

Muscatine County Democratic Party

Candidate Questionnaire

Theresa Greenfield

United States Senate

<https://greenfieldforiowa.com>

As a Democrat, what issue or guiding principle motivated you most to run for the office you are seeking?

When I was 24 years old, my first husband - a lineman with the power company and a member of IBEW - was killed in an accident on the job. I became a young widow with a 13-month old and another little one on the way. I wouldn't be in this fight today if it hadn't been for Social Security survivor benefits and hard-earned union benefits that allowed me to get back on my feet and pursue a career where I could support my family.

For me, this fight is personal. When Senator Ernst votes with Mitch McConnell and her corporate PAC donors threatening Social Security and Medicare, or talks about gutting these benefits "behind closed doors," I say no way. I'm in this race because I know what it's like to go through tough times, and I'll work to make sure every Iowan can get the same hand up that I got.

What do you want people to know most about how you will serve them?

Here's my promise - I'll never forget who I am, where I'm from, or who I'm fighting for.

Where Senator Ernst has sided with party leaders and corporate special interests, I'm running to put Iowa first. She's taken more than \$1.9 million in corporate PAC donations, and it shows. She's voted for massive handouts to big corporations and the wealthiest Americans, voted to gut protections for Iowans with pre-existing conditions and dismantle the Medicaid expansion that has been a lifeline for our community hospitals, and refused to support plans to allow Medicare to negotiate for lower prescription drug costs.

That's unacceptable. I'm not taking a dime of corporate PAC money, and I have a plan to end political corruption by banning dark money, banning corporate PACs and ending Citizen United.

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What do you believe are the most pressing issues facing people in the geographic area you will serve?

No matter who I'm talking to or where in Iowa they're from, the issues I hear about are the same: protecting and expanding access to high quality health care and bringing down the costs of care, investing in education and skills training, creating good-paying jobs and opportunities in our hometowns, and taking urgent climate action.

But we're not going to be able to address any of these challenges facing our communities unless we end the political corruption in Washington. It's the first plan I released in this campaign, because whether you're focused on expanding health care access, strengthening Social Security, or reducing our carbon footprint and investing in more resilient infrastructure, it starts with ending the influence of corporate PACs, banning dark money, and closing the revolving door.

Here's one example of how big money influences our politics. Senator Ernst has taken over \$1.9 million from corporate PACs and refuses to support letting Medicare negotiate lower prescription drug costs for Iowa seniors. I'm not taking a dime of corporate PAC money, and I'll always put Iowa first.

Why do you think you can be effective in advancing the interests of the people you represent through meaningful legislation, policy, and funding?

The lessons I've learned from putting myself through college, overcoming personal tragedy and rising up in small business have prepared me to represent everyday Iowans better than just about anything else.

I've run a small business before and know what it's like to keep the lights on. I'm a mother of four who turned to Social Security and union benefits for a hand up after my first husband died, and I know the tough decisions our working families are making right now. Finally, I'm a scrappy farm kid that's a product of the farm crisis. I'm ready to take my grit and resolve to get the job done for hardworking Iowans, and will never forget how our small towns suffered.

I also have the experience of working as a community planner. I started my career going to local government meetings and seeing the way our hometowns come together to tackle problems. I learned quickly there's no such thing as a Democratic pothole or a Republican pothole - just a pothole that needs to get filled.

These fights are personal for me. I'll never forget where I come from or who I'm fighting for, and I'll always put Iowa first.

How do you envision your office working with other entities to advance democratic priorities in the geographic area you will serve?

I believe Washington can learn a thing or two from how our hometowns work here in Iowa. When we're facing tough times, we set the politics aside and pull together to get the job done. That will be my same approach in the Senate - I'll listen to Iowans and work with anyone to invest in our communities and put hardworking Iowans first.

Is there anything else you would like voters to know?

We're building the strongest team to take on Senator Ernst and we can win. Recently, a new poll shows we're in a dead heat with Senator Ernst in a general election match up, trailing by just one point at 43-42. Our strong grassroots team includes over 15,000 contributions from Iowans in all 99 counties and I'm proud to have the endorsement of over 20 local labor groups, including the Iowa AFL-CIO, which represents over 50,000 members.