

2022 General Election Candidate Questionnaire

Congress – District 5

Michael Barkley

1. What are your qualifications?

Lawyer, inactive CPA, computer programmer, owner/operator of a successful small business that I started in 1972, owner of a ranch with my brother 40 miles west of Chico that includes parcels the family owned since the 1850s, Navy veteran, see mjbarkl.com/bio.htm

2. What would be your top priorities?

Strengthen Federal wildfire suppression; develop Federal post-disaster homeowners insurance support.

Advocate the formation of a Congressional Natural Disaster and Casualty Insurance Caucus: Wildfires, Earthquakes, Floods, Hurricanes, Tornados

Adopt Medicare for All

Adopt the Labor Bill of Rights

Bring jobs back from overseas

Humanize personal income

Solve housing/Reverse what Congress did to cause the homeless and soaring housing cost epidemic

Upgrade infrastructure

Fund Greyhound

Solve climate change

Nationalize the right to vote and protect the voting system

Replace impeachment

Fix California's flooding risk and water shortages

Enlarge the New Melones spillway to handle Great Flood flows

Adopt U.S. balanced budget

Halt the confiscation of taxpayer trust fund deposits

Humanize immigration

Fund education

Black Lives Matter

Repeal the right to keep and bear arms

Restore Roe v. Wade

3.How do you evaluate the impact to business when making voting decisions?

Tough question. I don't want to put anybody out of business, but then again some businesses like Big Tobacco deserve it. So basically, balance the need with the cost.

4.What are your plans to make government more transparent, responsive, and effective?

Here is transparency and responsiveness: mjbarkl.com/run.htm – much of that is from knocking on doors.

Effective is a real problem for Congress – it will require negotiation and horse trading.

5. Is the organization for which you seek office operating with a balanced budget? If not, what are your plans to make the organization more sustainable?

No.

Here is a balanced budget which I stopped when Trump got elected since I could no longer trust their OMB numbers: <http://www.mjbarkl.com/usbudget.pdf> - It is a lot easier writing a balanced budget than it is getting the votes for one. Plans? Fight for it, trade for it.

Tom McClintock

1.What are your qualifications?

I have represented the people of California's historic gold country and Sierra Nevada in the House of Representatives since 2009.

In those years, the National Taxpayers Union has rated me the best vote for taxpayers in the entire House of Representatives, and Citizens Against Government Waste has consistently recognized my work combatting wasteful government spending. My support of small businesses has repeatedly earned me a 100% rating from the National Federation of Independent Business.

I have proposed major fiscal reforms to curb unauthorized appropriations, control mandatory spending, balance the budget and protect the nation's credit.

As a senior member of the House Natural Resources Committee, I have advocated construction of new reservoirs and land management policies to promote forest health, public access and fire prevention. In 2016, President Obama signed my legislation into law to streamline fuels management in the Tahoe Basin. I chaired the Subcommittee on Federal Lands from 2017 to 2019 and chaired the Subcommittee on Water and Power from 2011 to 2015.

Prior to my election to Congress, I served 22 years in the California legislature. I twice received the Republican nomination for State Controller and Lt. Governor and ran as the conservative standard bearer for Governor in California's historic recall election in 2003.

2.What would be your top priorities?

1. Secure the border. As ranking Republican on the House Immigration Sub-Committee, it will be my responsibility to shepherd the changes to immigration laws necessary to secure our border and make it impossible for future administrations to allow the unprecedented mass illegal migration now flooding our southern border. That will include tightening of asylum laws, mandating implementation of the remain in Mexico policy and requiring detention of illegal aliens until their cases are heard.
2. Restore Fiscal Responsibility. I discuss this below.
3. Restore our ability to build reservoirs and manage forests. I am one of the senior members of the House Natural Resources Committee and have chaired both its sub-committee on water and its sub-committee on public lands. I intend to continue my work to reform the radical environmental laws such as ESA and NEPA that have made it impossible for us to manage our forests and meet our generation's water needs.

3.How do you evaluate the impact to business when making voting decisions?

I adhere to the free market principles that have produced prosperity wherever they are practiced. I oppose subsidies, government interference in consumer decisions, attempts to dictate the allocation of resources, excessive and disproportionate taxation, and excessive government spending. I strongly support unrestricted free trade. In administering government programs, I believe in the "yellow pages doctrine:" If you can find it in the yellow pages, government shouldn't be doing it.

4. What are your plans to make government more transparent, responsive, and effective?

The greatest threat to government transparency, responsiveness and effectiveness is the massive growth in unelected bureaucracies operating increasingly outside the constraints of the constitution and our elected executive and representatives. Federal agencies now write ten times the number of laws as Congress, the same agencies enforce the laws they have written, and then adjudicate the charges they bring. Madison called this the foundation of tyranny. Congress must reclaim its exclusive power to legislate and restore the President's exclusive power to direct executive agencies.

5. Is the organization for which you seek office operating with a balanced budget? If not, what are your plans to make the organization more sustainable?

Nations that bankrupt themselves aren't around very long, because before you can provide for the common defense or promote the general welfare, you must be able to pay for them. I chaired the RSC budget task force that produced a federal budget that would balance in five years, and it got more votes on the House floor than any previous RSC budget. It can be done, but it requires more members of Congress willing to do so than we currently have. Our debt, as a percentage of GDP, is greater than at any time since the end of World War II. In FY 1946, Harry Truman abolished the excess profits tax, slashed federal income tax rates, fired ten million federal employees and cut the federal budget from \$85 billion to \$30 billion. Keynesians predicted a second great depression – instead we got the post-war economic boom and grew our way out of that debt. I believe we can still do so, but time is running out.