

Re: U.S. Dist. 12 race press inquiry (Campain questions)

From: Robert Tager (tager@tagerforcongress.com)

To: Gww1210@aol.com

Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 at 08:52 PM EDT

I only had a second to skim it. I wanted to go to Bilirakis town hall. I will read it when I get home tonite. I think you spelled my name Sager and it should be Tager. Thank you for cleaning my writing

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 24, 2016, at 4:53 PM, Gww1210@aol.com wrote:

Atty. Tager, I finally got up off my old, lazy butt and finished the news coverage on which I was working. You (and many others) are now front-page news in our Election Coverage.

It is live on front-page news of The Register www.GordonWayneWatts.com / www.GordonWatts.com

and it seems that I gave you good, even if incomplete, news coverage here. It is all "on one page," so if you click the "*opens in new window*" link and want to print out that, it should be (in my opinion) easier for you to read than if you're sitting in front of a computer. (I'm old fashioned, I guess.) - I gave Bilirakis an implicit 'Gig' and you an explicit 'Garland' for how you responded and he didn't.

PS: I fixed all punctuation, spelling, and grammar errors, but did not change anything sustentative of your reply. In other words, I made sure your reply looked OK. I also covered other races, and then I had a reply and questions about your answer or response, as you might call it if we were filing briefs. Did I do well?

Gordon

In a message dated 8/23/2016 2:11:56 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, Gww1210@aol.com writes:

Sure, if u need more time to address that - that is fine. -- I will continue to update my piece as new info comes in -- and indicate at the offset any & all updates... (like bigger papers do when they update a piece) -- With regard to the higher ed mess, I am an actual expert on this matter, so we can talk later, at your convenience. (Also, front-page news of my namesake blogs www.GordonWayneWatts.com / www.GordonWatts.com has a wealth of information if I'm unavailable, busy, asleep, or slow to reply by email, phone, etc.)

Also, since I know GMail is a good email client, I've attached some basic stuff that I've been sending to my own Congressman, Dennis A. Ross, a good moderate Republican. -- It's "voluminous" (lengthy), so it's ok if u don't read it all in 1 sitting - but if u get bored, there are sufficient documents in *this* email attachment to make you smarter than a Jedi Grandmaster on the Higher Ed issue, if you're ever bored and have nothing else to do.

PS: Yes, if I quote you, I will fix any/all spelling/grammar errors and make you look respectable, when I hit the "upload" button.

Gordon

In a message dated 8/23/2016 1:59:20 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, roberttager@gmail.com writes:

I have not yet answered you on the student loan question. That is a new issue to me and I need to read the article and the bills. I know it is also a mess. We need to get out act together as a nation.

Id really like to hear your opinion if you have one. I like conversing with conservatives on policy. I have been known to rethink things if the boxes do not fit. Please feel free to correct any spelling errors.

Thank you for the opportunity.

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roberttager@gmail.com

On Tue, Aug 23, 2016 at 1:54 PM, <Gww1210@aol.com> wrote:

Thank you for your detailed reply, Atty. Tager:

I have just barely skimmed over it, but I'm replying back to all 3 of your email addresses (and copying my 5 archival email addressed) in order to make sure that all your hard work is safely *stored, archived, and protected* while I continue to finish my endorsement editorial/news item.

Thank you for your hard work here; I will make sure and give you full credit, likely quoting you in your entirety to make sure you point of view is documented and available for all to see. (Even if *The Register* doesn't have anywhere near the readers as, say, the *NY Times*, I wish to be a good steward of the few gifts I have, including replies to press inquiries.)

My "guess" prediction was right - you replied to my inquiry before I could finish my piece, so you are not late. - Thank you once again; I will let you know when I get it published.

Gordon

In a message dated 8/23/2016 1:47:34 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, roberttager@gmail.com writes:

First let me say I do not oppose modifying our tax system and I am not opposed to a flat tax. My objections to this bill are several. First, In response to the following , "This writer is not an expert on the Fair Tax, but one rebuttal to this argument has been that Big Business already gets tax breaks, and so this would do little, if anything, to give the rich additional breaks" I say this: The rebuttal fails because it presupposes that the Big Tax breaks given to "Big Business" and the "rich" are good for the economy, middle class, and the Country. If big tax breaks for Big Business and the Rich created jobs, as supply side economics, (a/k/a trickle down economics, voodoo economics), claims we would be a booming country right now. Look at where we are. Profits are at all time highs, Profit margins at all times high, CEO and Executive Salaries at all time highs, big business's are sitting on the largest pile of cash on hand as any time in history. Tax breaks are not needed for corporations to create jobs, They have plenty of cash. Interest rates are the lowest in history and financing expansion is easily affordable. Financing is great because debt on company books has traditionally been seen as good and as a means of cash flow control, maximizing profits, as the interest is deductible and they can keep their cash on hand to take advantage of new opportunities. Rather than borrow money, at no real expense, to expand and/or hire, Big Corporations with their activist Rich board members choose instead to borrow money for stock buyback. This does not create jobs but it increases the Rich and Institutional Investors positions in companies without having to spend their own money. Anyway, the idea that by giving huge tax breaks, or allowing them to not pay any taxes at all or minimum taxes is absurd and is one of the big drivers of our huge deficit. Aside from supply side economics, this position is fostered by the mistaken belief that taxes are punishment. If I hear one more time, "We should reward success and not punish it", I will puke. The reward from success is 1) the satisfaction of the accomplishment, and 2) the rewards wealth brings including multiple homes, homes on other continents, multiple cars, vacations, private jets, the best food, medical care, best education for children, ability to leave in death security for your family, the ability to allow money to work for them for income so they can pursue other interests, influence, and all the other things wealth brings. I am very successful and wealthy, I am alive, have great family, great kids, I love and am loved, and enjoy life, and I usually make enough to pay my bills and have some savings. I would argue i am as successful as a billionaire that is miserable, but I still have to pay taxes. Tax avoidance or forgiveness is not a reward for success, it is the product of being rich and buying politicians. It is the product of bribery. So the presumption that because they are now able to pay almost no taxes or minimal taxes because of the their influence, does not mean this supply side economic nightmare should continue or survive a new tax plan.

As to what I dislike about the Fair Tax Plan I answer this way. It is not fair and is very very dangerous. It eliminates Payroll tax, which means that social security and medicare is over. Now the plan that businesses report income and the amount for social security will be set aside from the consumption tax, is a joke. First hiccup in the economy, and consumption slows social security will end, or the EPA and OSHA will end or other necessary programs, such as military spending will be effected. I can not help but wonder, if in 2008, when our economy tanked, if we were on such a plan, what would have happened? Tens of Millions lost their jobs, consumption shrank, and we crashed. Republican leadership voted against jobs bills which would have immediately kick started the economy. On a flat tax there would be no money for this in case of an emergency or unemployment

extensions, and our deficit would explode. It also ends medicare. The Rich currently have to pay taxes on interest, capital gains, and dividends. This necessary income to the Government would end. I object to the Rich and Powerful, who make huge amounts of money from interest, dividends, and capital gains would pay ZERO taxes on that income, that currently they pay. There is no consumption tax on purchasing stocks, bonds, options, commodities, rental and commercial real estate. The rich and powerful would be completely excluded from having to pay any taxes on their investment vehicles of choice. The only cost they would have would be the few dollars, (\$5..00 at etrade), and for this they get a \$10,000 credit. **Now lets look at what everyone will be taxed on.** Purchase of personal residence, (imagine 23% being added to the cost of a home). If they dont buy they get to pay 23% tax on rent. There will be 23% tax on groceries, medicine, cars, gasoline, insurance (including health insurance), bus, taxi, trains, mass transit, plane tickets. Also electric, cable, water, gas, heating oil, propane, and all trhe necessities of life will be taxed at 23%. Imagine, each and every single thing that is bought day to day by the bottom 98% being taxed at 23%. We can barely make ends meet now and now we are expected to pay 23% on top of everything,. Who do you think this negatively effects more? Rich or Middle Class? This will also destroy the restaurant and entertainment industry. A meal at Chcik Filet costs around \$20.00 now. After this it will cost \$24.60. Oh and lets not forget the extra taxes added to almost everything from Florida, and the extra penny here and penny there tax each county has. This 23% tax combined with Florida's 7% tax brings the actual tax to 30%, without including any of the other taxes. I also object to this plan because there are no caps in spending so Congress can just keep spending, our rates just increase, and the rich only pay on what they buy. This is as regressive a tax as can be,

The CBO has not scored this because the Republicans have not requested it be scored. Why dont you ask Bilirakis, who supports this to request his leadership have the CBO score it. Lets look at the business side. I will use the epi pen as an example. It costs the company \$1.00 to make. They gouge us with a price tag of \$300.00. Currently they are supposed to pay tax on the profit, which considering nothing else would be taxable income of \$299.00. Even at a 10% tax rate that is \$22.90 in taxes for the pen. compare this with the consumption tax. Under the consumption tax, the corporation would have to pay 23% on the \$1.00 of consumables purchased to make the pen. (This assumes the consumables cost that much) That is \$0.23 per pen. Their profits are now \$299.77 and that is after taxes. They still will not create new jobs or new industry. Lets look at the consumer side. Lets see, a house with two school age children. One pen for each,(300 x 2) \$600.00 plus one pen for each to have at school, (300 x 2) another \$600 for a grand total of \$1200.00 Now lets add on the consumption tax. \$1200.00 (Four pens) plus \$276.00 (23% tax equals \$1476.00 total. That extra \$276.00 in tax, keeps that family from saving, paying a bill, eating out, consuming. This family with two kids gets to pay an extra \$276.00 for the pens so their kids wont die from an allergic reaction, meanwhile the rich pay nothing on their earnings and the corporation that made the pens paid \$0.23 cents. Who does this tax plan benefit? Does it benefit the rich family where an extra \$276.00 in taxes for medicine will not effect their life style or teh middle class where this tax of \$276 is the equivalent of 27.6 hours of work at \$10.00.

It is just one more scam in a long line of scams compliments of our congressman and the rest of the Party elites, who just do what they are told by their special interests rather than actually looking at the consequences. I am all for a simpler IRS code, and favor making it so small it can be billed by post card. But this is not the way to do it. This will destroy our economy, will destroy social security, medicare, the VA, and many of our necessary programs.

I hope this answered you, and if not, please feel free to ask any more questions. There are many other problems with this bill but this is just a snapshot. I am curious to see what your thoughts are. Oh I am also not a tax expert, but it is obvious what this bill does, who it benefits, who it harms, and some of the many consequences.

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On Tue, Aug 23, 2016 at 12:05 PM, <Gww1210@aol.com> wrote:

Thank you for your best job, Robert.

Just reply as quickly as you can - and I promise you that even if you are only able to give a partial answer as here, I will not editorialize against you, but most likely will remain undecided on whom to endorse, rather making good points for both candidates.

As slow as I am in writing this, my guess is that you can easily beat me in my publication, but even if you don't, and I need to update my piece, I will update it with additional points you might make.

The Fair Tax is very important (e.g., HR25), but the 2 bills for higher ed (HR449 a real bill --and "HR1" my proposed bill -- both attached as PDF's in this email) are probably more important, as tax dollars guarantee the toxic predatory loans, which will crash the US Dollar, I predict, if nothing is done: College debt is now a sizable portion of total US debt, and both are climbing, and college is unaffordable - and both Democrats and Republicans keep failing college students -- and spending more than we make (inflationary). Very bad for our economy.

You're welcome to call me (talking is easier than typing), but if you prefer to have an exact statement, email is ok too.

In a message dated 8/23/2016 11:41:54 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, roberttager@gmail.com writes:

When do you need a response by? I appreciate your credentials and your openness on your conservative views. I am asking about when you need my response by because I would like to provide you with a full answer and why the rationale, that businesses already get all the tax breaks, is incorrect. I am not against the entire bill. I can see the benefits of a flat tax, one that is fair. Please let me know when you need my response.

Thank you

Tager

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On Tue, Aug 23, 2016 at 11:28 AM, <Gww1210@aol.com> wrote:

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Attorney Tager: I read your recent Facebook post,

<https://www.facebook.com/Tager>

[forcongress/posts/620343064801599](https://www.facebook.com/Tagerforcongress/posts/620343064801599) asking for help in understanding H.R.25 and the Fair Tax. - When I was researching my Endorsement's news/Editorial item (I am doing political writing for *The Register*), I attempted to answer your question - but I came back with additional answers - and I pose the same HigherEd question to Rep. Gus Bilirakis, also getting a cc here.

Here is the rough draft of my Editorial - with your answer, and my follow-up question: ** I am on deadline to publish this Editorial, which has endorsements for the central Fla. races in question. ******

[[""U.S. Representative (Dist. 12)

Rep. Gus Michael Bilirakis (R-FL-12th), the incumbent Republican congressman; and, criminal defense attorney, Robert Matthew Tager, are the only 2 candidates in this race, slated to be held on Tuesday, November 8, 2016, in the GENERAL ELECTION, since, in the Primary Race, both candidates "Qualified" and also were "Unopposed" in the Primary. - Atty. Tager opposes H.R.25, the Fair Tax bill, which Bilirakis supports: This is troubling (since the Fair Tax would simplify the tax system, since

the government would have to police only large retailers, and not every citizen), but Tager seems genuine in his attempt to see both sides of the bill: "Some how this just does not seem fairer. Not to mention, I see no tax on the purchase of investments and none on the sale so this is a freebie for the super rich...Anyone who reads this different and interprets it differently, let me know." Source: "Tagerforcongress" on FACEBOOK post This writer is not an expert on the Fair Tax, but one rebuttal to this argument has been that Big Business already gets tax breaks, and so this would do little, if anything, to give the rich additional breaks. Also, neither candidate is clear on HigherEd economic policy. Republicans are traditionally more reluctant to support bankruptcy for college loans (which is bad, since Bankruptcy is a 'Conservative Free Market' check against predatory lending), but democrats are typically more willing to allow huge College Loan Limits to increase (which is dangerous, as this induces skyrocketing tuition inflation). The Register withholds endorsement of either candidate pending further investigation of both the Fair Tax and the HigherEd issues. NOTE: This race will be held on Tuesday, November 8, 2016, in the GENERAL ELECTION, since, in the Primary Race, both candidates "Qualified" and also were "Unopposed" in the Primary.""]]

**** First off, Atty. Tager, do I answer your question on the Fair Tax bill?**

**** Secondly, can you (and Congressman Bilirakis, your General Election challenger) answer **my** question about HR449 (the college loan bankruptcy bill -a 'cure') _and_ my proposed 'Loan Limits' bill (a "preventative" measure) as outlined in my guest column?**

<http://www.theledger.com/article/20160804/COLUMNISTS03/160809884/1382/edit?p=all&tc=pgall>

Source: "A Polk Perspective: Fix our bankrupt policy on student debt," By Gordon Wayne Watts, Guest columnist, *The Ledger*, August 04, 2016

Cache: <http://gordonwatts.com/TheLedger-print-version-WATTS-GuestColumn-Thr04Aug2016.jpg>

Cache: <http://gordonwaynewatts.com/TheLedger-print-version-WATTS-GuestColumn-Thr04Aug2016.jpg>

PS: Besides being a political writer nowadays, I was also the guy who almost won the 'Terri Schiavo' case all by myself:

[1] *In Re: GORDON WAYNE WATTS (as next friend of THERESA MARIE 'TERRI' SCHIAVO)*, No. SC03-2420 (Fla. Feb.23, 2005), denied 4-3 on rehearing. (Watts got 42.7% of his panel) <http://www.floridasupremecourt.org/clerk/dispositions/2005/2/03-2420reh.pdf>

[2] *In Re: JEB BUSH, GOVERNOR OF FLORIDA, ET AL. v. MICHAEL SCHIAVO, GUARDIAN: THERESA SCHIAVO*, No. SC04-925 (Fla. Oct.21, 2004), denied 7-0 on rehearing. (Bush got 0.0% of his panel before the same court) <http://www.floridasupremecourt.org/clerk/dispositions/2004/10/04-925reh.pdf>

[3] *Schiavo ex rel. Schindler v. Schiavo ex rel. Schiavo*, 403 F.3d 1223, 2005 WL 648897 (11th Cir. Mar.23, 2005), denied 2-1 on appeal. (Terri Schiavo's own blood family only got 33.3% of their panel on the Federal Appeals level) <http://media.ca11.uscourts.gov/opinions/pub/files/200511556.pdf>

So, I'm a "true heavyweight" Conservative (and this scared the daylight out of a lot of lawyers, since I accomplished this being a non-lawyer; but it also rubbed Jeb Bush and fellow-conservatives the wrong way, as I opposed him on the feeding

tube issue, using, instead, food/water "legal arguments," based on my religious beliefs).

While I am a conservative writer, nonetheless, the liberals and democrats are sometimes "more correct" than my party (for which I offer apologies) - and one recent example is the differential support for bankruptcy for College Loans, a Conservative Free Market 'check' against predatory lending: Democrats are more likely to be 'Conservative' (and hence correct), here, I must be honest and admit. --- So, my point in mentioning this is to show you that, while human, I am not a biased writer.

Thank you for any clarification you can offer on these 2 issues, the Fair Tax and the 2 HigherEd bills described in my guest column, attached and linked.

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Get Truth

"First, they [Nazis] came for the Jews. I was silent. I was not a Jew. Then they came for the Communists. I was silent. I was not a Communist. Then they came for the trade unionists. I was silent. I was not a trade unionist. Then they came for me. There was no one left to speak for me."(Martin Niemöller, given credit for a quotation in The Harper Religious and Inspirational Quotation Companion, ed. Margaret Pepper(New York: Harper &Row, 1989), 429 -as cited on page 44, note 17,of Religious Cleansing in the American Republic, by Keith A. Fornier,Copyright 1993, by Liberty, Life, and Family Publications.
Some versions have Mr. Niemöller saying: "Then they came for the Catholics, and I didn't speak up, because I was a Protestant"; other versions have him saying that they came for Socialists, Industrialists, schools, the press,and/or the Church; however, it's certain he DID say SOMETHING like this. Actually, they may not have come for the Jews first, as it's more likely they came for the prisoners, mentally handicapped, &other so-called "inferiors" first -as historians tell us-so they could get "practiced up"; however, they did come for them -due to the silence of their neighbors -and due in part to their own silence.
So: 'Speak up now or forever hold your peace!'"-GWW

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