



2026 Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name: Mark Conway

Position: House of Representatives

District: 7

What drives you to seek this position and what strengths do you have that make you uniquely qualified?

Deeply concerned about democracy and the actions at the Federal level, party needs to work to resolve real issues for real people to gain back the confidence in the people to win 3 levels. Unique qual- opportunity for mayor office and how gov't works, gives insight into challenges & opps we have ahead of us & largely leads to where he puts his time & gives perspective for potential, shows up for community

For new candidates, policymakers face difficult decisions that at times present conflicts between their personal values, constituents' competing concerns, and their chances to stay in power: what would you do in such situations?

"I believe elected officials must lead with principle, even when doing so carries personal or political cost. In my prior service, I voted against providing pensions for elected officials who are re-elected after their first term because I believed it was unfair to constituents who do not have access to pensions themselves and who deserve greater economic security.

That vote was not in my personal self-interest, but it reflected my commitment to fairness and to representing the people I serve rather than myself. I believe public trust is built when leaders are willing to make difficult decisions guided by equity, integrity, and the public good."

As a member of the Democratic Party representing constituents in Congress, what would you do to address the impact of Project 2025 policies? Please include your plans regarding the gutting of lawfully allocated funds to programs and agencies through presidential rescission and the firing of unionized federal employees without due process.

"Project 2025 represents a serious threat to democratic governance, the rule of law, and the stability of essential public institutions. While its goals are deeply harmful, its existence also underscores the urgent need to rebuild and modernize how government functions.



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I would oppose efforts to rescind lawfully allocated funds and would defend the rights of federal workers, including unionized employees, to due process and collective bargaining protections. Beyond resistance, I believe we must proactively rebuild government with people who understand what works, individuals with systems-level expertise who can reassemble and strengthen public institutions in ways that better serve the country. The goal must be not only to stop damage, but to emerge with a more effective, accountable, and resilient government."

What is your position on support for Ukraine?

I strongly support Ukraine and unequivocally condemn Russia's violation of Ukrainian sovereignty. Russia's attempts to intimidate and dominate a neighboring nation undermine international law and global stability. Ukraine is a U.S. ally, and supporting its right to self-determination is both a moral obligation and a strategic imperative.

What legislation would you champion to address immigration reform? What do you think is wrong (or not) with the current way immigration is being handled? Which specific civil rights of immigrants need to be protected?

"The current immigration system is broken and, in many cases, enforced in ways that oppress and terrorize people who live, work, and contribute to this nation. Comprehensive reform is urgently needed to expand safe, legal, and affordable pathways for individuals to enter the country and ultimately become citizens. The United States is an immigrant nation, and our economic strength, cultural vitality, and social fabric are rooted in that history.

In recent years, fear and violence have been deliberately manufactured around immigration, distorting public understanding and undermining meaningful solutions. We must protect the country and its resources, discourage unlawful entry, and maintain orderly and humane processes; but we can do so by modernizing and streamlining legal immigration systems that currently take decades to navigate and impose prohibitive financial and bureaucratic barriers.

Immigrants are entitled to the full civil rights guaranteed under the Constitution and our legal code. Immigration enforcement must not rely on racial profiling or violations of due process. Agencies such as ICE cannot determine immigration status through practices that erode



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constitutional protections or encroach on judicial authority. Every person within our borders has the right to due process, a fair trial, and equal protection under the law."

How would you address threats from the federal government to cut funds to rebuild the Key Bridge?

"Rebuilding the Key Bridge must be approached through strong partnerships and a clear demonstration of national interest. This is not merely a local or district issue, it is a bipartisan American trade and infrastructure priority. The Port of Baltimore is one of the most significant ports on the East Coast, and disruptions harm not only Maryland but the entire national economy.

I would work proactively and collaboratively to frame this effort as critical to American commerce, supply chains, and economic security. At the same time, I believe in applying pressure strategically, leveraging support for other legislative priorities where necessary to ensure funding moves forward. The goal is to be proactive rather than reactionary, using coalition-building and firm negotiation to deliver results."