Q1

About Candidates

Candidate Name      Ernie Watson
District            12
Party Affiliation   Republican
Campaign Website    www.erniewatson.com

Q2

Q1. Please tell us about your personal experiences with nonprofits. These may include experiences with any organizations that have served you and/or fellow residents of your community, or specific nonprofits for which you've served as a board member, staff person, volunteer, or donor. How do these experiences shape your policy positions? (Limit: 300 words)

I believe in non-profit organizations, the entity serves to better lives and promote well-being. Accountability and integrity must be maintained in executive/leadership positions.

Q3

Q2. If elected, what would be your top three policy priorities? (Limit: 250 words)

Strengthening Economic Growth
Quality of Life and Values
Legislation that represents the needs of District 12
Q4

The Center advocates on public policy issues that affect North Carolina’s nonprofit sector and works with the NC General Assembly and North Carolina’s members of Congress to develop laws and policies that save nonprofits time and money, help nonprofits operate more effectively, and preserve the public’s trust in North Carolina’s nonprofit sector. Our policy agenda includes:

- Ensuring that all 501(c)(3) nonprofits are fully exempt from federal, state, and local taxes.
- Promoting new and expanded tax deductions and credits that encourage individuals and businesses to give generously to support their communities through the work of charitable nonprofits.
- Supporting policy solutions that will address the nonprofit workforce shortage, including increased funding to support jobs in the nonprofit sector and investment in accessible and affordable child care.
- Seeking solutions to long-standing challenges that nonprofits face when they provide public services through government grants and contracts, including late contracts, late payments, overly complicated application and reporting requirements, and underpayment for indirect costs.
- Promoting laws that will help nonprofits and businesses alike to provide affordable and high-quality health care and other benefits to their employees.

Q3. If elected, which of these policy goals would you support most enthusiastically, and why? (Limit: 250 words)

Supporting policy solutions that will address the nonprofit workforce shortage, including increased funding to support jobs in the nonprofit sector and investment in accessible and affordable child care.

- Seeking solutions to long-standing challenges that nonprofits face when they provide public services through government grants and contracts, including late contracts, late payments, overly complicated application and reporting requirements, and underpayment for indirect costs.

These two topics will be the center of my effort, they provide a stronger leadership presence and allow that to realistically find the long sought solutions.