

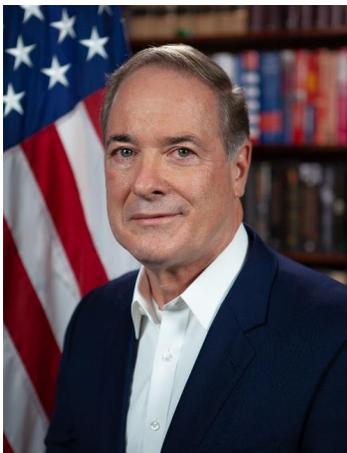
Get to Know Your Congressional Candidates

In partnership with *The Daily News*, the Huntingdon County Chamber of Commerce is providing this article to help you make an informed decision during the November 3 Election. We encourage you to vote. In the words of Thomas Jefferson “We do not have government by the majority. We have government by the majority who participate.”

District 13 Congressional Candidates Dr. John Joyce (R) and Todd Rowley (D) were asked to limit their responses to 250 words each. No changes have been made to their responses.

Question 1. How best can the government support comprehensive and affordable healthcare for US citizens?

John Joyce: “As a doctor who spent more than 25 years caring for patients in our community alongside my wife Dr. Alice Joyce, I ran for Congress to improve Pennsylvanians’ access to quality and affordable health care. As your Congressman, I



have been fighting to lower prescription drug prices, defend Medicare, protect Americans with pre-existing conditions, expand access to care in rural communities, and support lifesaving innovation.

To combat our region’s doctor shortage, I started the Homegrown Health Care Initiative to renew the pipeline of doctors entering our community and bolster our local health care system. Now in its first year, the Homegrown Health Care Initiative already is making a difference – and it has the potential to benefit Pennsylvania patients for decades to come.

I also am committed to investing in lifesaving innovation for the 21st century. Especially as we combat the coronavirus, Americans’ drive will lead the world’s innovation on novel therapeutics and a vaccine.

For the sake of American patients and our national security, we must secure our medical supply chains and move the manufacturing of medicines and health care supplies home to America – and far away from the Chinese Communist Party. Our nation can’t afford to be beholden to the Chinese government for critical prescription drugs and health care equipment. We must equip Americans to lead the way in 21st century innovation.”

Todd Rowley: “National polls reflect majority of Americans believe the federal government has a responsibility to make sure all Americans have healthcare coverage. I believe healthcare is a basic human right and every American should have access to affordable, quality healthcare. Healthcare should not be a privilege exclusively for the wealthy. We are all human beings; as such, we are susceptible to suffering an injury,

diagnosed with an illness, disease, or if a COVID-19 survivor facing long-term health issues. No person or family should face financial hardship or bankruptcy to receive medical care they need to live, including having to choose between paying for life-saving prescription medication or groceries, utilities, rent or mortgage. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA), recognizing it must be strengthened and improved, represents a vehicle for our country to embrace a future universal healthcare coverage for all Americans. Americans with health insurance live more productive, healthier lives; while those who are uninsured typically suffer declines in overall health due to lack of preventive care causing more severe health issues.



Relatedly, I support expansion of Medicaid. As a direct result of COVID-19 crisis, the number of uninsured Americans has risen because of workers losing their jobs and consequently, also their employer-sponsored and provided healthcare insurance. I support transitioning away from employer-based healthcare insurance benefitting small-medium businesses. COVID-19 will have lasting effects to our overall healthcare system; Congress must address this priority issue for all Americans in a bipartisan manner.”

Question 2. What do you see as the need and opportunity for national infrastructure improvements?

John Joyce: “We must invest in roads, bridges, and airports. The federal government is poised to bring public and private investment together. We must incentivize the private sector to invest and join us in building a 21st century transportation system that leverages state, local, federal, and private resources.

Additionally, we must prioritize reliable access to broadband – which is critical for our hardworking families, farmers, and small businesses. In 2020, connectivity is key to success. As a member of the Rural Broadband Caucus, I am fighting to bring reliable broadband, or wireless internet access, to every community in Pennsylvania. By expanding access to reliable broadband, we can ensure that every family, every farm, and every small business has the resources it needs to succeed in the 21st century.”

Todd Rowley: “I support a bold, comprehensive bipartisan infrastructure plan and legislation that will put Americans back to work to rebuild America. By making this important broad-based, public and public-private joint venture investment in our country’s infrastructure - rebuilding our roads, bridges, tunnels, railways, manufacturing and energy facilities, housing, airports, hospitals, schools, water supply and treatment systems, electrical grids, telecommunications, and broadband for rural America – will create millions of sustainable jobs, many of which will be union jobs – that pay livable, family wages. I support boosting clean energy infrastructure proposals that will create additional sustainable jobs and bring investment opportunities within the renewable energy sector. Small and medium business, and entrepreneurs will play an important role in the planning and completion of these wide-ranging infrastructure projects. It is

long past due that Congress gets this done in a bipartisan manner for the American people and our country's future."

Question 3. The national deficit and debt are growing at exponential rates. What legislatively would you support to reduce both? Why? Is that a real concern?

John Joyce: "After years of excessive spending, Congress must get its financial house in order. We must make hard choices to cut discretionary spending and prevent bureaucratic waste. As a fiscal conservative, I am committed to serving as a responsible steward of taxpayer dollars.

For my work to protect American taxpayers, I was proud to be recognized as a "Taxpayer Superhero" by the Council for Citizens Against Government Waste and to earn a top rating from both Heritage Action for America and the Club for Growth. Additionally, I was grateful to earn the endorsement of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and to be named a "Freshman Friend of Business."

There is a long road ahead, but I am committed to reducing federal spending and doing right by American taxpayers."

Todd Rowley: "The COVID-19 pandemic and the critically important federal government response via economic relief and stimulus packages have pushed our national debt to an estimated \$27 trillion. This deficit spending will likely continue to be necessary in the coming months to keep our economy from potentially collapsing while we continue to struggle to manage the national public health crisis. While trillions of dollars have been added to the national debt as a direct result of the massive stimulus spending in response to this crisis, our country's debt was already increasing significantly prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. Much of this increased debt can be attributed to the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, tax legislation that funneled money to already wealthy Americans that was unnecessary and fiscally irresponsible. We have limited choices except remain focused on continued economic stimulus and recovery efforts until we better manage this crisis. It will be only through competent national leadership with a comprehensive plan to effectively manage this crisis that our economy can begin to fully recover. We cannot dismiss or lessen the importance of fiscal responsibility regarding the national debt; however, until the American people can trust and feel safe again related to public health information, we will continue to struggle economically. I support legislation to raise the corporate tax rate to a reasonable level and the wealthiest Americans pay their fair share in taxes. I support economic and tax policies that benefit working-class families of PA-13 and across America."

Question 4. What do you see as the most pressing national issue and what do you think Congress should do about it?

John Joyce: “Right now, Americans are facing a stark choice between freedom and socialism – and you should know that I will ALWAYS choose freedom. As the Democrats promise to dismantle our values, destroy our cities, and even defund the police – I am fighting to restore our way of life, rebuild our economy, and renew the American dream for generations to come.

Here’s the take home message and nine things every voter should know –

1. I am pro-Trump.
2. I am pro-life.
3. I am pro-Second Amendment.
4. I back our law enforcement heroes and will restore law and order in American cities.
5. I am pro-school choice.
6. I will always support our military and our veterans.
7. I will bring jobs home to Pennsylvania.
8. I will always defend your Medicare and Social Security – and I will never support socialized “one-size-fits-all” medicine.
9. And, I will always fight for the U.S. Constitution, our rights, and our freedom.”

Todd Rowley: “I believe facts, science, and truth matter. The fact is after nearly nine months of public health and economic suffering, our country is still struggling to contain a deadly virus where over 7.5 million Americans have been infected and over 210,000 have died. This is unacceptable, and as Americans we should be appalled. I support legislation such as the HEROES Act relief and stimulus package which would supplement the bipartisan CARES Act, providing additional assistance to state, local, and tribal governments; expanding the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) for small businesses; extend relief programs to help our essential workers; extend the moratorium on certain evictions and foreclosures for families struggling to pay rent or mortgages; extend veterans benefits; protect pension and retirement plans; provide financial assistance to the U.S. Postal Service; and provide student loan relief. Until we have a comprehensive national strategy and plan to effectively manage this crisis with the goal of lowering infection and fatality rates, the American people will continue to suffer, and our economy will continue to struggle. To achieve this goal, we need strong, competent leadership who trusts and believes in the American people that we can accept the truth and respond courageously – without fear or panic – to unite and do what is necessary to defeat this virus. I will lead with trust and faith in my fellow citizens and business owners of PA-13 that we can do this together. We can and must do better.”

Question 5: What is your position on providing safe harbor, during a pandemic, for businesses that are following guidelines?

John Joyce: “The coronavirus crisis created unprecedented challenges for American families, workers, schools, health care teams, and small businesses. Every day, I am

fighting to get Pennsylvanians safely back to work, children safely back into the classroom, and our economy back on the right track.

Small businesses are not only the backbone of our economy, they are the heart of our community. Many small businesses have been built by hardworking families over generations – and we cannot allow a virus to end them.

Through the CARES Act, Congress provided targeted relief to Americans. In addition to direct assistance for American families, the Paycheck Protection Program helped more than 170,000 small businesses in Pennsylvania weather this storm – saving millions of jobs and supporting hardworking families. As a member of the House Small Business Committee, I am proud to support America’s workers, farms, and small businesses.

Livelihoods are on the line. We will rebuild our economy and renew the American dream for generations to come.”

Todd Rowley: “I support our small and medium-size business owners and entrepreneurs. I support working class families and union workers across PA-13. Most workers are employees of small and medium-size businesses which collectively represents the foundation of our economy. As such, I believe during this unprecedented public health and economic crisis, Congress must continue to take the necessary relief and stimulus action to ensure workers, small businesses and the most vulnerable Americans don’t slip further into poverty, while preventing our economy from further contraction. I do support legislation that will provide safe harbor and liability immunity protections to businesses if full compliance is maintained with health and safety guidelines for employees and consumers. Small and medium businesses are reliant upon a healthy, safe, and productive workforce to remain in business and to be profitable. Even during this deadly pandemic, the health and safety of workers and consumers must remain a priority while we also provide protection for our business owners. This does not have to be an either-or proposition. If businesses follow established COVID-19 health and safety guidelines, safe harbor protections should be afforded to businesses. During this time of grave challenge for our country, we cannot put profits ahead of our lives. We all want businesses to fully open and our economy to return to pre-pandemic levels, and even better. We must take the necessary steps to manage and control the pandemic to lower infection and fatality rates and restore stability to our economy and our lives.”