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State Senator, 1st Senatorial District

[A. G. Crowe](#). [Kenneth L. Odinet, Sr.](#)

A. G. Crowe

NAME: A. G. Crowe

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

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PARTY AFFILIATION: Republican

PROFESSION: Business Owner

PRESENT EMPLOYER/POSITION (President-The File Depot and V-P Xpress Imaging/A Xerox Agency)

HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION: Southeastern Louisiana University, Business Degree, 1973

APPLICABLE TRAINING: Please see <http://www.agcrowe.com> for complete details.

CIVIC EXPERIENCE: Please see <http://www.agcrowe.com> for complete details.

POLITICAL EXPERIENCE AND POLITICAL ORGANIZATION

MEMBERSHIPS: I am currently serving my eighth year as the State Representative, District 76, covering the greater Slidell/Pearl River area. I served as the St. Tammany Parish School Board Member from Slidell. Please see <http://www.agcrowe.com> for organizations and membership details which are too numerous to list here.

Fall 2007 Legislative Races

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

Recovery: I will continue to work with the Louisiana Recovery Authority to make the road home program more responsive and accountable to the needs of our citizens, continue to press for improved performance of the contractors, and push for the hiring of additional

contractors to speed up the road home grant process since we still have over 140,000 citizens that have not received recovery assistance.

Levee Protection: I support the closure of the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet and support mitigation for current occupants, improve and raise levees in South Slidell, federalize the levees in Plaquemines Parish and raise the levees to at least 28' completely around the developed areas of St. Bernard Parish (including Paris Road), raise Bayou Dupree Gate and install a gate at the entrance of the Intracoastal Waterway to at least 28' high.

Economic Development: I will author legislation to fund the expansion and growth of our Louisiana ports to create meaningful jobs for the citizens of St. Bernard/St. Tammany/Orleans and Plaquemines Parishes and support the opening of Bayou Baptiste Collette in lower Plaquemines Parish to provide direct access to the eastern gulf. I will work to fully implement the national LAMDA and state LONI high-speed internet rail system through the state's universities and to southeast Louisiana with eventual connections to Stennis and Michoud. This will position Louisiana as a high-tech destination for companies which will result in high-paying job opportunities.

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

I will author legislation to provide the LRA more control over the road home program in order to improve service to our citizens by creating a comprehensive accountable system, author legislation to fund port improvements and their identified expansion projects and write legislation to urge our congressional delegation to ascertain that the lives and properties of our citizens are fully protected by adequate federal levees.

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

As a current legislator, I supported and co-authored HB730 in the recent legislative session which would have made Louisiana one of the top states in ethics reform. I will support any and all legislation that will increase the level of ethics in our state. I also authored legislation that would require all legislative meetings to

be televised, archived and available on the internet. I co-authored legislation that would require all appropriations requests and related communications be made public. The problem I see, once we pass new ethics legislation, will be to make sure our reforms are fully funded.

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.

Much of the infra-structure needs (levees, water and sewer systems) in hurricane devastated areas such as St. Bernard should be funded by FEMA or repaired by the Corp. However, regular infrastructure funding for roads and bridges is a challenge because of the huge \$14 billion backlog in DOTD projects. I would rank roads and bridges first and support legislation to send the sales tax paid with the purchase of a vehicle to the parish where the purchase occurred instead of the general fund.

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

First we have to recognize that not every high school student plans to enter a four-year university. The redesign commission understands this fact and has to continue to develop curriculum options for high school students that will enable them to graduate with the ability to meet the requirements of either college, community college, technical school, trade school or the work place. I will author legislation that will create the Louisiana Education Technology Foundation to enhance the use of 21st Century technology at all levels of education, specifically, collaborative interactive technology.



Kenneth L. Odinet, Sr.

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KENNETH L. ODINET, SR.

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PARTY AFFILIATION:

DEMOCRAT

PROFESSION:

ENGINEER/CONTRACTOR

PRESENT EMPLOYER/POSITION:

SELF EMPLOYED/CONSTRUCTION /ENGINEERING

HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION

MASTERS OF SCIENCE-PETROLEUM ENGINEERING, LSU

BATON ROUGE-1957

APPLICABLE TRAINING:

PRACTICING ENGINEER 47 YEARS/PRACTICING

CONTRACTOR 37 YEARS

CIVIC EXPERIENCE:

LOUISIANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 1988-2007

POLITICAL EXPERIENCE AND POLITICAL ORGANIZATION

MEMBERSHIPS:

LABOR COMMITTEE, 20 YEARS

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE, 20 YEARS

WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE, 16 YEARS-VICE CHAIR, 2

YEARS

INDEPENDENT CAUCUS, 16 YEARS

RURAL CAUCUS, 4 YEARS

NCSL

ALEC

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

A. Total Closure of the MRGO with Levee Elevations to 100 year protection

B. Restore and Rebuild disaster area sewer & water facilities along with Government facilities, schools and roadways. Dredging of Baptiste Collette water way and by-pass road in Plaquemines-St. Bernard to stimulate jobs and economic development.

C. Insurance reform and affordability

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

Resolutions to Congress to implement Coastal Restoration Plan which has been submitted by State of Louisiana. Same is inclusive of closure requirement Legislation to secure federal grants and funds to implement infrastructure repairs.

State economic development funds to perform work in

Plaquemines

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

Ethics reform as outlined in last session was voted in the affirmative, but same died in Senate. I would support ethics reform.

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?

Infrastructure needs are paramount and same would be funded with federal assistance and match funds from state appropriations.

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

Resolutions to Board of Regents requesting collaboration between industrial plants, junior colleges and trade schools with assistance from the Department of Labor and federal funds to train a work force as required.

Encourage students to remain in school until graduation in order to secure the future of Louisiana.

Comments, suggestions, questions? Contact our [webmaster](#). Last revised: October 9, 2007 13:34 PDT.

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