. It should be easy to vote and hard to cheat. We need to make sure that the Wisconsin elections commission is going to carry out that mandate for the voters of Wisconsin because they've proven over the last number of years they want election integrity.

MODERATOR

Who would you vote for?

TOM TIFFANY

Voters have voted consistently for election integrity.

MODERATOR

Who would you like to give that authority to if not WEC?

TOM TIFFANY

That would be the question. Where do we turn that authority to? That's why I say we are going to need to sit down and work with the legislature to see if there's another route to go. If there's not, then we will have to keep the Wisconsin elections commission.

DAVID CROWLEY

We have the government accountability board. The Republicans didn't like that when they were actually doing an investigation and then they scrapped that and they created the Wisconsin election commission. It seems as if the congressman wants to scrap that again because Donald Trump has had problems with our Wisconsin election commission getting access to voter data because they have been the front line of defense. Look, I'm

not saying that everything that they do is great, but you cannot sit there and say that you're going to change each and every single entity just because they disagree with you. Just because they are fighting back against those who continue to support your campaign, congressman.

MODERATOR

Any response?

TOM TIFFANY

Yeah. We may have to keep the Wisconsin elections commission. It's going to take an act of the legislature and the governor working with them. If there's not a willing legislature, we're not going to be able to do it. It's going to take willing partners to be able to do that. This is a really important issue because elections are at the heart of making sure that people have faith in those very elections. But it's not easy creating that entity. As David talked about, there was a government accountability board, then there's a Wisconsin elections commission. There's no perfect way to do this. It's going to take thoughtful people getting together if there's going to be changes to the elections.

DAVID CROWLEY

We've always had free and fair elections. I believe in the integrity. That's how I know that Donald Trump lost the race in 2020. I can admit that while being on TV.

MODERATOR

We're going to move on to abortion. Mr. Tiffany, you've said you would uphold Wisconsin's current law which bans abortion after 20 weeks. You've also though previously supported stricter bills, including one that banned abortion after six weeks, commonly known as a fetal heartbeat law. If the legislature passed a fetal heartbeat law and arrived under your desk, would you sign it as governor?

TOM TIFFANY

So a decade ago, when I was in the state senate, we passed a five-month bill, 20 weeks officially, but it's basically a five-month bill. And I voted for that bill, and it's now the law in the state of Wisconsin, five months. And when I talked to my constituents, they said, we want you to find a middle ground on this. We want you to compromise. And that's exactly what we did. I stand by that vote of a decade ago, and I will uphold it as the governor of Wisconsin.

MODERATOR

So say the legislature passed a fetal heartbeat law and it lands on your desk. You sign it, yes or no?

TOM TIFFANY

No.

MODERATOR

Mr. Crowley, you're proposing a constitutional amendment asking voters to enshrine a right to abortion in the state constitution. Would you sign legislation that legalized abortion with no gestational limits?

DAVID CROWLEY

Look, I think it's extremely important that we have this constitutional amendment to protect women here in the state of Wisconsin like my three daughters. I want to make sure that they continue to have access to the same rights that their mother and their grandmother had, and keep politicians like Congressman Tom Tiffany out of the doctor's office. These are decisions that need to be made between a patient and a health care provider, and these aren't decisions that are made lightly. The reason why we are asking for this constitutional amendment is because you have folks like Congressman Tom Tiffany who celebrated the fall of Roe v. Wade. Women are holding their breath every four years just to make sure that they can get access to the care to protect themselves, and we need to make sure that we're doing exactly that.

MODERATOR

So Bill lands on your desk that legalizes abortion with no gestational limits. You sign it? Yes or no?

DAVID CROWLEY

There was a woman in western Wisconsin.

MODERATOR

Yes or no?

DAVID CROWLEY

She had -- no, no, let me finish my story. There's a woman in western Wisconsin who had two kids who was getting ready for her third. She went for her 20-week scan and found out that the fetus had no kidneys, and that fetus was not going to last and was going to die. She had to go all the way to Minnesota because she couldn't get the care that she needed here in the state of Wisconsin. And if Congressman Tiffany had his way with the decisions that he has made while in Washington, she wouldn't be able to go anywhere and would have had to carry that baby. We should be -- these decisions, these decisions need to be made between a patient and a healthcare doctor.

MODERATOR

But these are laws, so if the bill lands on your desk, you do what?

DAVID CROWLEY

the patient and a healthcare provider. I don't believe a law like that would actually reach my desk.

TOM TIFFANY

Am I -- so my name was used in his comments, and he said, "Women hold their breath. All you women out there, you will not have to hold your breath when I'm governor." I voted for a five-month bill when I was in the state Senate. I will uphold that law as the governor of the state of Wisconsin. But we need to find out. I have been very clear where I stand. I've given the answer that I'm at five months, David just dodged the question again. He refuses to say how many months will he stand for, because from what I'm hearing, he's up to full -- the full nine months is his answer.

DAVID CROWLEY

Without -- it will be very clear. These are discussions that need to be made between a doctor and the patient, Congressman. When you think about any type of abortion past the 20-week, it's usually dealing with extreme circumstances, just like the mother of a child. You sitting there talking about we should trust what you did 10 years ago, but what did you do just three years ago when you decided to support one of the most extreme abortion bills in Congress, with no exception, to rape, to incest, or the life of the mother?

MODERATOR

Any response to our moving on?

TOM TIFFANY

My position has been consistent ever since I announced for governor. We once again did not hear where David Crowley stands on abortion.

MODERATOR

We're going to move on and look to expedite as we get closer to the end of the hour. Talk about ICE detainers. The lawsuit is currently challenging the legality of ICE detainers in Wisconsin, a federal agreement that allows Wisconsin sheriffs to work with federal immigration officials in county jails. Mr. Tiffany, you have expressed support for ICE detainers. Would you attempt to mandate all Wisconsin sheriffs work with ICE?

TOM TIFFANY

So sheriffs should work with ICE, and when you talk to most sheriffs around the state of Wisconsin, they do exactly that. And here's why this is important. If you have an illegal alien in your state, and they have committed a crime, the only people that can remove that illegal alien are federal agents. Your county sheriff cannot. So if you have someone that's in your county jail, it requires federal law enforcement to do it. Here's what I will do. I will make sure that local, county, and state law enforcement coordinate with federal law enforcement, coordinate their actions. That way, when a detainer is issued from federal law enforcement, saying there is an

illegal alien that has committed a crime, that federal law enforcement can work seamlessly to remove them. Because it's best to remove them when they're in a setting like the county jail, rather than out in the public.

MODERATOR

Would you mandate that by law?

TOM TIFFANY

Yes, I believe they should honor detainers by the federal law enforcement.

MODERATOR

Mr. Crowley, Milwaukee County, where you are county executive, does not participate and refuses to work with ICE.Why is that? And would you attempt to ban sheriffs from working with ICE?

DAVID CROWLEY

Well, I want to be very clear. I don't support just a blanket ban when it comes down to cooperation. We need to follow the law, and as governor, I will enforce the law. But there are certain priorities I have when it comes down to ICE being in the state of Wisconsin. First and foremost, we need to make sure that there are no contracts when it comes down to our local police departments and our sheriffs. We hire our local PD and our sheriffs to protect our local communities. If they can't do their job, which is based off of trust, how can we make sure that undocumented immigrants will call the police when they see a fire, when somebody's actually in need, because we've erode that trust? The other thing that we need to make sure that we make sure is in place when it comes down to ICE is that they cannot wear masks. They cannot, they must show a badge and they cannot incite fear. They have to let us know that they're in these communities. And then third, they cannot come into our jails in our prison without a judicial warrant. We need to make sure that we're protecting people's civil liberties. We have community members who are so afraid, who have been in this country since they were little kids, who work on the dairy farms in our in Congressman Tom Tiffany's district, who work in our factories, who help build our homes, who are taking care of our most vulnerable populations. If we're talking about prosecuting criminals, then we need to do that and they absolutely need to be deported.

MODERATOR

You would not attempt to ban the sheriffs working with ICE just to put a fine point on that?

DAVID CROWLEY

Excuse me?

TOM TIFFANY

MODERATOR

You would not push to ban sheriffs from working with ICE?

DAVID CROWLEY

I don't think none of our local police departments nor sheriffs should be working with ICE.

TOM TIFFANY

So this is a key difference in this campaign and this is a very clear contrast between the two of us. David has said he will be not just an ally, but an accomplice for illegal aliens. An accomplice for illegal aliens that commit violent crimes. I mean, think about the 12-year-old girl from Fond du Lac that was tied up by an illegal alien threatened to sexually assault her. Are we going to protect somebody like that? I don't believe we should. We should make sure that we work with federal law enforcement, do it in a coordinated fashion, and remove those who have committed crimes. David said he wants to be an accomplice to that. I'm going to make sure that we have safe streets here.

DAVID CROWLEY

I was just very clear right before the congressman said anything that anybody who has criminal behavior and they have been prosecuted, they need to be deported. I've been very clear on that. And we need to make sure that we are protecting our communities. As governor, that's going to be our number one priority, is making sure

that we have safe communities that we focus on public safety. But when it comes down to public safety, I can't take congressman Tom Tiffany's serious when it comes down to public safety. I mean, we're talking about someone who literally prays the pardons of January 6. There's people who beat up cops, some of them who are convicted of child molestation. We're talking about someone who actually protected the billionaire class by voting against the release of the Epstein file. So when it comes down to public safety, I just can't take the congressman's serious.

MODERATOR

A real quick response we're moving on.

TOM TIFFANY

So he has said that he wants to remove half of the prison inmates here in Wisconsin. By definition, that will cause people with violent backgrounds out on the streets of Wisconsin. That's why the Milwaukee police union and Milwaukee deputy sheriffs have endorsed me, not their hometown candidate.

DAVID CROWLEY

Quick, I want to be very clear. You know, I worked with the Republican control legislature to pass Act 12 that brought more money to every single city town village to invest in fire, to invest in police, to invest in EMS services. Matter of fact, your hometown Hazelhurst got a 382% increase because of the deal that I brought to the table. Every single year that I've been county executive, we've increased funding into the sheriff's office. And right now we're working on creating the most historic investment and replacing the courthouse without the help of folks like congressman Tiffany.

MODERATOR

We're going to attempt to blow through a few more. Democrats have long advocated to legalize marijuana, tax it and use the revenue to fund numerous proposals. Nearly half of all states have legalized recreational use, including our neighbors in Michigan, Illinois and Minnesota. Mr. Tiffany, quickly under what scenario would you sign a bill that fully legalized recreational marijuana use in Wisconsin?

TOM TIFFANY

So what I would do is, I believe we should start with medicinal marijuana. I've talked to veterans and others with chronic pain and we should do that. I believe we should take a step-by-step approach. I voted for additional funding for marijuana research in Congress. And I want to see the results of that research. And I think that can help states guide them in deciding how they want to address this issue.

MODERATOR

Are you open to recreational?

TOM TIFFANY

We're going to start with medicinal and then we'll take a step-by-step approach.

MODERATOR

Mr. Crowley, you said you support full legalization. What guardrails, if any, would you mandate in statewide legislation?

DAVID CROWLEY

Well, one, we have to make sure that we have guardrails in place. We have to protect our children. We want to make sure that all of the labels are clearly identifiable, making sure that people know exactly what's in their product. And we have to go towards full legalization because this is opportunity that we're missing out on as a state. Look, Governor Pritzker literally thinks Wisconsin residents, because they have made $30 million in sales tax collection just from Wisconsin residents. If we were to go to full legalization, we could bring in anywhere between $80 to $170 million, helping to invest in health care all across the state of Wisconsin without allowing our money, nor these opportunities to go to Illinois, Minnesota or Michigan.

MODERATOR

I want to ask about that real quickly. 1.2 million Wisconsinites rely on Medicaid, including nearly 825,000 enrolled in Badger Care. Tonight, Wisconsin's Medicaid program has a projected $269 million shortfall for the

current budget, and that doesn't yet take into account changes from the big, beautiful bill that take effect in January. So, Mr. Tiffany, how will you address that shortfall specifically?

TOM TIFFANY

I really wish that I could give you a more in-depth answer comprehensively on health care, because it is a critical issue. Here's what we've done in Congress. We have authorized a $200 million rural health program that Wisconsin is going to receive, that $200 million, it's a $50 billion program. Wisconsin is going to receive $200 million as a result of that to help get better access to health care for people in our rural communities throughout Wisconsin, including up where I live. And then in regards to Medicaid, we're going to get a billion dollars more as a result of the work of our congressional delegation. We have worked diligently since last year to procure another billion dollars. I can't wait to become governor when we can take our Department of Health services and provide better access and higher quality for people across the spectrum.

MODERATOR

Mr. Crowley, you quickly, apologies that we're running close to time, but Mr. Crowley, how is your shortfall?

DAVID CROWLEY

That will help bring in millions of dollars, hundreds of millions of dollars just in general. But again, you can't trust Congressman Tom Tiffany. He voted to cut a trillion dollars in Medicaid and Medicare on the backs of 270,000 Wisconsinites who rely on health care. There are families in his own district, three hospitals, matter of fact, in his own, three hospitals in the state that are at risk of closing, one of which is in his district. You can't trust Congressman Tom Tiffany when it comes down to health care because he'll slash it just to give it to the billionaires.

TOM TIFFANY

Wisconsin is going to get a billion dollars more as a result of our work. We're solving the problem that he's talking about.

DAVID CROWLEY

Again, he cut a trillion dollars for Medicaid and Medicare, and he didn't extend the Affordable Care Act. A subsidy that so many families are relying on and seeing them premiums double.

MODERATOR

Thank you, because it is now time for closing statements. We flipped the coin with both campaigns present to determine the order. Each candidate will have one minute for a final thought, and we will begin with David Crowley.

DAVID CROWLEY

I'm running to be your governor because Wisconsin families are working harder than never and still falling behind. And I get it. I grew up in a working class family, and I'm raising three amazing dollars. Congressman Tom Tiffany, he doesn't get it. He went to Washington, and he sold Wisconsin out. He went to go work for Donald Trump and a billionaires bankrolling him. They got tax breaks. You got higher bills. They got tariffs. You got higher prices. They got their endless war. You got record high gas prices. This election is about who your governor works for. If Congressman Tom Tiffany becomes our governor, he's going to work for them, not for you, just like he did in Washington, voting with Donald Trump 100% of the time. But me, I'll work for you. I'll lower your costs. I'll expand health care. I'll make sure we can improve our schools and bring people together to get it done. That's what I'm asking for your vote. Thank you, and go Brewers.

MODERATOR

Mr. Tiffany.

TOM TIFFANY

It was a month ago that a plane that I was in had to make an emergency landing on Lake Wausau in the run up to the airport. And as the pilot and I exited that plane, he dialed 911. From the time that call hit dispatch in downtown Wausau to the boat picking us up in the middle of Lake Wausau was 16 minutes, only 16 minutes. I remember hearing after we made the call that you could hear the sirens and then you could see the lights, but

it only took them 16 minutes. Ladies and gentlemen, I saw the best of Wisconsin that night. As your next governor, I'm going to make sure you see the best of Wisconsin. I hope to earn your vote to lead this state.

MODERATOR

Well gentlemen, we got to some of it, not all of it. Our sincere thanks to both of you, the candidates for being here tonight, and thank you to everyone watching at home. If you missed any part of this debate, it will be available on the 12 News at YouTube and streaming on very local. Of course, look for post debate analysis Sunday with us on up front. Election Day is Tuesday, November 3rd. Thanks for being with us. Have a good night.