



[HOME](#)

[2007 ELECTION INFO](#)

[VOTER REGISTRATION](#)

[FALL 2007 CANDIDATE GUIDE-ORLEANS](#)

[FALL 2007 CANDIDATE GUIDE-JEFFERSON](#)

[CALENDAR](#)

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[LINKS](#)

[ELECTION ARCHIVES](#)

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- [Vision, Beliefs, & Intentions](#)
- [History of the League](#)
- [Action & Advocacy](#)

State Representative, 83rd Representative District

[Ron Austin](#). [Robert E. Billiot](#). [Danyelle Taylor](#).

Ron Austin

NAME; Ron Anthony Austin

CAMPAIGN WEB ADDRESS: <http://www.ElectRonAustin.com>

CONTACT INFORMATION: 400 Manhattan Boulevard

(504)365-8787

Harvey, Louisiana 70058

(504)227-8122

PARTY AFFILIATION: Democrat

PRESENT EMPLOYMENT: Attorney At Law

Senior Partner Austin & Associates Law Firm

EDUCATION: Southern University School of Law. Juris Doctorate, 1995

CIVIL EXPERIENCE AND MEMBERSHIPS: Real Estate Developer for 20 years, and Attorney At Law for 13 years; Third District Community Organization;

J.P.R.D./K.A.W.K. Summer Camp Sponsor;

Waggaman Civic Association Board of Directors;

Member of Jefferson Parish Executive Committee

POLITICAL EXPERIENCE AND POLITICAL ORGANIZATION

MEMBERSHIPS:

1. What are your top three priorities for the office and why?

Education - Education and/or the lack there of is the corner stone of hope for economic growth in Jefferson Parish as well as the state of Louisiana. Public Education must be revised and enhanced from Pre-K through higher education. There should also be a greater focus on vocational and/or technical education which provides for alternative educational tracts for the non traditional college bound student. Systems must also be put in place to allow for an increase in teachers' salaries to that which is comparable to the national average as well as a lower student -teacher ratio.

Crime - Post Katrina, Jefferson Parish has seen a significant increase in crime. Every citizen and business owner deserve the right to be safe in their neighborhoods and communities and not be fearful of being robbed and/or attacked. I will work toward funding more police officers for street patrols as well as additional funding for drug court , and the district attorney's diversionary programs for young first time offenders.

Economic Development -I will develop mechanisms to create the needed infrastructure to bring into commerce the undeveloped 9,000 acres of land within the Bayou Segnette Corridor. Additionally, I will establish cooperative endeavor agreements with businesses to create

more job opportunities, and establish training programs to meet the growing demand of those available jobs.

2. What specific legislation would you formulate or support to implement your priorities?

For Education, I will sponsor or support legislation that will mandate a reduction in student teacher ratio, seek out avenues that will find funding for the increase in teacher salaries and work cohesively with local and state educational boards to make needed changes to our overall educational system.

For Crime, I will sponsor or support legislation that will allow for the dedication of more dollars that will allow for an increase in law enforcement officials.

For Economic Development, I will sponsor or support legislation that will reform business tax structure and reduce business taxes to be more competitive, reduce or give tax breaks to small business, and provide tax credits to spur new business growth.

3. What problems do you see with existing ethics reform legislation and what additional reform would you support?

The entire ethics reform legislation should be reviewed and amended for an effective and efficient form of legislation that will allow for a more transparent monitoring of public officials.

4. How would you rank infrastructure needs and how will you fund the needed improvements for the top three? For example: roads, bridges, levees, ecosystem reconstruction, municipal water and sewer systems and public transportation.

The importance of infrastructure needs vary according to location; however, in the area in which I hope to represent I consider the top three infrastructure needs to be Levees, Roads and Sewer Systems. Funding for these projects can be accomplished by scrubbing the state budget and having funds reallocated from political "pet projects" to critical infrastructure needs.

5. What legislation would you support to educate a workforce for advancing the economic development of Louisiana?

Offer tax credits to attract and retain major corporations that will educate and train the unskilled and/or under skilled workforce, as well as look at measures that will allow for a tax credit to individuals willing to return to school to advance their education in job specific fields.



Robert E. Billiot

NO RESPONSE



Danyelle Taylor

NAME: Danyelle Falghou Taylor
CAMPAIGN WEB ADDRESS: <http://WWW.DANYELLETTAYLOR.COM>
CONTACT INFORMATION FOR PUBLICATION:
Address: 1065 Muller Parkway, Suite A, Westwego, LA 70094
Phone: 504-347-8840
FAX: 504-347-5393
E-mail: danytay@bellsouth.net
PARTY AFFILIATION: Republican
PROFESSION: Family Law Attorney
PRESENT EMPLOYER/POSITION: Self employed--Law Office of Danyelle Taylor
HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION: Loyola School of Law, Juris Doctor
APPLICABLE TRAINING: Nicholls State University, Bachelor's degree in Government
CIVIC EXPERIENCE: Westwego Civic Association, Jefferson Chamber of Commerce member, Harvey Canal Industrial Association
POLITICAL EXPERIENCE AND POLITICAL ORGANIZATION
MEMBERSHIPS: The Metro Club, Republican Women's Club of Jefferson Parish, Republican Women's Club of New Orleans

1. What are your top three priorities for the office and why?

Our safety and economy depend on secure levees, better roadways and more interstate choices. We can improve our roads by dedicating the gas tax and registration fees to an infrastructure improvement fund that cannot be used in the General fund. Families and small businesses need tax breaks. We need to reform our personal and business tax structure, and provide tax credits to spur the growth of new industries. We need to find ways to lower the cost of insurance, such as seeking a national Hurricane/Tornado policy. Many members of district 83 are struggling with increased insurance premiums. Whatever can be done to increase competition and lower premiums is a must.

2. What specific legislation would you formulate or support to implement your priorities?

I provided examples of legislation in response to question number one.

3. What problems do you see with existing ethics reform legislation and what additional reform would you support?

I believe we need mandatory ethics education and training for elected officials and public boards. I think Louisiana would benefit by prohibiting conflicts of interest such as allowing legislators or their family members to act as a lobbyist or contract with the government.

4. How would you rank infrastructure needs and how will you fund the needed improvements for the top three? For example: roads, bridges, levees, ecosystem reconstruction, municipal water and sewer systems and public transportation.

I rank infrastructure in the top three. Again our state needs to dedicate monies such as gas tax and registration fees, vehicle sales taxes and vehicle parts, and toll generated revenues to the Transportation Trust Fund and not to be used in the General fund. We need to produce revenue to meet the 20-80 state-federal match.

5. What legislation would you support to educate a workforce for advancing the economic development of Louisiana?

Education goals should start early. We need more high-quality pre-K programs to give children a good and early foundation. We need to expand dual enrollment/dual track curriculums to decrease the dropout rate. By encouraging high school students to seek training or industry certification in the community/technical college system, we provide a capable workforce to Louisiana's businesses and industries. That in turn will encourage those employers to participate in these programs.

Comments, suggestions, questions? Contact our [webmaster](#). Last revised: October 6, 2007 15:20 PDT.

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