

Wisconsin State Assembly Candidate Questionnaire – District 14

Candidates who participated: Matt Adamczyk (R) Rick Braun (L)

1. Do you believe the state of our free enterprise system is currently flourishing, on the right track, neutral, being threatened or declining?

Matt Adamczyk (R): On the right track

Rick Braun (L): On the right track. In general it is on the right track despite the government's efforts to intervene, but there are still many improvements to make in order to make it more free from government meddling.

2. Do you believe that tax increases affect job creation? Why or why not?

Matt Adamczyk (R): Tax increases certainly hurt job creation, as higher taxes take money from employers that could better use the money to expand business.

Rick Braun (L): Yes, increasing taxes on the individual reduces the amount of discretionary income people have to spend, which slows economic growth. Taxing businesses reduces the funds available to businesses to grow their businesses and hire new workers.

3. Explain how your background will help you to be a successful elected official, representing a broad range of interests and competing demands.

Matt Adamczyk (R): I was elected in 2014 as the Wisconsin State Treasurer. I have used my time in office to make government more efficient and smaller. I also have helped operate a small family business and operate a small rental management company.

Rick Braun (L): Serving in the Marine Corps in leadership positions, I have years of experience managing competing demands. I also have degrees in Business and Political Science and over a decade of experience in the private sector and understand how increasing taxes or even the possibility of tax increases prevent businesses from taking risks.

4. Why should members of the Waukesha County Business Alliance vote for you?

Matt Adamczyk (R): I have a proven track record as a strong fiscal conservative. I know that businesses do best with less government involvement.

Rick Braun (L): I am a fresh perspective that will work both against increasing taxes and against those who wish to use influence in Madison to reduce competition. I believe in a level playing field and want to reduce barriers to entry for entrepreneurs.

5. What is one thing that you believe government either does well, or has improved upon?

Matt Adamczyk (R): Since Governor Walker was elected, Wisconsin has done a much better job creating an environment for business to thrive, which is much improved from the Doyle days.

Rick Braun (L): I do not believe the government does anything better than the private sector.

6. Do you support the intent and subsequent results of Act 10, which passed through the legislature in 2011?

Matt Adamczyk (R): Yes. As a former staffer for Sen. Leah Vukmir, I was proud to work in the building during the successful and historic passage of Act 10.

Rick Braun (L): Yes. The focus of government spending should be on the students and the facilities instead of teachers unions and their contracts.

WAUKESHA COUNTY BUSINESS ALLIANCE

Advocate / Develop / Network / Promote

- 7. Wisconsin is facing a major funding shortfall for transportation infrastructure. What are your ideas to address this issue to ensure that Wisconsin's infrastructure is maintained and we can show that the state is "open for business?"**

Matt Adamczyk (R): The most important thing is to make sure all money earmarked for roads is being spent wisely and efficiently. I will help lead this effort if elected. Simply put, there is still waste in government.

Rick Braun (L): Costs per construction bid can be severely reduced simply by requiring more than one bid per contract. The majority of road construction projects are awarded to contractors without having any competition for the project. Competition would immediately lower the costs per project and would help eliminate the shortfall.

- 8. If elected, what are the top 3 priorities you will have in Madison? Be specific.**

Matt Adamczyk (R): 1. Reign in government spending to allow for tax reductions 2. Make government more efficient, thus freeing up funds for necessary spending 3. Work to fight the drug and crime problem spreading in our area.

Rick Braun (L): Getting spending under control, fixing the transportation budget shortfall, and eliminating excessive and arbitrary government regulations.

- 9. What will you do, specifically, to encourage and support economic development in this district and around the state?**

Matt Adamczyk (R): In many ways, I will support the good work done over the last few years by Gov. Walker and Republican legislators

10. Knowing that many out-of-state residents who receive higher education in Wisconsin leave, what can the state do better to keep, and employ, those individuals after graduation?

Matt Adamczyk (R): We need to continue to foster an environment that allows businesses to thrive. In doing so, the jobs created by those businesses will keep people here.

11. What policies would you pursue, if any, to ensure that our education institutions continue to meet the needs of our state?

Matt Adamczyk (R): I am a big believer of keeping money in the classroom. In addition, I believe that high schools could do a better job training workers that don't want to immediately pursue a college degree.

12. What specifically would you do to increase the labor participation rate among able-bodied adults in the state?

Matt Adamczyk (R): I would support the policies either enacted or proposed by Republican legislators over the last few terms.

13. What is your opinion on the performance of the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) and do you support economic incentives such as tax credits to assist business expansion within the state?

Matt Adamczyk (R): I believe that WEDC has done a better job recently in keeping Wisconsin a place that employers want to stay or locate.