

INDIVISIBLE OH12: OHIO 12TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Thank you for completing this questionnaire for Indivisible OH12, a non-partisan, grassroots organization of 4,000 members living across the 12th District's seven counties. Please save the completed document (add your last name to the file name) and return as an attachment to indivisibleoh12@gmail.com by Monday 2/19. Your completed questionnaire is an invitation to participate in our candidates' forum, co-sponsored by Progress Ohio, to be held Monday, 2/26, 7pm at the First UU Church, 93 W Weisheimer Rd, Columbus. All candidates who have filed to run for the 12th congressional seat are being invited to participate. Please feel free to contact us via email us with questions.

Candidate Name: Lawrence Cohen

Party Affiliation: Republican

Campaign Committee Name: Lawrence Cohen For Congress

Campaign Address: PO Box 20348, Columbus, OH 43220

Phone number: 614-286-7648

Campaign Website Address: www.lawrencecohenforcongress.com

Campaign Manager Name: Jim Volkert

Campaign Manager Phone Number: 614-312-3936

Campaign Manager email address: tdbbitlboy@gmail.com

What endorsements, if any, have you received for your candidacy in this race? N/A

Have you ever run for or held an elective Office? No

If so, please list here:

Office	Dates

Please answer each of the following questions in **60 words or less**.

1. Which experiences have prepared you to run for and hold the office of Representative for Ohio's 12th Congressional District?

I am an attorney and an accountant and have held middle management and executive roles in mergers and acquisitions and purchasing in multinational companies ranging in size from \$100 million to over \$6 billion in sales. I have been on several boards and commissions in New Albany. I am an average American and I truly understand the day to day challenges of the average American and what is important to them.

2. Understanding that voting is primarily legislated at the state level, how do you see your role in expanding the franchise and protecting voting rights as a member of Congress?

Ensure ability to register and that those registered are valid voters. The right to vote must be balanced with making sure the voter rolls are accurate. I have personally seen registrations that were not accurate and that must be fixed.

3. As an elected member of Congress, how will you seek to protect and expand access to healthcare for all Americans?

Obamacare has failed in its 3 stated goals, Increase Access, Improve Quality and Reduce Cost. As a consumer, I have seen none of these materialize. Medical costs should not be the number one cause of bankruptcy in the US. Our costs for healthcare are more per capita than any country in the world. We need to examine the effect of public versus private dollars, health care versus health insurance and free market competition. The drug industry also needs to be examined.

4. What role do you believe science should play in environmental policy? As a member of Congress, how would you support an American role in responsible climate policy?

Science is important but statistics and studies can be made to say what the author wants them to. I would be open to examining independent scientific studies to shape environmental policy. I would encourage US participation in a rational climate policy.

5. What role do you see for the federal government in the public education system? What policies would you support to improve public schools and expand access to higher education for all students?

Education is better handled at the state level especially since each state seems to fund education differently. The federal role should be minimal. Common core should be gone. We need to provide affordable opportunities for education and vocational training.

6. How would you describe your stance on gun safety? What ideas could you bring to Congress to push through the gridlock and create safer neighborhoods and schools for Ohio and the US?

Most gun owners are responsible gun owners. Sales, trigger locks, concealed carry, etc. Safety seems to be related to mental health issues and depression or despair. Mental health care, more and better paying jobs. Address the causes of the violence.

7. What does comprehensive immigration reform look like to you? What do you see as the key elements of such reform?

Secure our borders, deal fairly with the illegal immigrants brought here as minors by their parents, enforce the laws we have and modify the lottery system, allow those who are needed as highly skilled workers in to the country regardless of country of origin while implementing incentives to train citizens for the jobs we currently look to immigrants to fill.

8. List and very briefly discuss the two or three other top concerns that would be priorities for you if you were elected.

BALANCED BUDGET (reduce the debt). Hard choices have to be made on spending and revenue but we must balance the budget.

National Security. We need to be strong on North Korea, we can not allow Iran to have nuclear weapons, we need to support Israel, the only democracy in the middle east and we need to make sure foreign countries can not exert influence on our country.

9. Have you made public statements, written articles, or taken formal positions on any of the issues covered in this questionnaire? If so, please provide electronic copies or links to the leadership of Indivisible OH12 via email before 2/19. This helps us to provide our members with a breadth of resources on potential candidates. N/A