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State Representative, 85th Representative District

["Billy" Arnold.](#) [Ricky J. Templet.](#)

"Billy" Arnold

NAME: Billy Arnold (William Lawrence Arnold)

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PARTY AFFILIATION: Republican

PROFESSION: Banker / IT

PRESENT EMPLOYER/POSITION Capital One Bank

HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION (include graduation date):

Bachelors in Management, Southeastern LA University 1988

APPLICABLE TRAINING:

CIVIC EXPERIENCE: Woodland West Civic Association (Board Member), West

Jefferson Civic Coalition (Board Member), Gretna Economic Development

Association, Oakdale Playground (Booster & Coach), Knights of Columbus, Lions

Club, Sunshine Club, Cub Scouts (Assistant Cub Master), St Martha Catholic Church

(Pastoral Council, Men's Club)

POLITICAL EXPERIENCE AND POLITICAL ORGANIZATION

MEMBERSHIPS:

Volunteer at the 1988 Republican National Convention, Member of the Republican

Parish Executive Committee, Member of the Republican State Central Committee

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

My priorities are items that will encourage our residents to stay in the area and to encourage more people to move to the area. Economic Development for the area is desperately needed. This will not be accomplished unless we can make them feel safe from flood/storms and crime, and confident that their children can receive the education needed to be successful. Once these are accomplished we can begin the economic recovery of the westbank and take full advantage of the enhancements to the Huey Long Bridge and the extension of I-49 through the district.

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

I would support or formulate legislation that would enhance our schools while holding those educating and administering the system accountable for the student performance. I would also support legislation that would provide the law enforcement and judicial system

the tools they need to curb the growing crime problem.

While I think new legislation is not needed in my area for flood walls, I will monitor and lobby our federal representatives and parish official to make sure the current project on the Harvey Canal is completed as scheduled.

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

The reformed ethics laws need to apply not only to legislators but to all who hold the public trust. This legislation should include every elected official in the state.

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 will fund any project only after we removed the fat from the budget, our budget is now larger then that of Pennsylvania. The priorities for my district are levees/flood wall, crime, education, roads/bridges, and coastal restoration.

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

We need more trade schools to provide a workforce to supply industry that may be interested in relocating or expanding in our state. Industries such as movie/T.V./stage, medical technology, information technology, tourism elated (food, hotel, convention) and government (Federal City).



Ricky J. Templet

NAME:

Ricky J. Templet

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PARTY AFFILIATION:

Republican

PROFESSION:

Food Service - Catering

PRESENT EMPLOYER/POSITION (if self-employed, what type of business)

Self & City of Gretna - Councilman

HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION (include graduation date):

High School

APPLICABLE TRAINING:

CIVIC EXPERIENCE:

POLITICAL EXPERIENCE AND POLITICAL ORGANIZATION

MEMBERSHIPS:

Councilman, City of Gretna

Jefferson Parish Finance Authority

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

Law Enforcement

Crime is a growing concern among residents of the Westbank of Jefferson Parish. As a councilman in the city of Gretna I sponsored legislation to ensure that the Gretna Police Department had the budget necessary to recruit and retain competent police officers and acquire tools and professional development to effectively fight crime. Recent investigations have revealed that Gretna is the safest place to live in Jefferson Parish; however, crime knows no boundaries. Personal involvement with the Westbank Major Crime Task Force has helped me understand the varied crime issues in the Westbank metropolitan area. As Representative of District 85 I will be an advocate for law enforcement agencies - requesting the establishment of budgets that sufficiently provide salaries and resources to effectively fight and reduce crime and incarcerate criminals.

Flood Mitigation

When I was elected to the council in the City of Gretna, it became evident that some residents suffered flooding on more than one occasion, Although we live below sea level, no one should have to experience loss of personal belongings because of flooding. Through thoughtful investigations, creative engineering, and proactive measures, the City of Gretna was able to reduce the potential for loss of property from floods.

As a representative of District 85 I will examine and institute proactive measures to protect citizens from future floods by ensuring that levees and flood mitigation projects truly protect citizens and that - as a state - we continue efforts to reduce loss and prevent future loss of Louisiana marshes and coast.

Insurance

Like many, I was effected by insurance challenges of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita as were a number of my family, friends, and neighbors. Furthermore, business and residential development on the Westbank has been burdened due to limited access to affordable insurance. As representative of District 85 I will sponsor legislation to create an environment that will encourage providers of insurance to offer insurance at competitive rates.

2. What experience or education qualifies you for this position?

I have been elected, unopposed, two consecutive terms to serve as councilman in the City of Gretna. As a legislator I have sponsored laws that improve law enforcement, quality of life (e.g., drainage, street improvements) and I have balanced a budget in excess of 20 million dollars.

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

I would support full disclosure of contributions from all organizations and income received from governmental agencies., The Legislature must send a clear message that Louisiana is open for business not corruption.

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.

First and foremost, the levees must be improved to meet or exceed federal standards and they must be on a maintenance schedule that ensures that the communities are protected.

Louisiana has some of the worst interstates in the country. We must examine and improve maintenance of roads and highways.

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

In post-Katrina environment, there are not enough skilled workers to meet the service needs of community. Louisiana needs to expand vocational technical training in areas such as plumbing, carpentry, electrical, welding, and shipbuilding.

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

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