



# Kevin Coughlin

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Republican Candidate in  
Ohio's 13th Congressional District

**Research Memo – July 2024**

Preliminary Research

Prepared by the DCCC Research Department



# OH-13: Kevin Coughlin (R) RESEARCH MEMO

TOPLINES..... 4

SIGNIFICANT FINDINGS..... 8

Kevin Coughlin Worked To Restrict Abortion Access And Is Closely Allied With Staunch Anti-Choice Leaders..... 8

Coughlin Admitted To Being “Homophobic” In Response To An Accusation Of Discriminating Against A Gay Student While He Was Bowling Green Student Body President, Which Resulted In Calls For Him To Resign And His Reelection Loss ..... 19

2022: Coughlin Spent His Time Out Of Elected Office Working To Elect The Author Of Ohio’s Abortion Ban- A Prominent Opponent Of An Exception For Rape- And A Candidate Who Was Later Convicted Of Domestic Violence ..... 22

Coughlin Supported Gutting Seniors’ Hard-Earned Benefits By Advocating For Medicare And Social Security ‘Reform’ And For Legislation That Would Force Cuts To Both Programs ..... 25

Coughlin Supported The Paul Ryan Plan, Which Advocated For Repealing The Affordable Care Act ..... 30

Coughlin Bashed Unions And Opposed Expanding Collective Bargaining Rights To More Workers..... 33

Coughlin Had A Documented History Of Support For Cutting Medicaid ..... 34

Coughlin Supported Anti-LGBTQ+ Policy, Including Voting To Ban Ohio From Recognizing Same-Sex Marriage ... 35

Coughlin Advocated For Legislation Police Officers Opposed And Once Called For More Civilian Oversight Of Police ..... 35

Coughlin’s Campaigns And Public Positions Were Riddled With Ethics Investigations And Accusations Of Impropriety ..... 37

On Multiple Occasions, Coughlin Sought Unconventional And Overly Litigious Routes To Achieve Campaign Goals 48

Coughlin Was Disliked By His Colleagues—including Multiple Members Of The Ohio Republican Party—Throughout His Political Career And Life..... 51

Coughlin Killed A Bill To Get Back At The Co-Author Of A Constitutional Amendment To End Gerrymandering In Ohio For The Author's Involvement In The Initiative ..... 54

Coughlin Sponsored H.B. 590, A Bill That Would Require Any New Prisons Built In Ohio To Be Privatized ..... 55

Coughlin Posted A Photo On Instagram With Ron DeSantis ..... 56

Coughlin’s Celebrated An Endorsement From His Former State Senate Companion, Jim Jordan ..... 57

2023: Coughlin Endorsed Trump For President ..... 58

April 2024: Coughlin Was “Proud” To Be Endorsed By Speaker Mike Johnson ..... 58

Coughlin Was A Bush And Romney Republican ..... 59

Budget..... 60

Civil Rights..... 60

Elections..... 61

Environment..... 62

Ethics..... 63

Healthcare ..... 65

Jobs ..... 68

Labor ..... 68



LGBTQ+ Rights.....	69
Police.....	71
Seniors.....	74
Taxes.....	76
Professional History.....	78
Board And Non-Profit History.....	84
Political Career.....	87
Personal Political History.....	95

## TOPLINES

### **Kevin Coughlin Worked To Restrict Abortion Access And Is Closely Allied With Staunch Anti-Choice Leaders.**

- 2024: Coughlin Said “I Either Co-Sponsored Or Voted For Every Allowable Roe V. Wade State Restriction”
- Coughlin Co-Sponsored And Voted In Favor Of S.C.R. 6, Which Urged The President And Congress To Oppose Funding For Abortion And The Freedom Of Choice Act.
- Coughlin Co-Sponsored A Bill That Blocked Health Care Coverage Of Abortions With Almost No Exceptions Under A Qualified Health Care Plan.
  - The Bill Created Exceptions Only For Rape And Incest That Were Reported To Law Enforcement Agencies, Which Make Up The Vast Minority Of Such Cases.
- Coughlin Voted In Favor Of Restricting Access To Abortion Drugs, Including Mifepristone, By Allowing Only Certain Physicians To Prescribe Mifepristone.
- Coughlin Co-Sponsored Legislation To Prohibit Funds For Family Planning Services From Being Used For Abortion Referrals.
- Coughlin Co-Sponsored H.B. 351, Which Would Ban So-Called “Partial Birth” Abortions.
- Coughlin Voted In Favor Of Authorizing A License Plate That Read “Choose Life,” The Funds From Which Went To Crisis Pregnancy Centers That Did Not Provide Counseling Or Referrals For Abortion.
- 2023: Coughlin Posted On Facebook Calling Anti-Abortion Advocate Burgess Owens A “Thoughtful Conservative Leader.”
  - Burgess Owens Was An Anti-Abortion Advocate Who Pushed For A Total Abortion Ban With No Exceptions That Could Even Limit Access To Some Birth Control.
- 2023: Coughlin Called Anti-Abortion Ohio State Senators Jay Hottinger And Randy Gardner, Who Both Championed Abortion Bans, “Great Friends.”
  - Jay Hottinger Co-Sponsored S.B. 23, Which Would Prohibit Abortion If There Was A Detectable Heartbeat With The Penalty Of A Fifth Degree Felony For Care Providers.
  - Gardner Co-Sponsored S.B. 127, Which Would Prohibit Abortion Past 20 Weeks.

### **Coughlin Admitted To Being “Homophobic” After He Was Accused Of Discrimination Against A Gay Student While He Was Bowling Green Student Body President, Which Resulted In Calls For Him To Resign And His Eventual Reelection Loss.**

- HEADLINE: "Report: Ohio GOP House Nominee Is A Self-Proclaimed ‘Homophobe.’"
- 1991: Kevin Coughlin Was Student Body President At Bowling Green State University When He Was Accused Of Discriminating Against A Gay Student By Overlooking Him For A Student Senate Seat Based On His Sexuality.
- In Response, Coughlin Said “I’m Homophobic, I Admit It, I Have A Problem With It.”
- Coughlin Said He Called Himself “A Homophobe” Sarcasically “Because I Am Sick And Tired Of Hearing Cries Of Discrimination From Members Of The Outer Fringes Of Society Every Time They Are Turned Down For A Position.”
  - Coughlin Confirmed That He Did “Not Agree With The Lifestyles That Homosexuals Choose To Lead” But “Just Because Someone Disagrees With Somebody’s Lifestyle Does Not Mean They Are Discriminating Against Them.”
- Coughlin Lost The Student Body President Reelection In The Midst Of The Controversy.

### **2022: Coughlin Spent His Time Out Of Elected Office Working To Elect The Author Of Ohio’s Abortion Ban- A Prominent Opponent Of An Exception For Rape- And A Candidate Who Was Later Convicted Of Domestic Violence.**

- HEADLINE: "Ohio GOP Congressional Candidate Worked To Elect Anti-Abortion Peers To State Office."
- Coughlin Worked To Elect Kristina Roegner, The Sponsor Of Ohio’s Six-Week Abortion Ban.
  - 2022: Kristina Daley Roegner For Ohio Paid Coughlin’s Company \$3,500 For Printing.

- 2019: Roegner Sponsored Legislation To Enact The Ohio Heartbeat Bill, Which Went Into Effect After Dobbs.
- Roegner’s Heartbeat Bill Did Not Have Exceptions For Rape Or Incest, And She Doubled Down On Her Opposition To Rape Exceptions In Anti-Abortion Legislation In 2022.
- 2023: Roegner Sponsored A Resolution To Oppose Issue One, The Ohio Ballot Measure That Established A Constitutional Right To An Abortion.
- Coughlin Worked To Elect Bob Young, Who Was Later Convicted Of Domestic Violence And Resigned From The Ohio House.
  - 2022: Elect Bob Young Paid Coughlin’s Company \$4,500 For Campaign Literature.
  - 2023: Bob Young Was Found Guilty Of A Domestic Violence Charge.
  - 2023: Young Pled Guilty To Three Counts Of Violating A Protection Order.
  - Young Resigned From The State House After Receiving Four Criminal Charges Stemming From Three Separate Incidents.

### **Coughlin Supported Gutting Seniors’ Hard-Earned Benefits By Advocating For Medicare Cuts And Social Security ‘Reform’ And For Legislation That Would Force Cuts To Both Programs.**

- HEADLINE: "Ohio Republican Congressional Candidate Pushes For Social Security Privatization."
- HEADLINE: "Ohio’s Republican Candidates Are Floating Social Security, Medicare, And Medicaid Reforms."
- April 30, 2024: Coughlin Called For “Hedging Your Bets” And Investing Social Security In “Some Straight Up Stocks” As A “Much Easier Solution.”
  - Coughlin Admitted To “Ups And Downs In The Stock Market” And That The Criticism Of Investing Social Security In The Stock Market Is That It’s A “Gamble.”
  - Coughlin Said, “It’s Not Gambling If You Know What You’re Doing” Investing Social Security In The Stock Market.
  - During The Great Recession, The S&P 500 Index Fell By More Than A Third In The Course Of A Year, Which Caused Retirement Accounts Invested In The Stock Market To Lose 32% Of Their Value.
  - 2009: One In Six Households Reported Reallocating Their Retirement Investments Away From Stocks In Response To The Great Recession, Nearly Three Times As Many As Those Who Shifted Toward Stocks.
- 2011: Coughlin Supported Medicare Cuts That Would Have Cost 159,400 Ohio Seniors \$6,698 Each.
  - Coughlin On Turning Medicare Into A Voucher Program For Anyone Who Was Under Age 55 In 2011: “I Support It.”
  - Converting Medicare To A Voucher Program In 2011 Would Have Cost 159,400 Ohio Seniors \$6,698 More For Healthcare, According To Democratic Calculations.
- 2011: Coughlin Supported The Cut, Cap, And Balance Act, Which Would Subject Medicare And Social Security To Deep Reductions.
- 2011: Coughlin Supported The Paul Ryan Plan, Which Advocated For Cutting Medicare And “Reforming” Social Security.
  - The Paul Ryan Plan Supported Moving Medicare To A Premium Support System, Thus Shifting Costs Onto Beneficiaries.
  - The Paul Ryan Plan Advocated For Cutting Medicare By Raising The Eligibility Age From 65 To 67.
  - The Paul Ryan Plan Advocated For Social Security “Reform.”

### **Coughlin Supported The Paul Ryan Plan, Which Advocated For Repealing The Affordable Care Act.**

- 2011: Coughlin Supported The Paul Ryan Plan, Which Advocated For Repealing And Defunding The Affordable Care Act As One Of Its “Key Objectives.”
- Repealing The Affordable Care Act Would Have Dire Consequences, Including Forcing Millions Off Their Health Insurance And Causing 1.2 Million Jobs To Be Lost.
- Coughlin Introduced Legislation That Prevented Affordable Care Act Legislation From Taking Effect In Ohio.

- Coughlin Co-Sponsored A Bill That Blocked Health Care Coverage Of Abortions With Almost No Exceptions Under The Affordable Care Act.

### **Coughlin Bashed Unions And Opposed Extending Collective Bargaining Rights To More Workers.**

- 2011: Coughlin Said He Would Have Voted For A State Law That Banned Public Workers From Striking And Required Them To Pay A Greater Share Of Their Healthcare And Pension Premiums.
- 2007: The Ohio Governor Extended Collective Bargaining Rights To Home Health Care Nurses And Independent Contractors, A Move That Coughlin Criticized.
- 2007: Coughlin Criticized Organized Labor, Saying It Was “Not Going To Create Jobs In This State [...] Modernize Our State [...] Or] Make Ohio Competitive On A Global Stage.”
- 2005: Coughlin Voted Not To Let Ohio School Facilities Commission Employees Unionize.
- 1998: Coughlin Sponsored A Bill That Would Allow Employers Not To Pay Employees Extra For Overtime Work. The Executive Secretary Of The Cleveland AFL-CIO Opposed The Bill.

### **Coughlin Had A Documented History Of Supporting Cutting Medicaid**

- 2002: Coughlin Supported Cutting Medicaid.
- Coughlin And Jim Jordan Jointly Suggested That The Ohio Senate “Consider Cutting Optional Medicaid Programs And Services.”

### **Coughlin Supported Anti-LGBTQ+ Policy, Including Voting To Ban Ohio From Recognizing Same-Sex Marriage**

- 2004: Coughlin Voted To Prevent Ohio From Recognizing Same-Sex Marriages Or Granting Benefits To Unmarried Domestic Partners.

### **Coughlin Advocated For Legislation Police Officers Opposed And Once Called For More Civilian Oversight Of Police.**

- As Bowling Green State University Student Senate President, Coughlin Called For More Police Oversight And Student Boycotts After Police Raided Off-Campus Parties.
- Coughlin Introduced A Bill He Claimed Would Help Law Enforcement Officials Recognize Sexual Predators, Even Though Law Enforcement Organizations Like The Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association, Buckeye Sheriffs Association, And Ohio Association Of Chiefs Of Police Opposed The Bill.
- 2011: Coughlin Supported Legislation That Would Have Restricted The Collective Bargaining Rights Of Police Officers.

### **Coughlin’s Campaigns And Public Positions Were Riddled With Ethics Investigations And Accusations Of Impropriety.**

- 2015: During Coughlin’s Re-Election Campaign For Stow Court Clerk He Faced Calls For An Ethics Investigation For Illegally Awarding A Contract To A Partner Of His Firm And “Friend.”
  - The Summit County Democratic Party Requested A State Investigation Of Coughlin Regarding A Contract He Issued To David Stofka, The “Web Design And Development Partner” At Coughlin’s Company And A “Longtime Friend” To Coughlin.
  - Ohio Law Prohibited Public Officials From Giving Contracts To Business Associates.
  - A Judge Ruled That Because Stofka And Coughlin Were Not Business Associates Because They Were Not Invested In Each Other’s Companies.
- 2015: During Coughlin’s Re-Election Campaign For Stow Court Clerk He Faced Allegations Of Creating A New Courthouse Position For A Campaign Supporter Who Did Little Work Assigned To Him.
  - Coughlin Faced Allegations Of Creating A New Courthouse Position—Deputy Clerk Of Community Relations—For Victor Milani, A Campaign Supporter.
  - The Summit County Democratic Party Treasurer Requested Card Swipe Information After Rumors That Coughlin Was Frequently Absent From The Courthouse And Milani Hardly Worked.

- 2015: Security Card Records Showed That Coughlin Was Not Present For 44% Of All Business Days As Stow Court Clerk, Including A 135-Day Stretch When Coughlin Did Not Use The Security Card At All.
- 2015: Coughlin Obstructed Public Records Of Former Employees And Broke With Stow’s Public Record Request Policy After His Opponents Sought Access To The Former Employees’ Emails.
  - The Summit County Democratic Party Treasurer Requested Card Swipe Information After Rumors That Coughlin Was Frequently Absent From The Courthouse And One Of His Employees Hardly Worked.
  - Coughlin Changed Public Record Request Policy After His Opponents Sought Information Related To His Job Performance, Saying His Office Would Handle Any Future Records Requests.
  - Coughlin Broke With City Policy Of The Law Department Handling Record Requests And Instructed The Courthouse Not To Cooperate With The Records Requests.
- Coughlin Ordered That The Email Inboxes Of Two Employees Under Investigation Be Deleted.
- 2002: The Ohio Ethics Commission Found Probable Cause Against Coughlin For Misleading Voters While Running For State Senate.
  - The Ohio Ethics Commission Found Probable Cause Against Coughlin For Misleading Voters By Leaving Outdated Endorsements On His Website.
  - The Ohio Elections Commission Found Probable Cause Of Coughlin Airing False Attack Statements Against His Opponent.  
2002: Coughlin Faced Five Complaints By His State Senate Election Day.
- 1998: One Of Coughlin’s Volunteers Was Accused Of Stealing A Piece Of Coughlin’s Opponents Campaign Literature, But Coughlin Denied It.

#### **On Multiple Occasions, Coughlin Sought Unconventional And Overly Litigious Routes To Achieve Campaign Goals.**

- 2007: Coughlin Worked To Undermine The Election Of Alex Arshinkoff To The Republican Central Committee.
- 2013: Coughlin Embarked On A Legal Campaign To Allow Himself To Run As A Non-Partisan In The Stow Municipal Clerk Election After Unanimous Objection From Both Republicans And Democrats On The Election Board.
  - Coughlin Filed To Run For Stow Municipal Clerk As A Non-Partisan.
  - The Summit County Board Of Elections Unanimously Decided That Coughlin Could Not Run As A Non-Partisan “Given His Strong Ties To The Republican Party.”
  - Coughlin Appealed The Elections Board Decision At The Ohio Supreme Court, Who Decided Coughlin Could Run As A Non-Partisan Candidate.
  - Coughlin Authored The Legislation That The Court Used To Grant Him Permission To Run As A Non-Partisan Candidate.

#### **Coughlin Was Disliked By His Colleagues—including Multiple Members Of The Ohio Republican Party—Throughout His Political Career And Life.**

- The Summit County Republican Party Chairman Called Coughlin “Radioactive” And Said “He’s On Nobody’s List.”
- Summit County Republican Chairman Alex Arshinkoff Worked To Make Coughlin Lose The Race For Stow Municipal Court Clerk, Even At The Cost Of A Democrat Winning.
- Former Republican Cuyahoga Falls Mayor Don Robar Said Coughlin Was “Vindictive” And A “Nuisance.”
- Akron Beacon Journal: Coughlin Was “An Outcast Among County Republicans.”  
Coughlin’s University Newspaper Described His Undergraduate Student Presidency As “Volatile” And “Stirring Controversy.” A Bowling Green News Editorial Read, “Almost Everyone Who Spends More Than 10 Minutes With Kevin Coughlin Finds Him Personally Repugnant.”

## SIGNIFICANT FINDINGS

### Kevin Coughlin Worked To Restrict Abortion Access And Is Closely Allied With Staunch Anti-Choice Leaders

#### Coughlin Said “I Either Co-Sponsored Or Voted For Every Allowable Roe V. Wade State Restriction”

**HEADLINE: "Ohio Anti-Abortion Candidate Is Running In A District That Overwhelmingly Upheld Reproductive Rights."** [Heartland Signal, [2/13/24](#)]

**2024: Coughlin Said, “I Either Co-Sponsored Or Voted For Every Allowable Roe V. Wade State Restriction.”** “‘I’m pro-life. I had a strong pro-life record in the legislature for 14 years that I was there,’ Coughlin said. ‘I either co-sponsored or voted for every allowable Roe v. Wade state restriction.’” [Heartland Signal, [2/13/24](#)]

#### Coughlin Co-Sponsored And Voted In Favor Of S.C.R. 6, Which Urged The President And Congress To Oppose Funding For Abortion And The Freedom Of Choice Act

**2009: Coughlin Co-Sponsored S.C.R. 6, Which Urged The President And Congress To Oppose Funding For Abortion And The Freedom Of Choice Act.** In 2009, Coughlin co-sponsored a resolution that said, “RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 128th General Assembly of the State of Ohio, urge the President of the United States and the Congress of the United States to oppose any legislation that in any manner increases access to or funding for abortion, including such provisions of any final version of comprehensive health care legislation or any legislation introduced during the 111th Congress that is the same as or similar to the Freedom of Choice Act.” The resolution passed the Senate 21-9. [Legiscan, S.C.R. 6, Co-Sponsored, [3/3/09](#)]

- **Coughlin Voted In Favor Of S.C.R. 6, Which Urged The President And Congress To Oppose Funding For Abortion And The Freedom Of Choice Act.** In 2009, Coughlin voted in favor of a resolution that said, “RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 128th General Assembly of the State of Ohio, urge the President of the United States and the Congress of the United States to oppose any legislation that in any manner increases access to or funding for abortion, including such provisions of any final version of comprehensive health care legislation or any legislation introduced during the 111th Congress that is the same as or similar to the Freedom of Choice Act.” The resolution passed the Senate 21-9. [Ohio General Assembly Archives, [S.C.R. 6, 2/17/10](#)]
- **The Freedom Of Choice Act Sought To Preserve Rights To Reproductive Freedom.** “The [Freedom of Choice Act], introduced today by Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA), seeks to ensure that reproductive freedom is preserved for future generations of American women by prohibiting any level of government from enacting measures that deny or interfere with a woman’s right to choose to continue or end a pregnancy.” [ACLU, [1/22/04](#)]

#### Coughlin Co-Sponsored A Bill That Blocked Health Care Coverage Of Abortions With Almost No Exceptions Under A Qualified Health Care Plan

#### The Affordable Care Act Established Health Care Requirements Known As Qualified Health Care Coverage

**The Affordable Care Act Established New Health Care Requirements Known As Qualified Health Care Coverage.** “Any insurance plan that meets the Affordable Care Act requirement for having health coverage. To avoid the penalty for not having insurance for plans 2018 and earlier, you must be enrolled in a plan that qualifies as minimum essential coverage (sometimes called ‘qualifying health coverage’). Examples of plans that qualify include: Marketplace plans; job-based plans; Medicare; and Medicaid & CHIP.” [Healthcare.gov, accessed [1/10/24](#)]



**Qualified Health Plans Are Health Insurance Policies That Meet The Requirements Set Under The Affordable Care Act.** “Set by the Affordable Care Act (ACA). They are typically not for people with Medicare. QHPs must: Follow federally established cost-sharing limits; Provide essential health benefits; QHPs are sold in federal- or state-run forums (referred to as Marketplaces or Exchanges) where you can shop for coverage online or over the phone.” [Medicare Interactive, accessed [1/10/24](#)]

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**2010: Coughlin Introduced A Bill Blocking Coverage Of Abortions Under A Qualified Health Care Plan.**

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**2010: Coughlin Introduced S.B. 262 Which Blocked Coverage Of Abortions Under A Qualified Health Care Plan.** Coughlin introduced S.B. 262, which “Prohibits a qualified health plan from providing coverage for an abortion when the life of the mother would not be endangered if the fetus were carried to term or when the pregnancy of the mother was not the result of rape or incest reported to a law enforcement agency.” [Ohio General Assembly Archives, S.B. 262, [5/17/10](#)]

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**S.B. 262 Created Exceptions Only For Rape And Incest That Were Reported To Law Enforcement Agencies, Which Make Up The Vast Minority Of Cases**

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**S.B. 262 Created Exceptions Only For Rape And Incest That Were Reported To Law Enforcement Agencies.** S.B. 262 “Prohibits a qualified health plan from providing coverage for an abortion when the life of the mother would not be endangered if the fetus were carried to term or when the pregnancy of the mother was not the result of rape or incest reported to a law enforcement agency.” [Ohio General Assembly Archives, S.B. 262, [5/17/10](#)]

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**More Than 2 In 3 Sexual Assaults Are Not Reported To The Police.** “The Majority of Sexual Assaults Are Not Reported to the Police - Only 310 out of every 1,000 sexual assaults are reported to police. That means more than 2 out of 3 go unreported.” [RAINN, accessed [1/10/24](#)]

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**National Sexual Violence Resource Center: “Rape Is The Most Under-Reported Crime.”** “Rape is the most under-reported crime; 63% of sexual assaults are not reported to police (o). Only 12% of child sexual abuse is reported to the authorities.” [National Sexual Violence Resource Center, [2015](#)]

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**Coughlin Voted In Favor Of Restricting Access To Abortion Drugs, Including Mifepristone, By Allowing Only Certain Physicians To Prescribe Mifepristone**

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**2004: Coughlin Voted In Favor Of H.B. 126, Restricting Access To The Abortion Drug RU-486 (Mifepristone)**

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**2004: Coughlin Voted In Favor Of Restricting Access To The Abortion Drug RU-486.** “How the Northeast Ohio delegation in the state legislature voted on key legislation last week: Abortion drug: The Ohio Senate passed a bill, 22-10, that would bring the state in line with federal guidelines on the drug RU-486. The measure, which is expected to clear its final legislative hurdle in the House this week, prohibits using the pill to induce an abortion. Senate members voting yes: Ron Amstutz, R-Wooster; Jeffry Armbruster, R-North Ridgeville; Kevin Coughlin, R-Cuyahoga Falls; Robert Gardner, R-Madison; Bob Spada, R-North Royalton.” [Plain Dealer, [5/24/04](#)]

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**H.B. 126 Prohibited A Person From Giving, Selling, Dispensing, Administering, Or Prescribing RU-486 Unless The Person Was A Physician That Satisfied All The Criteria Established By Federal Law That A Physician Must Satisfy In Order To Provide RU-486 For Inducing Abortions**

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**H.B. 126 Prohibited A Person From Giving, Selling, Dispensing, Administering, Or Prescribing RU-486 Unless The Person Was A Physician That Satisfied All The Criteria Established By Federal Law That A Physician Must Satisfy In Order To Provide RU-486 For Inducing Abortions.** “Sec. 2919.123. (A) No person shall knowingly give, sell, dispense, administer, otherwise provide, or prescribe RU-486 (mifepristone) to another for the purpose of inducing an abortion in any person or enabling the other person to induce an abortion in any person, unless the person who gives, sells,

dispenses, administers, or otherwise provides or prescribes the RU-486 (mifepristone) is a physician, the physician satisfies all the criteria established by federal law that a physician must satisfy in order to provide RU-486 (mifepristone) for inducing abortions, and the physician provides the RU-486 (mifepristone) to the other person for the purpose of inducing an abortion in accordance with all provisions of federal law that govern the use of RU-486 (mifepristone) for inducing abortions. A person who gives, sells, dispenses, administers, otherwise provides, or prescribes RU-486 (mifepristone) to another as described in division (A) of this section shall not be prosecuted based on a violation of the criteria contained in this division unless the person knows that the person is not a physician, that the person did not satisfy all the specified criteria established by federal law, or that the person did not provide the RU-486 (mifepristone) in accordance with the specified provisions of federal law, whichever is applicable.” [Ohio General Assembly Archives, [HB 126](#), Introduced 3/13/03]

- **RU-486, Known As Mifepristone, Was An Abortion Pill Used To Induce A Miscarriage In Pregnancy Less Than 10 Weeks Along.** “RU486 is a medication used to induce a miscarriage in a pregnancy less than 10 weeks along. Better known as the abortion pill or Mifeprex (mifepristone), RU486 is only available with a prescription. An FDA-approved method of medical abortion, Mifeprex is used in combination with Cytotec (misoprostol). First approved in 2000, Mifeprex blocks the hormone progesterone, which is needed for the pregnancy to progress. Cytotec, taken 24 to 48 hours later, is a synthetic prostaglandin that causes uterine contractions (cramps). Taken properly, the abortion pill is safe and 96.7% effective in terminating a pregnancy. This article discusses how to use Mifeprex (RU486). It also details the side effects, precautions, drug interactions, and cost of the abortion pill.” [Very Well Health, [8/22/23](#)]

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**H.B. 126 Required That Mifepristone Only Be Administered In The Exact Dosage Approved By The FDA In 2000 And Prohibited Doctors From Altering The Dosage Based On Relevant Medical Knowledge**

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**H.B. 126 Required That Mifepristone Only Be Administered In The Exact Dosage Approved By The FDA In 2000 And Prohibited Doctors From Altering The Dosage Based On Relevant Medical Knowledge, Such As By Giving A Patient A Lower Dosage That Had Been Proven Safe And Effective With Fewer Side Effects.** “Ohio H.B. 126 was passed in June 2004. The law regulated and restricted the use of mifepristone, an abortion-inducing medication, by requiring that it could only be administered in the exact dosage approved by the FDA in 2000. The law prohibited doctors from altering the dosage based on current medical knowledge, such as by giving a patient a lower dosage that has been proven safe and effective with fewer side effects. (This practice is commonly referred to as off-label or evidence-based usage, and it is common practice throughout the medical field to keep pace with growing knowledge about a medication’s effective usage.) H.B. 126 was a unique law that effectively freezes medicine in time based on evidence more than ten years old.” [ACLU of Ohio, [8/02/04](#)]

**Coughlin Co-Sponsored Legislation To Prohibit Funds For Family Planning Services To Be Used For Abortion Referrals**

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**2001: Coughlin Co-Sponsored H.B. 94, Prohibiting Funds Used For Family Planning Services To Be Used For Referrals For Abortion Services, Except In The Case Of A Medical Emergency**

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**2001: Coughlin Co-Sponsored H.B. 94, Prohibiting Funds Used For Family Planning Services To Be Used For Referrals For Abortion Services, Except In The Case Of A Medical Emergency.** “Of the foregoing appropriation item 440-416, Child and Family Health Services, \$1,700,000 in each fiscal year shall be used for family planning services. None of the funds received through these family planning grants shall be used to provide abortion services. None of the funds received through these family planning grants shall be used for counseling for or referrals for abortion, except in the case of a medical emergency. These funds shall be distributed on the basis of the relative need in the community served by the Director of Health to family planning programs, which shall include family planning programs funded under Title V of the ‘Social Security Act,’ 49 Stat. 620 (1935), 42 U.S.C.A. 301, as amended, and Title X of the ‘Public Health Services Act,’ 58 Stat. 682 (1946), 42 U.S.C.A. 201, as amended, as well as to other family planning programs that the Department of Health also determines will provide services that are physically and financially separate from abortion-

providing and abortion-promoting activities, and that do not include counseling for or referrals for abortion, other than in the case of medical emergency, with state moneys, but that otherwise substantially comply with the quality standards for such programs under Title V and Title X. The Director of Health, by rule, shall provide reasonable methods by which a grantee wishing to be eligible for federal funding may comply with these requirements for state funding without losing its eligibility for federal funding, while ensuring that a family planning program receiving a family planning grant must be organized so that it is physically and financially separate from the provision of abortion services and from activities promoting abortion as a method of family planning.” [Ohio General Assembly Archives, [HB 94](#), Introduced 2/14/01]

### **Coughlin Co-Sponsored H.B. 351, Which Would Ban So-Called “Partial Birth” Abortions**

**Coughlin Co-Sponsored H.B. 351, Which Would Ban So-Called “Partial Birth” Abortions.** In May 1999, Coughlin co-sponsored a bill that would “create the offense of partial birth feticide, to allow specified persons to commence a civil action for partial birth feticide, and to repeal the prohibition against performing a dilation and extraction procedure on a pregnant woman and the related civil action.” This bill passed the House, the Senate, and was signed into action by the Governor. [Ohio General Assembly Archives, [H.B. 351](#), Co-Sponsored, [5/20/99](#); Kevin Coughlin Campaign Website via Internet Archive, Sponsored Legislation, archived [8/29/00](#)]

### **Coughlin Voted In Favor Of Authorizing A License Plate That Said “Choose Life,” The Funds From Which Went To Crisis Pregnancy Centers That Did Not Provide Counseling Or Referrals For Abortion**

**2004: Coughlin Voted In Favor Of Authorizing A License Plate That Said “Choose Life.”** “Choose Life license plates: A ‘Choose Life’ license plate already authorized by the House, whose slogan angers abortion-rights advocates and has prompted legal action in other states, cleared the Senate early Thursday morning. Senate members voting yes (unofficial tally): Amstutz, Coughlin, Fingerhut, Gardner, Spada, Zurz. Senate members voting no (unofficial tally): Armbruster, Brady, Prentiss.” [Plain Dealer, 12/13/04]

- **The Legislation Created The “Choose Life Fund,” Consisting Of The Contributions That Are Paid To The Registrar Of Motor Vehicles By Applicants Who Voluntarily Elect To Obtain “Choose Life” License Plates.** “Sec. 3701.65. (A) There is hereby created in the state treasury the ‘choose life’ fund. The fund shall consist of the contributions that are paid to the registrar of motor vehicles by applicants who voluntarily elect to obtain ‘choose life’ license plates pursuant to section 4503.74 of the Revised Code and any money returned to the fund under division (E)(1)(d) of this section. All investment earnings of the fund shall be credited to the fund. (B)(1) At least annually, the director of health shall distribute the money in the fund to any private, nonprofit organization that is eligible to receive funds under this section and that applies for funding under division (C) of this section. [...]” [Ohio General Assembly Archives, [SB 156](#) Introduced 3/18/03]

**Money From The “Choose Life Fund” Went To Crisis Pregnancy Centers That Did Not Provide Counseling Or Referrals For Abortion.** “(C) Any organization seeking funds under this section annually shall apply for distribution of the funds. The director shall develop an application form and may determine the schedule and procedures that an organization shall follow when annually applying for funds. The application shall inform the applicant of the conditions for receiving and using funds under division (E) of this section. The application shall require evidence that the organization meets all of the following requirements: (1) Is a private, nonprofit organization; (2) Is committed to counseling pregnant women about the option of adoption; (3) Provides services within the state to pregnant women who are planning to place their children for adoption, including counseling and meeting the material needs of the women; (4) Does not charge women for any services received; (5) Is not involved or associated with any abortion activities, including counseling for or referrals to abortion clinics, providing medical abortion-related procedures, or pro-abortion advertising; (6) Does not discriminate in its provision of any services on the basis of race, religion, color, age, marital status, national origin, handicap, gender, or age. (D) The director shall not distribute funds to an organization that does not provide verifiable evidence of the requirements specified in the application under division (C) of this section and shall not provide additional funds to any organization that fails to comply with division (E) of this section in regard to its previous receipt of funds under this section. (E)(1) An organization receiving funds under this section shall do all of the following: (a) Use

not more than sixty per cent of the funds distributed to it for the material needs of pregnant women who are planning to place their children for adoption or for infants awaiting placement with adoptive parents, including clothing, housing, medical care, food, utilities, and transportation; (b) Use not more than forty per cent of the funds distributed to it for counseling, training, or advertising; (c) Not use any of the funds distributed to it for administrative expenses, legal expenses, or capital expenditures; [...]" [Ohio General Assembly Archives, [SB 156](#) Introduced 3/18/03]

**2023: Coughlin Posted On Facebook Calling Anti-Abortion Advocate Burgess Owens A “Thoughtful Conservative Leader”**

**October 2023: Coughlin Called Burgess Owens A “Thoughtful Conservative Leader”**

**October 2023: Coughlin Posted On Facebook Calling Burgess Owens A “Thoughtful Conservative Leader.”** “Great evening at the Summit County Republican Party Finance Dinner with Utah Congressman Burgess Owens. Great to spend time with a thoughtful conservative leader in Congress - thanks for your support of our county party.” [Kevin Coughlin, Facebook, [10/7/23](#)]



Kevin Coughlin

October 7 at 6:09 AM · 🌐

Great evening at the [Summit County Republican Party](#) Finance Dinner with Utah Congressman [Burgess Owens](#). Great to spend time with a thoughtful conservative leader in Congress - thanks for your support of our county party.



👍 37

6 shares

[Kevin Coughlin, Facebook, [10/7/23](#)]

**Burgess Owens Was An Anti-Abortion Advocate Who Pushed For A Total Abortion Ban With No Exceptions That Could Even Limit Access To Some Birth Control**

**Owens Said He Was A “Staunch Pro-Life Advocate” On His Campaign Website.** “I am proud to be a staunch pro-life advocate in Congress and will always stand up to protect our most vulnerable. In Utah, we believe that life is precious and value the dignity and worth of every individual. As the father of six children and sixteen grandchildren, standing up for life is personal to me and I will do all I can to protect the unborn.” – Rep. Burgess Owens” [U.S. Congressman Burgess Owens, accessed [10/10/23](#)]

- **Owens Posted A List Of Eleven Bills He Sponsored And Co-Sponsored That Would Limit Abortion Access On His Campaign Website.** Burgess Owens posted a list of bills he sponsored and co-sponsored that would limit abortion access, as well as a letter he wrote. These included establishing 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment rights for fetuses, defunding Planned Parenthood, and requirements for children “born alive” following an abortion. [U.S. Congressman Burgess Owens, accessed [10/10/23](#)]

**Owens Cosponsored The Life At Conception Act.** [H.R. 431, Cosponsors, [1/20/23](#)]

- **The Life At Conception Act Would Implement Equal Protection Of The Right To Life For “Each [...] Preborn Human Person.”** “To implement equal protection under the 14th article of amendment to the Constitution for the right to life of each born and preborn human person. [...] To implement equal protection for the right to life of each born and preborn human person, and pursuant to the duty and authority of the Congress, including Congress’ power under article I, section 8, to make necessary and proper laws, and Congress’ power under section 5 of the 14th article of amendment to the Constitution of the United States, the Congress hereby declares that the right to life guaranteed by the Constitution is vested in each human being.” [Congress.gov, [1/20/23](#)]
- **The Life At Conception Act Did Not List Exceptions, Including Life Of Mother, Rape, Or Incest.** [Congress.gov, [1/20/23](#)]
- **New York Times: The Life At Conception Act “Amounted To A Nationwide Abortion Ban.”** “In 2021, Representative Michelle Steel, a California Republican whose district President Biden won in 2020, cosponsored the Life at Conception Act, a bill to recognize a fertilized egg as a person with equal protections under the 14th Amendment. It was a year before the Supreme Court would overturn Roe v. Wade. Ms. Steel was one of 166 House Republicans — then roughly three-quarters of the conference — who would ultimately sign on to the legislation, which amounted to a nationwide abortion ban. She did so just weeks after it was introduced.” [New York Times, [1/12/24](#)]
- **Time Magazine: “In Theory, Fetal Personhood Laws Could Impact The Use Of In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) [...] [And] Contraception Access, Given That Some...Argue That IUDs And The Emergency Contraception Plan B Can Prevent The Implantation Of A Fertilized Egg And Violate Personhood.”** “Critics of fetal personhood laws argue the state cannot bestow legal rights onto a fetus or embryo without subjugating the rights of the pregnant person. In theory, fetal personhood laws could impact the use of in vitro fertilization (IVF), a procedure that uses a combination of medicines and surgical procedures to help sperm fertilize an egg and then implant the embryo into the uterus. A round of IVF can create multiple embryos, which can be frozen indefinitely. Fetal personhood laws could also impact contraception access, given that some members of the anti-abortion movement argue that IUDs and the emergency contraception Plan B can prevent the implantation of a fertilized egg and violate personhood, explains Mary Ziegler, an abortion law historian at the University of California, Davis, School of Law.” [Time, [6/28/22](#)]
- **NARAL President: Life At Conception Act Could Be Used “To Really Attack Issues Like Contraception And Even Fertility Treatments Like IVF.”** “Mini Timmaraju, President of NARAL, sees Mooney’s bill as a slippery slope. ‘I think life starts at conception is a line that’s used by extremist right-wing folks to really attack issues like contraception and even fertility treatments like IVF (in vitro fertilization). So, look, we know that that’s not based on science. However, that rhetoric is used to go after a much broader range of reproductive rights and services. So it’s really important that Americans understand what that’s code for. That’s code for going after your fundamental, basic, everyday medication like birth control. It’s code for going after something that we know more and more American women rely on to expand their families and to have children, which is IVF. It’s very dangerous. And we’re going to do everything we can to block any efforts at legislation that tries to do that,’ said Timmaraju.” [Gray DC, [1/25/23](#)]

**2023: Coughlin Called Anti-Abortion Ohio State Senators Jay Hottinger And Randy Gardner “Great Friends”**

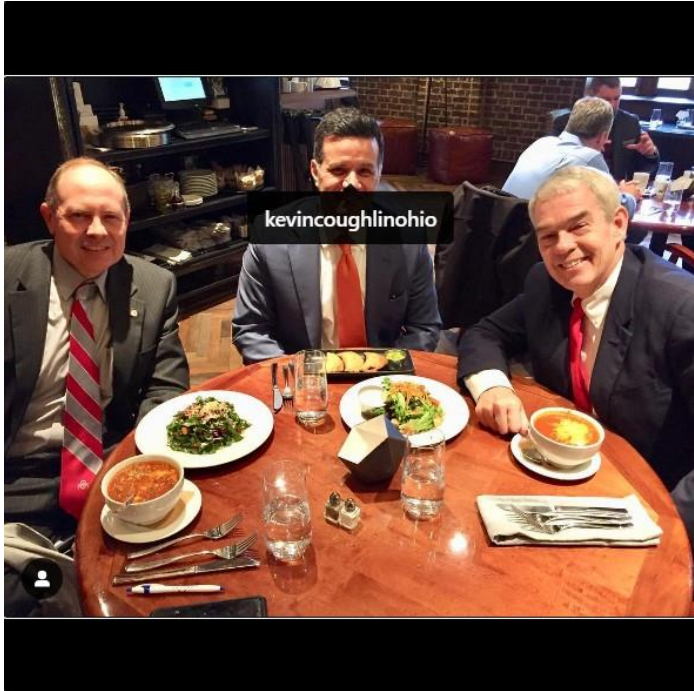
**Coughlin Was Pictured With Jay Hottinger And Randy Gardner, Calling Them “Great Friends”**

**Coughlin Posted A Photo On Instagram With Ohio State Senators Jay Hottinger And Randy Gardner, Calling Them “Great Friends.”** “History, inspiration, and laughs this week with great friends @rg315914 and @sen.jayhottinger at @rbhayespres @fordlibrarymuseum @mistatecapitol @fortmeigs @whitehouse\_inn” [Kevin Coughlin, Instagram, [8/25/23](#)]



[Kevin Coughlin, Instagram, [8/25/23](#)]

- **Jay Hottinger Posted A Photo With Randy Gardner And Coughlin For Reagan’s 107<sup>th</sup> Birthday.** “3 public officials who were inspired by The Gipper gathering for lunch on what would of been Reagan’s 107th birthday With Randy Gardner and Kevin Coughlin.” [Jay Hottinger, Instagram, [2/6/18](#)]



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sen.jayhottinger 3 public officials who were inspired by The Gipper gathering for lunch on what would of been Reagan's 107th birthday With Randy Gardner and Kevin Coughlin. 295w

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FEBRUARY 6, 2018

Add a comment...

[Jay Hottinger, Instagram, [2/6/18](#)]

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### 2003: Coughlin Donated To Randy Gardner's Campaign

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**2003: Coughlin Donated To Randy Gardner's Campaign.** [Ohio Secretary of State, Candidate Contributions – 2003, [1/10/24](#)]

Date	Recipient	Donor	Party	Amount
11/9/03	CITIZENS FOR GARDNER COMMITTEE/RANDALL GARDNER	Kevin Coughlin	R	\$908

[Ohio Secretary of State, Candidate Contributions – 2003, [1/10/24](#)]

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### Former Ohio State Senator And Representative Jay Hottinger Was An Anti-Abortion Extremist

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**Hottinger Co-Sponsored S.B. 23, Which Would Prohibit Abortion If There Was A Detectable Heartbeat With The Penalty Of A Fifth Degree Felony For Care Providers.** In February 2019, Hottinger co-sponsored a bill stating, “(A) Except as provided in division (B) of this section, no person shall knowingly and purposefully perform or induce an abortion on a pregnant woman before determining in accordance with division (A) of section 2919.192 of the Revised Code whether the unborn human individual the pregnant woman is carrying has a detectable heartbeat. Whoever violates this division is guilty of performing or inducing an abortion before determining whether there is a detectable fetal heartbeat, a felony of the fifth degree.” The bill passed the House and the Senate and was signed into law. [Ohio Legislature, [S.B. 23](#), Co-Sponsored, [2/12/19](#)]

**Hottinger Sponsored S.B. 127, Which Would Prohibit Abortion Past 20 Weeks.** In March 2015, Hottinger sponsored a bill “to prohibit the performance of an abortion on a pregnant woman when the probable post-fertilization age of the unborn child is twenty weeks or greater.” The bill passed the House and Senate and was signed into law. [Ohio Legislature, [S.B. 127](#), Sponsored, [3/16/15](#)]

**Hottinger Co-Sponsored H.B. 239, Which Stated That It Was The Policy Of The State Of Ohio To Prefer Childbirth Over Abortion.** In May 2005, Hottinger co-sponsored a bill “To amend section 5101.55 and to enact sections



9.041, 3701.511, 3702.33, and 5101.56 of the Revised Code to declare that it is the public policy of the state to prefer childbirth over abortion, to permit any person to petition a court of common pleas for an order enjoining the operation of a health care facility without a license, to modify the laws governing public funding of abortions, and to prohibit the use of funds appropriated for genetic services to be used for abortion-related purposes.” The bill passed the House and the Senate and was signed into law. [Ohio General Assembly Archives, [H.B. 239](#), Co-Sponsored, [5/4/05](#)]

**Hottinger Co-Sponsored H.B. 421, Which Would Require Parental Notification Prior To Abortions For Minors.** In May 1997, Hottinger co-sponsored a bill “To amend sections 149.43 and 2317.56 and to enact sections 2919.121 and 2919.122 of the Revised Code regarding patient notification prior to an abortion and to require either parental or judicial consent before an abortion is performed or induced on a pregnant unemancipated minor.” The bill passed the House and the Senate and was signed into law. [Ohio General Assembly Archives, [H.B. 421](#), Co-sponsored, [5/06/97](#)]

**Hottinger Co-Sponsored H.B. 395, Which Would Prohibit State Employees From Receiving “Non-Therapeutic” Abortions.** In April 1997, Hottinger co-sponsored a bill that would “prohibit the use of state funds to provide healthcare insurance benefits for nontherapeutic abortions received by officers and employees of the state.” The bill passed the House and Senate and was signed into law. [Ohio General Assembly Archives, [H.B. 395](#), Co-sponsored, [4/16/97](#)]

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### **Former Ohio State Senator And Representative Randy Gardner Was An Anti-Abortion Extremist**

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**Gardner Said That Protecting Human Life Was “One Of Our Fundamental Responsibilities.”** “‘I truly believe that one of our fundamental responsibilities is to protect innocent human life,’ he said. And that includes unborn children. ‘I know that’s not what you want to hear.’” [Big Independent Media, [12/2/18](#)]

**Gardner Co-Sponsored S.B. 127, Which Would Prohibit Abortion Past 20 Weeks.** In March 2015, Gardner co-sponsored a bill “to prohibit the performance of an abortion on a pregnant woman when the probable post-fertilization age of the unborn child is twenty weeks or greater.” The bill passed the House and Senate and was signed into law. [Ohio Legislature, [S.B. 127](#), Co-sponsored, [3/16/15](#)]

### **February 2024: Ohio Right To Life Endorsed Coughlin**

**2024: Ohio Right To Life Endorsed Kevin Coughlin.** “2024 ORTL PAC ENDORSEMENTS [...] U.S. House [...] District 13: Kevin Coughlin Chris Banweg.” [Ohio Right To Life via Wayback Machine, archived [2/14/24](#)]

- **Ohio Right To Life Was Founded In Response To “Increasingly Permissive Abortion Laws.”** “Ohio Right to Life was founded in 1967 in response to increasingly permissive abortion laws across the U.S. While Ohio Right to Life addresses multiple issues that fall under the umbrella of promoting and protecting the dignity of human life, abortion is by far the most pervasive issue of our time.” [Ohio Right To Life, [3/12/24](#)]
- **Ohio Right To Life’s Mission Was To “Promote And Defend” The “Right To Life,” “From Fertilization Until Natural Death, Without Exception.”** “The mission of Ohio Right To Life is to promote and defend the God-given inalienable right to life and dignity of all human beings, from fertilization until natural death, without exception, and to build a culture that affirms the value of human life at every stage.” [Ohio Right To Life, [3/13/24](#)]

### **February 2024: Ohio Advocates For Medical Freedom Gave Coughlin The Maximum “A” Or “100%” Rating For Nonincumbent Candidates**

**February 2024: Ohio Advocates For Medical Freedom Gave Coughlin The Maximum “A” Or “100%” Rating For Nonincumbent Candidates.** [OAMF, Twitter, [2/11/24](#)]



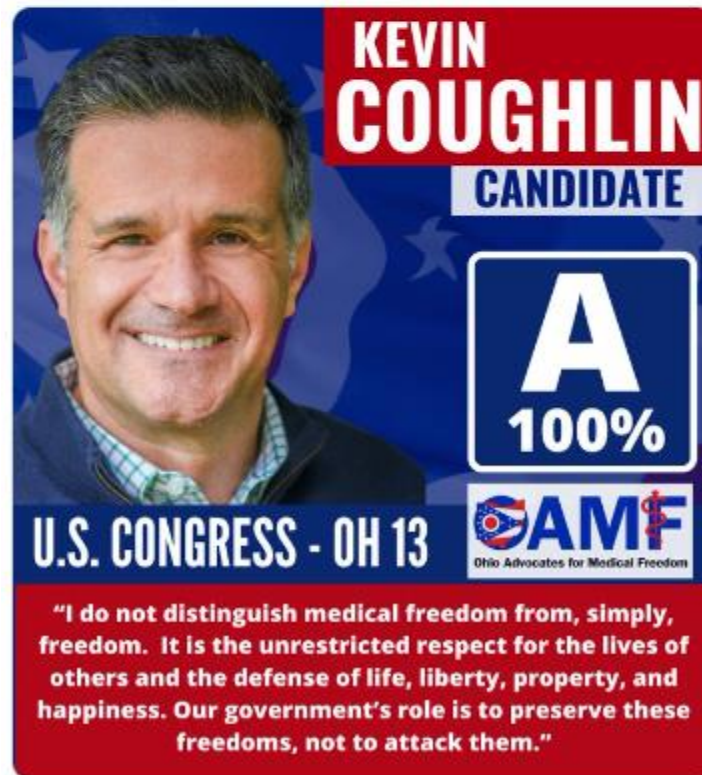
Candidate: Kevin Coughlin  
Office: U.S. House of Representatives  
District: OH-13  
OAMF Rating: A, 100%  
website: [kevincoughlin.com](http://kevincoughlin.com)

Rating Information

- Incumbent ratings are based on medical freedom voting record, sponsorship and co-sponsorship of medical freedom legislation, including legislation that protects children from medical harm. It also includes their survey answers, public commentary on medical freedom issues, and any work done behind the scenes with house/senate members to advocate for OAMF supported legislation. Because incumbents have verifiable records, their maximum grade allowed is an A+.
- Candidate ratings are based on survey answers, public commentary on medical freedom issues, and the public support or promotion of OAMF supported legislation. Because candidates do not have a voting record yet, their maximum grade allowed is an A.

To receive our full voter guide when it becomes available, sign up for emails at [OhioAMF.org](http://OhioAMF.org)

[@KevinCoughlin](https://twitter.com/KevinCoughlin) [@ohiogop](https://twitter.com/ohiogop) [@OHRGOPCaucus](https://twitter.com/OHRGOPCaucus) [@ClevelandRTL](https://twitter.com/ClevelandRTL)  
[@daylife72](https://twitter.com/daylife72) [@FrantzRantz](https://twitter.com/FrantzRantz) [@jackwindsor](https://twitter.com/jackwindsor) [@RTL\\_CoalitionOH](https://twitter.com/RTL_CoalitionOH)  
[@OhioGunOwners](https://twitter.com/OhioGunOwners) [@RenzTom](https://twitter.com/RenzTom)



**KEVIN COUGHLIN**  
CANDIDATE

**A**  
100%

**U.S. CONGRESS - OH 13**

**OAMF**  
Ohio Advocates for Medical Freedom

**"I do not distinguish medical freedom from, simply, freedom. It is the unrestricted respect for the lives of others and the defense of life, liberty, property, and happiness. Our government's role is to preserve these freedoms, not to attack them."**

5:15 PM - Feb 11, 2024 - 1,272 Views

[OAMF, Twitter, [2/11/24](https://twitter.com/kevincoughlin/status/1754888888888888888)]

- **October 2023: Ohio Advocates For Medical Freedom Claimed, “Issue 1 Replaces Parents With Predators” Encouraging People To Vote “No” On Issue 1 To “Protect Her.”** [OAMF, Twitter, [10/16/23](#)]

 OAMF  
@OhioAMF

“B. The State shall not, directly or indirectly, burden, penalize, prohibit, interfere with, or discriminate against either...

2. A PERSON or ENTITY that ASSISTS an individual (YOUR CHILD) exercising this right”..

ISSUE 1 #ReplacesParentsWithPredators  
VOTE #NoInNovember @FrantzRantz @RenzTom  
@OHRGOPCaucus @ohiogop @OhioSenateGOP @JDVance1  
@berniemoreno @JRMajewski @michaelrulli @WarrenDavidson  
@Russo4Ohio @RepWeinstein



Last edited 9:55 AM · Oct 16, 2023 · 1,833 Views

[OAMF, Twitter, [10/16/23](#)]

- **Oct. 2023: Ohio Advocates For Medical Freedom Claimed Issue 1 Allowed Children To Consent To Sex With Adults And Urged A No Vote To “Protect Her From Predators.”** [OAMF, Twitter, [10/2/23](#)]

OAMF  
@OhioAMF

An "individual" is defined as a "person". A child is defined as a "person" under the age of 18.

#ProtectHerFromPredators

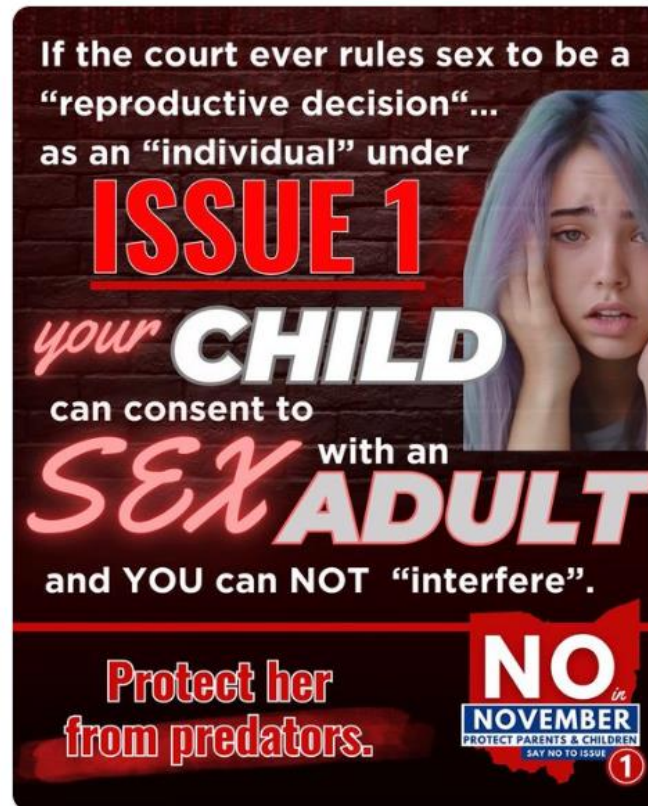
#NoInNovember

@ProtectWomenOH @NEOhioLife @daylife72 @OHRGOPCaucus

@OhioSenateGOP @ohiogop @Russo4Ohio @RepWeinstein

@FrantzRantz @RenzTom @bernimoreno @JRMajewski

@WarrenDavidson @michaelrulli



Last edited 11:06 AM · Oct 2, 2023 · 3,040 Views

[OAMF, Twitter, [10/2/23](#)]

## Coughlin Admitted To Being “Homophobic” In Response To An Accusation Of Discriminating Against A Gay Student While He Was Bowling Green Student Body President, Which Resulted In Calls For Him To Resign And His Reelection Loss

HEADLINE: "Report: Ohio GOP House Nominee Is A Self-Proclaimed ‘Homophobe.’" [Heartland Signal, [6/5/24](#)]

While Coughlin Was Student Body President At Bowling Green State University, He Was Accused Of Discriminating Against A Gay Student By Overlooking Him For A Student Senate Seat Based On His Sexuality

Coughlin Was Accused Of Discriminating Against The Lesbian And Gay Alliance (LAGA) President For A Student Government Cabinet Position. “The article which hurt him most was a report which alleged Coughlin had discriminated against LAGA President Dave Steeves in a USG cabinet position. To the astonishment of many (and amusement of some) USG vice president Linda Schnetzer leaked the story to the paper which revealed an unreconcilable

rift between the two.” [The Bowling Green News, [4/24/91](#)]

**The Lesbian And Gay Alliance President Alleged Coughlin Denied Him An Interview For An Open Seat On The Senate Based On His Sexual Orientation.** “A Standards and Procedures officer and witnesses deliberated for more than three hours Thursday to address charges of discrimination brought against Undergraduate Student Government President Kevin Coughlin. Lesbian and Gay Alliance President David Steeves, who is gay, alleges he was denied an interview for an open seat on the senate as a result of his sexual orientation. Coughlin has refuted the allegation, including a column in The News.” [The Bowling Green News, [3/8/91](#)]

**Coughlin Was Accused Of Discrimination When Overlooking The Lesbian And Gay Alliance President For A Student Senate Seat.** “Undergraduate Student Government President Kevin Coughlin was accused Monday of discrimination based on sexual orientation, allegations he did not deny. USG senator Greg Rossetti accused Coughlin of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in appointing the senate seat left open after former senator Joanne Weaver's resignation. Rossetti contends Coughlin purposely overlooked Lesbian and Gay Alliance President David Steeves when he appointed Phil Mercio to the vacant seat Jan. 28. [...] According to Rossetti, Steeves called Coughlin on Jan. 24 expressing interest in the vacant seat. Steeves again contacted Coughlin on Feb. 5 to inquire about the status of the position and was told it had already been filled. Rossetti said he believe Mercio was not asked to fill the seat until after Steeves had contacted Coughlin and that his appointment was the result of the homophobic sentiments of Coughlin. USG Vice President Linda Schnetzer agreed with Rossetti.” [The Bowling Green News, [2/12/91](#)]

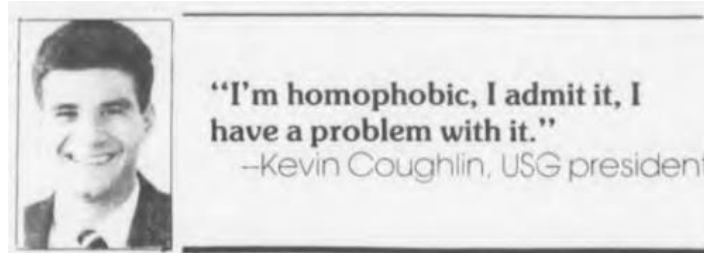
**A Student Senator Believed That Coughlin Reached Out To A Different Person To Fill An Open Senate Seat After The Lesbian And Gay Alliance President Initially Expressed Interest In The Seat.** “According to Rossetti, Steeves called Coughlin on Jan. 24 expressing interest in the vacant seat. Steeves again contacted Coughlin on Feb. 5 to inquire about the status of the position and was told it had already been filled. Rossetti said he believes Mercio was not asked to fill the seat until after Steeves had contacted Coughlin and that his appointment was the result of the homophobic sentiments of Coughlin.” [The Bowling Green News, [2/12/91](#)]

**The Student Body Vice President Agreed With The Student Senator And Claimed Coughlin Offered Someone Else An Interview For The Vacant Seat Upon Expressing Interest But Did Not Grant An Interview To The Lesbian And Gay Alliance President Upon Request.** “USG senator Greg Rossetti accused Coughlin of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in appointing the senate seat left open after former senator Joanne Weaver's resignation. Rossetti contends Coughlin purposely overlooked Lesbian and Gay Alliance President David Steeves when he appointed Phil Mercio to the vacant seat Jan. 28. [...] According to Rossetti, Steeves called Coughlin on Jan. 24 expressing interest in the vacant seat. Steeves again contacted Coughlin on Feb. 5 to inquire about the status of the position and was told it had already been filled. Rossetti said he believe Mercio was not asked to fill the seat until after Steeves had contacted Coughlin and that his appointment was the result of the homophobic sentiments of Coughlin. USG Vice President Linda Schnetzer agreed with Rossetti. Schnetzer said senate seats were left open by Joanne Weaver and David Rice. Shelli Sanderson contacted Coughlin Jan. 23 expressing interest in the position Rice had held. She had an interview with Coughlin Jan. 24 and her appointment was on the Jan. 28 general assembly meeting agenda. According to Schnetzer Steeves also contacted Coughlin with interest in Weaver's former position but was not granted an interview. Coughlin announced Mercio's appointment in assembly even though it was not on the agenda.” [The Bowling Green News, [2/12/91](#)]

**1991: Kevin Coughlin Was Student Body President At Bowling Green State University.** “A Standards and Procedures officer and witnesses deliberated for more than three hours Thursday to address charges of discrimination brought against Undergraduate Student Government President Kevin Coughlin. Lesbian and Gay Alliance President David Steeves, who is gay, alleges he was denied an interview for an open seat on the senate as a result of his sexual orientation. Coughlin has refuted the allegation, including a column in The News.” [The Bowling Green News, [3/8/91](#)]

**In Response, Coughlin Said, “I'm Homophobic, I Admit It, I Have A Problem With It”**

**Coughlin To The Undergraduate Student Government Advisor And Vice President: “I’m Homophobic, I Admit It, I Have A Problem With It.”** “Undergraduate Student Government President Kevin Coughlin was accused Monday of discrimination based on sexual orientation, allegations he did not deny. USG senator Greg Rossetti accused Coughlin of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in appointing the senate seat left open after former senator Joanne Weaver’s resignation. [...] When Schnetzer and USG advisor James Hulman confronted Coughlin with concerns that the appointment was discriminatory, he said, ‘I’m homophobic, I admit it, I have a problem with it.’” [The Bowling Green News, [2/12/91](#)]



[The Bowling Green News, [2/12/91](#)]

**Coughlin Said He Called Himself “A Homophobe” Sarcastically “Because I Am Sick And Tired Of Hearing Cries Of Discrimination From Members Of The Outer Fringes Of Society Every Time They Are Turned Down For A Position”**

**In Response To Discrimination Allegations, Coughlin Said He Sarcastically Called Himself “A Homophobe” “Because I Am Sick And Tired Of Hearing Cries Of Discrimination From Members Of The Outer Fringes Of Society Every Time They Are Turned Down For A Position.”** “Knowing that charges from the outer fringes of discrimination were on the way, I said with as much sarcasm as I could muster, ‘Well you know why I didn’t appoint him, don’t you? It’s because I’m a homophobe and I need help.’ I jokingly said this because I am sick and tired of hearing cries of discrimination from members of the outer fringes of society every time they are turned down for a position or they run into someone who has differing opinions.” [The Bowling Green News, Kevin Coughlin Guest Column, [2/26/91](#)]

**Coughlin Confirmed That He Did “Not Agree With The Lifestyles That Homosexuals Choose To Lead” But “Just Because Someone Disagrees With Somebody’s Lifestyle Does Not Mean They Are Discriminating Against Them”**

**Coughlin: “I Do Not Agree With The Lifestyles That Homosexuals Choose To Lead. I Do Not Shirk From That.”** “It is true that I do not agree with the lifestyles that homosexuals choose to lead. I do not shirk from that. But that does not make me stupid, uneducated or homophobic and I’m rather tired of people being persecuted because they hold an opinion.” [The Bowling Green News, Kevin Coughlin Guest Column, [2/26/91](#)]

**Coughlin: “Just Because Someone Disagrees With Somebody’s Lifestyle Does Not Mean They Are Discriminating Against Them.”** “Coughlin also said he does not think Steeves has a strong case against him. ‘Just because someone disagrees with somebody’s lifestyle does not mean they are discriminating against them.’ he said.” [The Bowling Green News, [2/20/91](#)]

**The Undergraduate Student Government Demanded Coughlin’s Resignation For “Insensitive Comments”**

**Bowling Green University’s Undergraduate Student Government Demanded Coughlin’s Resignation As Student Body President For “Insensitive” Comments.** “Undergraduate Student Government demanded the resignation of President Kevin Coughlin Monday night in response to a Standards and Procedures recommendation that he step down due to ‘insensitive’ comments made in appointing a vacant senate seat.” [The Bowling Green News, [4/2/91](#)]

**The Standards And Procedures Director Found Coughlin Not Guilty Of Discrimination But Asked Him To Resign, Saying He Made “Comments Reasonable People Would Consider Insensitive” About “Homosexual Constituents”**

**The Standards And Procedures Director Found Coughlin Not Guilty Of Discrimination.** “Coughlin had little reaction to either Standards and Procedures director Derek Dickinson's recommendation or the USG resolution and said he will not resign. [...] USG internal affairs raised the bill after Dickinson found Coughlin not guilty of discriminating against Lesbian and Gay Alliance President David Steeves when he appointed Phil Mercio to the assembly Jan. 28.” [The Bowling Green News, [4/2/91](#)]

**The Standards And Procedures Director: Coughlin Made “Comments Reasonable People Would Consider Insensitive” About “Homosexual Constituents.”** “Dickinson did ask Coughlin to resign though, because ‘uncontradicted evidence’ given to hearing officer Tonia Stewart showed Coughlin made ‘comments reasonable people would consider insensitive.’ He believes Coughlin was wrong, as a representative of the student body, to make remarks about homosexual constituents.” [The Bowling Green News, [4/2/91](#)]

**The Standards And Procedures Director Asked Coughlin To Resign As Student Body President.** “Dickinson did ask Coughlin to resign though, because ‘uncontradicted evidence’ given to hearing officer Tonia Stewart showed Coughlin made ‘comments reasonable people would consider insensitive.’ He believes Coughlin was wrong, as a representative of the student body, to make remarks about homosexual constituents.” [The Bowling Green News, [4/2/91](#)]

**Coughlin Lost His Student Body President Reelection In The Midst Of The Controversy**

**Coughlin Lost His Student Body President Reelection In The Midst Of The Discrimination Allegations.** “Mike Sears and Rob Routzahn unseated two-term incumbent Kevin Coughlin Thursday to become the new USG president and vice-president elect.” [The Bowling Green News, [3/15/91](#)]

**Bowling Green News: Coughlin Admitted He Harbored “Prejudice Toward Homosexuals.”** “Coughlin has been found innocent of committing discrimination, but has publicly admitted he harbors prejudice toward homosexuals.” [The Bowling Green News, [4/2/91](#)]

**2022: Coughlin Spent His Time Out Of Elected Office Working To Elect The Author Of Ohio’s Abortion Ban- A Prominent Opponent Of An Exception For Rape- And A Candidate Who Was Later Convicted Of Domestic Violence**

**HEADLINE: "Ohio GOP Congressional Candidate Worked To Elect Anti-Abortion Peers To State Office."** [Heartland Signal, [7/10/24](#)]

**Coughlin Worked To Elect Kristina Roegner, The Sponsor Of Ohio’s Six-Week Abortion Ban**

**2022: Kristina Daley Roegner For Ohio Paid Coughlin’s Company \$3,500 For Printing**

**2022: Kristina Daley Roegner For Ohio Paid Lexington Companies \$3,500 For “Printing.”** [Ohio Secretary of State, accessed [1/3/24](#)]

Date	Payee	Amount	Purpose	Committee
10/20/22	Lexington Companies	\$3,500.00	Printing	Kristina Daley Roegner for Ohio

[Ohio Secretary of State, accessed [1/3/24](#)]

- **Kevin Coughlin Was The President Of Lexington Companies.** “As President of Lexington Companies Kevin Coughlin provides strategic counsel and expertise in management, communications and public policy to our corporate and nonprofit clients.” [Lexington Companies, Kevin Coughlin, accessed [10/10/23](#)]

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## 2019: Roegner Sponsored Legislation To Enact The Ohio Heartbeat Bill, Which Went Into Effect After Dobbs

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**2019: Roegner Sponsored Senate Bill 23, Ohio’s Heartbeat Bill.** “State Senator Kristina Roegner (R-Hudson) announced today that legislation reaffirming the Senate's strong commitment to protecting the right to life for Ohio's unborn children has been signed into law by Governor Mike DeWine. ‘I am delighted that today the Governor signed a bill, boldly declaring, that Ohio will protect an unborn life,’ said Roegner. Senate Bill 23, sponsored by Roegner, generally prohibits an abortion if the baby has a detectable heartbeat, one of the clearest and most universal indicators of life.” [Ohio Senate, Kristina D. Roegner News, [4/11/19](#)]

- **The Heartbeat Bill Did Not Have Exceptions For Rape Or Incest.** “In 2019, Ohio lawmakers passed a so-called heartbeat bill that bans abortions after cardiac activity can be detected, which occurs as early as six weeks of pregnancy, before many women know they're pregnant. It was signed into law by Gov. Mike DeWine. The ban had no exceptions for rape or incest. The only exceptions were cases of ectopic pregnancies and to prevent the mother's death or impairment of a major bodily function.” [ABC News, [11/7/23](#)]
- **2022: Roegner Doubled Down On Her Opposition To Rape Exceptions In Abortion Legislation.** “This is a highly charged and emotional issue, and there is heartfelt passion on both sides. I understand how unwanted children may be conceived under tragic circumstances. That certainly includes the recent report of a 10-year-old rape victim who was advised to go to Indiana to obtain an abortion. Compounding this tragedy, Ohio's Heartbeat Bill has a medical emergency exception that I believe made leaving the state entirely unnecessary. Rape is a crime. It is repulsive and must be prosecuted. Yet, an individual's worth is never determined by whether he or she is wanted or not. It is more important than ever to provide women with unwanted pregnancies the support and care they need. That's why the Dobbs decision isn't an end, it is just the beginning.” [Akron Beacon Journal, Kristina Roegner Op-Ed, [7/28/22](#)]

**Roegner’s Heartbeat Bill, A Six-Week Abortion Ban, Went Into Effect After Dobbs.** “Shortly after Roe v. Wade was overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court Friday, Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost confirmed that he filed a motion to dissolve the injunction on Ohio’s six-week abortion ban, which was granted. Abortion is now illegal in Ohio after six weeks of pregnancy, before many are aware yet they are pregnant. [...] The six-week bill, sponsored by state Sen. Kristina Roegner (R-Hudson), does not have an exception for rape or incest.” [Ohio Capital Journal, [6/27/22](#)]

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## 2023: Roegner Sponsored A Resolution To Oppose Issue One, The Ohio Ballot Measure That Established A Constitutional Right To An Abortion

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**Roegner Sponsored A Resolution To Oppose Issue One.** “The Senate approved Senate Resolution 215, sponsored by State Senator Kristina Roegner (R-Hudson) and State Senator Michelle Reynolds (R-Canal Winchester) which expresses the chamber’s opposition to Issue 1.” [Ohio Senate, Kristina D. Roegner News, [10/11/23](#)]

**Issue One Would Amend The Ohio Constitution To Give Individuals The Right To An Abortion.** “This citizen-sponsored measure would make Ohio the latest in a string of states to enshrine a right to abortion in its Constitution. A ‘yes’ vote would amend the Constitution to give individuals the ‘right to make and carry out one’s own reproductive decisions,’ including on abortion. If the amendment passes, the state legislature could still ban abortion after the point when a fetus can survive outside the uterus — roughly 23 weeks — unless the patient’s ‘treating physician’ deems it necessary to protect the patient’s life or health.” [New York Times, [11/7/23](#)]

**Coughlin Worked To Elect Bob Young, Who Was Later Convicted Of Domestic Violence And Resigned From The Ohio House**

**2022: Elect Bob Young Paid Coughlin’s Company \$4,500 For Campaign Literature**

**2022: Elect Bob Young Paid Lexington Companies \$4,500 For Campaign Literature And Design.** [Ohio Secretary of State, accessed [1/3/24](#)]

Date	Payee	Amount	Purpose	Committee
6/30/22	Lexington Companies	\$4,200.00	Campaign Literature	Elect Bob Young
10/14/22	Lexington Companies	\$300.00	Literature Design	Elect Bob Young

[Ohio Secretary of State, accessed [1/3/24](#)]

- **Kevin Coughlin Was The President Of Lexington Companies.** “As President of Lexington Companies Kevin Coughlin provides strategic counsel and expertise in management, communications and public policy to our corporate and nonprofit clients.” [Lexington Companies, Kevin Coughlin, accessed [10/10/23](#)]

**2023: Bob Young Was Found Guilty Of A Domestic Violence Charge**

**Bob Young Was Found Guilty Of A First-Degree Misdemeanor For Intentionally Harming His Wife.** “Former Ohio state Rep. Bob Young was found guilty of domestic violence in court Thursday. Visiting retired Tuscarawas County Common Pleas Judge Edward O’Farrell found Young guilty of intentionally harming his wife, Tina. This is a first-degree misdemeanor.” [Ohio Capital Journal, [10/26/23](#)]

**2023: Young Pled Guilty To Three Counts Of Violating A Protection Order**

**2023: Young Pled Guilty To Three Counts Of Violating A Protection Order.** “Former state Rep. Bob Young, who was convicted last month of domestic violence for hitting his wife, accepted a plea deal Thursday that avoids any jail time for this and other misdemeanor charges. Young pleaded guilty Thursday to three counts of violating a protection order, first-degree misdemeanors, in Barberton Municipal Court.” [Akron Beacon Journal, [11/16/23](#)]

**2024: Young Was Sentenced To Two Years Of Probation**

**Young Was Sentenced To Two Years Of Probation, 250 Hours Of Community Service, And Was Forbidden From Drinking Alcohol.** “Former Ohio state Rep. Bob Young was sentenced to two years of probation in Barberton Municipal Court on Friday after being found guilty last year in a domestic violence case involving his wife. Visiting Judge Edward O’Farrell ordered the 42-year-old Young to have one year of supervised ‘community control sanctions’ and one year of non-supervision. As part of his probation, Young is forbidden to drink alcohol and has been prohibited from entering bars and liquor stores. He must also perform 250 hours of community service.” [WKYC, [1/5/24](#)]

**Young Resigned From State House After Receiving Four Criminal Charges Stemming From Three Separate Incidents**

**Young Resigned From State House After Receiving Four Criminal Charges Stemming From Three Separate Incidents.** “He had been charged with domestic violence, assault, violating a protection order and menacing by stalking. The charges led to his resignation from the Statehouse. The first two charges stemmed from a disturbance in July, the third at the end of August and the fourth in September.” [Ohio Capital Journal, [10/26/23](#)]

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## Young Called His Daughter A “Liar” For Her Testimony In Court

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When Young’s Daughter Testified That Young Hit His Wife, Young Called His Daughter A “Liar.” “Young’s daughter testified that she watched her dad hit her mom. Young testified and called his daughter a liar, a point that O’Farrell said he could not get over. ‘The moment when you indicated that you believed your daughter, [redacted] was a liar, that caused me and has continued to cause me emotional upset,’ the judge said. ‘Quite frankly, to see a father indicate that his daughter was a liar – It brings a whole lot of emotion.’” [Ohio Capital Journal, [10/26/23](#)]

## Coughlin Supported Gutting Seniors’ Hard-Earned Benefits By Advocating For Medicare And Social Security ‘Reform’ And For Legislation That Would Force Cuts To Both Programs

**HEADLINE: "Ohio Republican Congressional Candidate Pushes For Social Security Privatization."** [Heartland Signal, [6/7/24](#)]

**HEADLINE: "Ohio’s Republican Candidates Are Floating Social Security, Medicare, And Medicaid Reforms."** [Ohio Capital Journal, [5/2/24](#)]

## Coughlin Supported Gambling Senior’s Social Security On The Stock Market

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**April 30, 2024: Coughlin Called For Investing Social Security In “Some Straight Up Stocks,” Despite Admitting To “Gamble” Social Security On The “Ups And Downs In The Stock Market”**

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*Coughlin Called For “Hedging Your Bets” And Investing Social Security In “Some Straight Up Stocks” As A “Much Easier Solution”*

April 30, 2024: Coughlin Said The “Much Easier Solution” To The State Of Social Security Was To “Mix It Up” With “Some Bonds,” “Some Mutual Funds,” “Some Securities,” “Some Straight Up Stocks.” STUDENT: “You mentioned kind of like looking forward like kind of a future mindset for our generation and beyond. What are your thoughts on the current state of Social Security?” COUGHLIN: “Well, I mean, everybody knows what the state of Social Security is in 10 years it’s going to be broke and that means that the benefits that come out of it are going to be about 25% less than they are now. What do you do about it? Okay, so the Democrats want to say that what we want to do is cut benefits. And Republicans want to say the Democrats want to raise taxes to keep to shore up Social Security, false choice. In my opinion, false choice. There’s a much easier solution. And it’s I don’t know how many of you invest right now. I’m sure your parents do. Everybody’s got a retirement account. Everybody has an investment account of some kind and they’re all diversified, meaning that you invest in different types of securities. 100% of the money that we have in Social Security is invested in bonds, government bonds, these, these get you one to 3% return per year. Nobody’s investment portfolio looks like that. You mix it up, you do some bonds, you do some some some mutual funds, do some securities, some other some some straight up stocks and securities. And typically, you know, generally speaking, the return is eight to 10% per year. And yes, there are ups and downs in the stock market, but by and large over time, the stock market grows, your investments grow.” [University of Akron College Republicans Meeting, [4/30/24](#)] (AUDIO)

April 30, 2024: Coughlin Said Investing Social Security In Stocks Is “Hedging Your Bets.” COUGHLIN: “You mix it up, you do some bonds, you do some some some mutual funds, do some securities, some other some some straight up stocks and securities. And typically, you know, generally speaking, the return is eight to 10% per year. And yes, there are ups and downs in the stock market, but by and large over time, the stock market grows, your investments grow. Canada just did this they went from just pure bonds to a diversified thing. And they went from projecting a cut like we are to now projecting increases in 10 years in their in their benefits so they’ve got scheduled for increased benefits of their social security. That’s a very easy thing to do. Now the Democrats will say, well, you want to gamble, the future of Social Security, nine, it’s not gambling, if you know what you’re doing. And that’s what that’s why you diversify, because you’re hedging your bets against losses in one part of the portfolio but being safe over here, so we’re just not being smart about

it.” [University of Akron College Republicans Meeting, 4/30/24] [University of Akron College Republicans Meeting, [4/30/24](#)] (AUDIO)

***Coughlin Admitted To “Ups And Downs In The Stock Market” And That The Criticism Of Investing Social Security In The Stock Market Is That It’s A “Gamble”***

**April 30, 2024: Coughlin Said “There Are Ups And Downs In The Stock Market.”** STUDENT: “You mentioned kind of like looking forward like kind of a future mindset for our generation and beyond. What are your thoughts on the current state of Social Security?” COUGHLIN: “Well, I mean, everybody knows what the state of Social Security is in 10 years it's going to be broke and that means that the benefits that come out of it are going to be about 25% less than they are now. What do you do about it? Okay, so the Democrats want to say that what we want to do is cut benefits. And Republicans want to say the Democrats want to raise taxes to keep to shore up Social Security, false choice. In my opinion, false choice. There's a much easier solution. And it's I don't know how many of you invest right now. I'm sure your parents do. Everybody's got a retirement account. Everybody has an investment account of some kind and they're all diversified, meaning that you invest in different types of securities. 100% of the money that we have in Social Security is invested in bonds, government bonds, these, these get you one to 3% return per year. Nobody's investment portfolio looks like that. You mix it up, you do some bonds, you do some some some some mutual funds, do some securities, some other some some straight up stocks and securities. And typically, you know, generally speaking, the return is eight to 10% per year. And yes, there are ups and downs in the stock market, but by and large over time, the stock market grows, your investments grow.” [University of Akron College Republicans Meeting, [4/30/24](#)] (AUDIO)

**April 30, 2024: Coughlin Said People Would Claim “You Want To Gamble The Future Of Social Security” By Investing Social Security In Stocks.** COUGHLIN: “You mix it up, you do some bonds, you do some some some some mutual funds, do some securities, some other some some straight up stocks and securities. And typically, you know, generally speaking, the return is eight to 10% per year. And yes, there are ups and downs in the stock market, but by and large over time, the stock market grows, your investments grow. Canada just did this they went from just pure bonds to a diversified thing. And they went from projecting a cut like we are to now projecting increases in 10 years in their in their benefits so they've got scheduled for increased benefits of their social security. That's a very easy thing to do. Now the Democrats will say, well, you want to gamble, the future of Social Security. No, it's not gambling if you know what you're doing. And that's what that's why you diversify, because you're hedging your bets against losses in one part of the portfolio but being safe over here, so we're just not being smart about it.” [University of Akron College Republicans Meeting, 4/30/24] [University of Akron College Republicans Meeting, [4/30/24](#)] (AUDIO)

**April 30, 2024: Coughlin Said, “It’s Not Gambling If You Know What You’re Doing” Investing Social Security In The Stock Market.** COUGHLIN: “You mix it up, you do some bonds, you do some some some some mutual funds, do some securities, some other some some straight up stocks and securities. And typically, you know, generally speaking, the return is eight to 10% per year. And yes, there are ups and downs in the stock market, but by and large over time, the stock market grows, your investments grow. Canada just did this they went from just pure bonds to a diversified thing. And they went from projecting a cut like we are to now projecting increases in 10 years in their in their benefits so they've got scheduled for increased benefits of their social security. That's a very easy thing to do. Now the Democrats will say, well, you want to gamble, the future of Social Security. No, it's not gambling if you know what you're doing. And that's what that's why you diversify, because you're hedging your bets against losses in one part of the portfolio but being safe over here, so we're just not being smart about it.” [University of Akron College Republicans Meeting, 4/30/24] [University of Akron College Republicans Meeting, [4/30/24](#)] (AUDIO)

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**During The Great Recession, The S&P 500 Index Fell By More Than A Third In The Course Of A Year, Which Caused Retirement Accounts Invested In The Stock Market To Lose 32% Of Their Value**

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**Urban Institute: “Between December 2007 And December 2008, The S&P 500 Index Fell By Over One-Third. As A Result, Retirement Accounts Lost About \$2.8 Trillion, Or 32 Percent Of Their Value.”** “Between December 2007 and December 2008, the S&P 500 index fell by over one-third. As a result, retirement accounts lost about \$2.8 trillion, or

32 percent of their value (Soto 2008). Individual investors also lost substantial wealth in equities outside of retirement accounts. Urban Institute simulations show that the long-term effects of the 2008 stock market crash on retirement incomes will depend on the stock market's future performance, as well as investors' market exposure at the time of the crash, the amount and composition of their future contributions, the proportion of their retirement income coming from assets, and how many years they have to rebuild their assets." [Urban Institute, Report, [6/23/09](#)]

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**2009: One In Six Households Reported Reallocating Their Retirement Investments Away From Stocks In Response To The Great Recession, Nearly Three Times As Many As Those Who Shifted Toward Stocks**

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**American Life Panel: Households Reported Their Retirement Savings Dropped By About 30% On Average By 2009 And One In Six Households Responded By Reallocating Retirement Investments Away From Stocks, Nearly Three Times As Many As Shifted Balances Toward Stocks.** "In Effects of the Financial Crisis and Great Recession on American Households (NBER Working Paper 16407), researchers Michael Hurd and Susann Rohwedder take up this question using data from a series of surveys developed for this specific purpose and fielded in the American Life Panel (ALP). [...] The ALP illuminates both how households have been affected by falling stock and housing markets and how expectations about these markets may be changing. By early 2009, households who had at least some retirement savings reported that those savings had dropped in value by about 30% on average. One in six households responded by reallocating existing retirement account balances away from stocks, nearly three times as many as shifted balances towards stocks." [National Bureau of Economic Research, [1/19/11](#)]

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**2024: Coughlin Supported Entitlement Reforms**

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**HEADLINE: "GOP Congressional Candidate Says 'Anyone With Eyes' Wants To Cut Social Security And Medicaid."** [Heartland Signal, [5/2/24](#)]

**February 2024: Coughlin Said, "There Have To Be Entitlement Reforms," And "Anyone With Eyes And An Honest Heart Can Understand" That "You have To Start Thinking About The Sustainability Of Those Programs."** COUGHLIN: "And third, there have to be entitlement reforms. And I know the Democrats are cheering right now that they're hearing me say that, but anyone with eyes and an honest heart can understand that when half of your budget is being spent on Medicaid and Social Security and it's going to go broke very very quickly, which isn't going to mean that they're going to go away, but it's going to mean that the benefits that people get are going to be cut, you have to start thinking about the sustainability of those programs for people who really need them. And so there's got to be real adult conversations about these things and proposals put forward with binding votes for Congress to vote on." [Ohio Christian Alliance Podcast News In Focus, Candidate Forum, [2/7/24](#)] (AUDIO 15:37)

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**2011: Coughlin Supported Medicare Cuts That Would Have Cost 159,400 Ohio Seniors \$6,698 Each**

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**Coughlin Supported Turning Medicare Into A Voucher Program**

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**Coughlin On Turning Medicare Into A Voucher Program For Anyone Who Was Under Age 55 In 2011: "I Support It."** "The U.S. House of Representatives budget would turn Medicare into a voucher program for anyone now under age 55. On retirement, they would get a federal voucher to use for health insurance in the private market. Republicans including the bill's sponsor, Rep. Paul Ryan of Wisconsin, say this would put the brakes on runaway Medicare spending. Without bold action, Ryan and other Republicans say, Medicare's expenses will outstrip income within a decade. [...] The GOP House proposal, which is considered dead on arrival in the Democratic Senate, is a responsible approach that starts getting the country's spending under control, Coughlin says. 'I support it,' he said in a telephone interview. 'I think it's encouraging that for the first time in a long time we recognize that you cannot address the budget issues by just looking at the 18 percent that is discretionary.' (The 18 percent figure excludes military spending.) The only way to attack the broader problem of excessive spending is to include entitlements like Medicare, Coughlin said. 'The problem is that that discussion only goes as far as the House doors with this Senate that we have.'" [Cleveland.com, [5/6/11](#)]

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## Voucher Programs Shifted Costs Onto Beneficiaries, Requiring Them To Pay Higher Premiums

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**Voucher Programs Were Called Premium Support Systems.** “In a premium support system, the federal government would provide a payment on behalf of each Medicare beneficiary toward the purchase of a health insurance plan – either a private plan, similar a Medicare Advantage plan, or traditional Medicare. This approach is sometimes called a defined contribution or voucher approach.” [KFF, [7/19/16](#)]

**Premium Support Models Would Require Beneficiaries To Pay Higher Premiums Or Face Fewer Benefits.** “In areas where Medicare incurs relatively high costs, the amount of the premium-support payment would equal the cost of a relatively inexpensive private plan, and beneficiaries would have to pay higher premiums to participate in traditional Medicare. In areas with relatively low Medicare spending, beneficiaries who wanted to enroll in a private plan would face higher premiums or fewer benefits, or might find that no private plan was available. [...] The vouchers would purchase less coverage with each passing year, pushing more costs on to beneficiaries. Over time, seniors would have to pay more to keep the health plans and the doctors they like, or they would get fewer benefits.” [Center On Budget and Policy Priorities, [3/28/12](#)]

**Premium Support Models Shifted Costs Onto Beneficiaries.** “In areas where Medicare incurs relatively high costs, the amount of the premium-support payment would equal the cost of a relatively inexpensive private plan, and beneficiaries would have to pay higher premiums to participate in traditional Medicare. In areas with relatively low Medicare spending, beneficiaries who wanted to enroll in a private plan would face higher premiums or fewer benefits, or might find that no private plan was available. [...] The vouchers would purchase less coverage with each passing year, pushing more costs on to beneficiaries. Over time, seniors would have to pay more to keep the health plans and the doctors they like, or they would get fewer benefits.” [Center On Budget and Policy Priorities, [3/28/12](#)]

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## Converting Medicare To A Voucher Program In 2011 Would Have Cost 159,400 Ohio Seniors \$6,698 More For Health Care

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**Democrats Said That Converting Medicare To A Voucher Program In 2011 Would Have Cost 159,400 Ohio Seniors \$6,698 More For Health Care.** “There are features of the GOP Medicare plan ripe for debate. As Democrats see it, it'll mean seniors get stuck with thousands of dollars of medical and insurance costs because insurers will pass those high fees on. The costs will come to \$6,698 more for 159,400 seniors in Ohio, say the Democrats.” [Cleveland.com, [6/8/11](#)]

<b>2011: Coughlin Supported The Cut, Cap, And Balance Act, Which Would Force Cuts To Medicare And Social Security</b>
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## Coughlin Signed The Cut, Cap, And Balance Act Pledge

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**2011: Coughlin Signed The Cut, Cap, And Balance Act Pledge.** [Cut Cap Balance Act via Internet Archive, Pledge Signers, archived [12/25/11](#)]

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## The Cut, Cap, And Balance Act Would “Inexorably Subject Social Security And Medicare To Deep Reductions”

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**The Cut, Cap, And Balance Act Would Write A Paul Ryan Budget Year-By -Year Expenditure Levels As A Share Of GDP Into Law.** “The ‘Cut, Cap, and Balance Act’ that House Republican leaders are circulating achieves these results through a multi-faceted attack on the federal government. It would require that total federal spending shrink to about 20 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) starting in 2015 (by writing the Ryan budget’s year-by-year expenditure levels as a share of GDP into law, as caps to be enforced through automatic across-the-board budget cuts if the caps otherwise wouldn’t be met). The Ryan budget would slash non-security discretionary programs by 33 percent by 2021

(relative to CBO’s January baseline), cut Medicaid by \$1.4 trillion over the decade, and cut an array of other programs from Medicare to Pell Grants, while shielding the defense budget and further cutting taxes for the wealthiest Americans.” [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [7/16/11](#)]

- **The Paul Ryan Budget Would Cut Medicaid By \$1.4 Trillion In Addition To Cutting Medicare And Pell Grants.** “The ‘Cut, Cap, and Balance Act’ that House Republican leaders are circulating achieves these results through a multi-faceted attack on the federal government. It would require that total federal spending shrink to about 20 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) starting in 2015 (by writing the Ryan budget’s year-by-year expenditure levels as a share of GDP into law, as caps to be enforced through automatic across-the-board budget cuts if the caps otherwise wouldn’t be met). The Ryan budget would slash non-security discretionary programs by 33 percent by 2021 (relative to CBO’s January baseline), cut Medicaid by \$1.4 trillion over the decade, and cut an array of other programs from Medicare to Pell Grants, while shielding the defense budget and further cutting taxes for the wealthiest Americans.” [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [7/16/11](#)]

**The Cut, Cap, And Balance Act Would “Inexorably Subject Social Security And Medicare To Deep Reductions.”** “The legislation would inexorably subject Social Security and Medicare to deep reductions. [...] Policymakers would have little alternative but to institute deep cuts in specific programs. And as noted elsewhere in this statement, before the debt limit could be raised, Congress would have to approve a constitutional balanced budget amendment that essentially requires cuts even deeper than those in the Ryan budget. Reaching and maintaining a balanced budget in the decade ahead while barring any tax increases would necessitate deep cuts in Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid. After all, by 2021, total expenditures for these three programs will be nearly 45 percent greater than expenditures for all other programs (except interest payments) combined. Big cuts in these programs would be inevitable.” [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [7/16/11](#)]

## **2011: Coughlin Supported The Paul Ryan Plan, Which Advocated For Cutting Medicare And Social Security “Reforms”**

### **2011: Coughlin Supported The Paul Ryan Plan**

**Coughlin Supported The Paul Ryan Plan.** “Former state Sen. Kevin Coughlin, another potential Republican candidate who backs the Ryan plan, told POLITICO he’s prepared to highlight Mandel’s evasiveness.” [Politico, [6/23/11](#)]

**Coughlin Supported Ryan’s Medicare Plan.** “Coughlin said he supports both SB 5 and Ryan’s Medicare plan. ‘There are very few people my age who believe Medicare is going to be available unless there are some reforms,’ he said.” [Dayton Daily News, [5/26/11](#)]

### **The Paul Ryan Plan Supported Moving Medicare To A Premium Support System, Which Would Transfer Costs Onto Beneficiaries**

**The Paul Ryan Plan Supported Moving Medicare To A Premium Support System.** “Premium support – a better way to deliver secure benefits Starting in 2022, new Medicare beneficiaries will be enrolled in the same kind of health care program that members of Congress enjoy. Future Medicare recipients will be able to choose from a list of guaranteed coverage options, and they will be given the ability to choose a plan that works best for them. This is not a voucher program, but rather a premium-support model. A Medicare premium-support payment would be paid, by Medicare, to the plan chosen by the beneficiary, subsidizing its cost.” [Fiscal Year 2012 Budget Resolution, [4/5/11](#)]

**Premium Support Models Would Require Beneficiaries To Pay Higher Premiums Or Face Fewer Benefits.** “In areas where Medicare incurs relatively high costs, the amount of the premium-support payment would equal the cost of a relatively inexpensive private plan, and beneficiaries would have to pay higher premiums to participate in traditional Medicare. In areas with relatively low Medicare spending, beneficiaries who wanted to enroll in a private plan would face higher premiums or fewer benefits, or might find that no private plan was available. [...] The vouchers would purchase



less coverage with each passing year, pushing more costs on to beneficiaries. Over time, seniors would have to pay more to keep the health plans and the doctors they like, or they would get fewer benefits.” [Center On Budget and Policy Priorities, [3/28/12](#)]

**Premium Support Models Shifted Costs Onto Beneficiaries.** “In areas where Medicare incurs relatively high costs, the amount of the premium-support payment would equal the cost of a relatively inexpensive private plan, and beneficiaries would have to pay higher premiums to participate in traditional Medicare. In areas with relatively low Medicare spending, beneficiaries who wanted to enroll in a private plan would face higher premiums or fewer benefits, or might find that no private plan was available. [...] The vouchers would purchase less coverage with each passing year, pushing more costs on to beneficiaries. Over time, seniors would have to pay more to keep the health plans and the doctors they like, or they would get fewer benefits.” [Center On Budget and Policy Priorities, [3/28/12](#)]

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### **The Paul Ryan Plan Advocated For Raising The Medicare Eligibility Age From 65 To 67**

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**The Paul Ryan Plan Advocated For Raising The Medicare Eligibility Age From 65 To 67.** “Starting in 2023, the Ryan budget would raise the eligibility age for Medicare — now 65 — by two months per year until it reaches age 67 in 2034.” [Center On Budget and Policy Priorities, [3/28/12](#)]

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### **The Paul Ryan Plan Advocated For “Reforms” To Social Security**

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**The Paul Ryan Plan Advocated For Social Security Reforms.** “Force policymakers to come to the table and enact common-sense reforms to keep the program solvent for current beneficiaries and make it stronger for future generations. Social Security must be reformed to prevent severe cuts in future benefits.” [Fiscal Year 2012 Budget Resolution, [4/5/11](#)]

## **Coughlin Supported The Paul Ryan Plan, Which Advocated For Repealing The Affordable Care Act**

### **2011: Coughlin Supported The Paul Ryan Plan**

**Coughlin Supported The Paul Ryan Plan.** “Former state Sen. Kevin Coughlin, another potential Republican candidate who backs the Ryan plan, told POLITICO he’s prepared to highlight Mandel’s evasiveness.” [Politico, [6/23/11](#)]

### **The Paul Ryan Plan Advocated For Repealing And Defunding The Affordable Care Act As One Of Its “Key Objectives”**

**Paul Ryan Budget: “This Budget Starts By Repealing The Costly New Government-Run Health Care Law, Saving Roughly \$725 Billion Over Ten Years.”** “The new health-care law, rammed through Congress last year on a partisan vote, has taken the nation one step closer to this fully government-run system. The problems with this approach are already popping up all over the country. Health care costs continue to escalate relentlessly. The new law has aggravated the worst aspects of the U.S. health care system, without fixing what was broken. The country needs to move away from this centralized system, not towards it. This budget starts by repealing the costly new government-run health care law, saving roughly \$725 billion over ten years by repealing the new exchange subsidies and making sure that not a penny goes toward implementing the new law. Then, this budget goes further with reforms that make government health-care programs more responsive to consumer choice.” [Fiscal Year 2012 Budget Resolution, [4/5/11](#)]

**Paul Ryan Budget Key Objectives: “Repeals And Defunds The President’s Health Care Law.”** “PATIENT-CENTERED HEALTH CARE: Repeals and defunds the President’s health care law, advancing instead common-sense solutions focused on lowering costs, expanding access and protecting the doctor-patient relationship.” [Fiscal Year 2012 Budget Resolution, [4/5/11](#)]

NOTE: “Health care law” refers to the Affordable Care Act, which was [signed](#) into law on March 23, 2010.

## **Repealing The Affordable Care Act Would Have Dire Consequences, Including Forcing Millions Off Their Health Insurance And Causing 1.2 Million Jobs To Be Lost**

### **Repealing The Affordable Care Act Would Cause 29.8 Million People To Lose Their Health Insurance**

**Repealing The Affordable Care Act Would Cause 29.8 Million People To Lose Their Health Insurance.** “Across the country, 29.8 million people would lose their health insurance if the Affordable Care Act were repealed—more than doubling the number of people without health insurance. And 1.2 million jobs would be lost—not just in health care but across the board.” [Economic Policy Institute, [1/9/24](#)]

### **Repealing The Affordable Care Act Would Raise The Nonelderly Uninsured Rate By More Than 7%.**

“The consequences of ACA repeal would be dire: Nearly 20 million people in the United States would lose coverage, raising the nonelderly uninsured rate by more than 7 percent.” [Center for American Progress, [3/23/20](#)]

### **Repealing The Affordable Care Act Would Cause 1.2 Million Jobs To Be Lost**

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### **Pre-Pandemic, 54 Million Non-Elderly Adults Had A Pre-Existing Condition That Would Have Led To A Denial Of Health Insurance In The Individual Market Before The ACA, And More Than 100 Million Had A Condition That Would Have Likely Led To Higher Premiums Or Coverage Limitations**

**Pre-Pandemic, 54 Million Non-Elderly Adults Had A Pre-Existing Condition That Would Have Led To A Denial Of Health Insurance In The Individual Market Before The ACA, And More Than 100 Million Had A Condition That Would Have Likely Led To Higher Premiums Or Coverage Limitations.** “Fifty-four million non-elderly adults had a pre-existing condition before the pandemic that would have led to a denial of health insurance in the individual market before the ACA, and more than 100 million had a condition that would have likely led to higher premiums or coverage limitations.” [Kaiser Family Foundation, [10/5/20](#)]

### **2018: Ohio Had 1,983,000 Non-Elderly Adults With Declinable Pre-Existing Conditions Under Pre-ACA Rules**

**2018: Ohio Had 1,983,000 Non-Elderly Adults With Declinable Pre-Existing Conditions Under Pre-ACA Rules.** [Kaiser Family Foundation, [10/4/19](#)]

## **Coughlin Introduced Legislation That Prevented Affordable Care Act Legislation From Taking Effect In Ohio**

### **The Affordable Care Act Included The Individual Mandate**

**The Affordable Care Act Included The Individual Mandate, Requiring Individuals To Purchase Minimum Coverage Or Face A Tax Mandate.** “The individual mandate is a provision within the Affordable Care Act that required individuals to purchase minimum essential coverage – or face a tax penalty – unless they were eligible for an exemption [...] Most Americans already get health insurance either from an employer or from the government (Medicaid, Medicare, VA), so they didn’t need to worry about the penalty (because employer-sponsored and government-sponsored health insurance count as minimum essential coverage).” [Health Insurance, accessed [1/10/24](#)]

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## Republicans Were Outspoken Against The Individual Mandate

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**Paul Ryan: “Senate Will Have To Take Lead On Scrapping Obamacare Individual Mandate In The Tax Bill.”**  
[CNBC, [11/15/17](#)]

**Republicans Slammed The Individual Mandate As “Plainly Unlawful.”** “Top Democrats and legal experts on Tuesday were optimistic that the Supreme Court will uphold the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in the most recent challenge against the law while Republicans continued to slam the individual mandate in the act as ‘plainly unlawful’ and more broadly slammed the health care law as a ‘one-size-fits-all approach.’” [Fox News, [11/10/20](#)]

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## Coughlin Introduced A Resolution That Barred The Ohio Government From Enacting The Law Requiring Health Care Plans

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**Coughlin Sponsored S.J.R.2, A Resolution That Barred The Ohio Government From Enacting The Law Requiring Health Care Plans.** “Proposing to enact Section 43 of Article II of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit the General Assembly from enacting certain laws regarding health care. The people have the right to enter into private contracts with health care providers for health care services and to purchase private health care coverage. The General Assembly may not require any person to participate in any health care system or plan, nor may it impose a penalty or fine, of any type, for choosing to obtain or decline health care coverage or for participation in any particular health care system or plan.” [S.J.R.2, [2/24/09](#)]

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## Coughlin Co-Sponsored A Bill That Blocked Health Care Coverage Of Abortions With Almost No Exceptions Under The Affordable Care Act

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### The Affordable Care Act Established Health Care Requirements Known As Qualified Health Care Coverage

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**The Affordable Care Act Established New Health Care Requirements Known As Qualified Health Care Coverage.** “Any insurance plan that meets the Affordable Care Act requirement for having health coverage. To avoid the penalty for not having insurance for plans 2018 and earlier, you must be enrolled in a plan that qualifies as minimum essential coverage (sometimes called ‘qualifying health coverage’). Examples of plans that qualify include: Marketplace plans; job-based plans; Medicare; and Medicaid & CHIP.” [Healthcare.gov, accessed [1/10/24](#)]

Qualified Health Plans Are Health Insurance Policies That Meet The Requirements Set Under The Affordable Care Act. “Set by the Affordable Care Act (ACA). They are typically not for people with Medicare. QHPs must: Follow federally established cost-sharing limits; Provide essential health benefits; QHPs are sold in federal- or state-run forums (referred to as Marketplaces or Exchanges) where you can shop for coverage online or over the phone.” [Medicare Interactive, accessed [1/10/24](#)]

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### 2010: Coughlin Introduced A Bill Blocking Coverage Of Abortions Under A Qualified Health Care Plan.

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**2010: Coughlin Introduced S.B. 262 Which Blocked Coverage Of Abortions Under A Qualified Health Care Plan.** S.B. 262 “Prohibits a qualified health plan from providing coverage for an abortion when the life of the mother would not be endangered if the fetus were carried to term or when the pregnancy of the mother was not the result of rape or incest reported to a law enforcement agency.” [Ohio General Assembly Archives, S.B. 262, [5/17/10](#)]

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### S.B. 262 Created Exceptions Only For Rape And Incest That Were Reported To Law Enforcement Agencies, Which Make Up The Vast Minority Of Cases

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**S.B. 262 Created Exceptions Only For Rape And Incest That Were Reported To Law Enforcement Agencies. S.B.**

262 “Prohibits a qualified health plan from providing coverage for an abortion when the life of the mother would not be endangered if the fetus were carried to term or when the pregnancy of the mother was not the result of rape or incest reported to a law enforcement agency.” [Ohio General Assembly Archives, S.B. 262, [5/17/10](#)]

**More Than 2 In 3 Sexual Assaults Are Not Reported To The Police.** “The Majority of Sexual Assaults Are Not Reported to the Police Only 310 out of every 1,000 sexual assaults are reported to police. That means more than 2 out of 3 go unreported.” [RAINN, accessed [1/10/24](#)]

**National Sexual Violence Resource Center: “Rape Is The Most Under-Reported Crime.”** “Rape is the most under-reported crime; 63% of sexual assaults are not reported to police (o). Only 12% of child sexual abuse is reported to the authorities.” [National Sexual Violence Resource Center, [2015](#)]

## **Coughlin Bashed Unions And Opposed Expanding Collective Bargaining Rights To More Workers**

### **2011: Coughlin Said He Would Have Voted For A Law That Banned Public Workers From Striking And Required Them To Pay A Greater Share Of Their Health Care And Pension Premiums**

**2011: Coughlin Said He Would Have Voted For A State Law That Banned Public Workers From Striking And Required Them To Pay A Greater Share Of Their Health Care And Pension Premiums.** “The state law, passed by Republican lawmakers and signed by Gov. John Kasich, restricts the collective bargaining rights of public workers. It bans them from striking and will require many of them to pay a greater share of their health care and pension premiums. He was no longer in the state Senate when the bill came up, but Coughlin says he would have voted for it had he been there. ‘Everyone agrees,’ he said, that public employees need to pay more toward their health care and pensions, and that there was a need for greater checks and balances on the rights of public employees. The bill was not perfect, he said, adding that he didn’t care for all its provisions covering cops and firefighters. ‘People who charge into buildings and save lives can’t be paid enough,’ Coughlin said. But in general, the public has given away too much, and it was time to get public spending back under control.” [Cleveland.com, [5/6/11](#)]

### **2007: Coughlin Spoke Out Against Expanding Collective Bargaining Rights For Nurses**

**2007: The Ohio Governor Extended Collective Bargaining Rights To Home Health Care Nurses And Independent Contractors.** “With a stroke of his pen yesterday, Gov. Ted Strickland extended collective-bargaining rights to about 7,000 nurses and other independent contractors working in Ohio’s growing in-home health-care sector. He promised to do the same in the near future for independent child-care workers contracted by the state. ‘By supporting the providers of care, we are promoting a higher quality of care for consumers,” said Mr. Strickland, a Democrat. ‘It’s not only the right thing to do, but it may be more cost-effective in the long run because consumers of home health care spend more time in their own homes and less time in nursing homes.’” [Toledo Blade, 7/18/07]

- **Coughlin Criticized The Governor’s Move, Calling It “Concessions To Organized Labor That Will Increase The Cost Of Care.”** ““While Republicans in the House and Senate are working to make health care accessible and affordable, the governor is making concessions to organized labor that will increase the cost of care,” said Sen. Kevin Coughlin (R., Cuyahoga Falls), chairman of the Senate Health, Human Services, and Aging Committee.” [Toledo Blade, 7/18/07]

**Coughlin Implied The Law “Was Made To Help The Governor’s Union Pals.”** “As Strickland cracked open the door for those workers to get organized, Republican lawmakers pounced on the decision, saying it will drive up costs for taxpayers and was made to help the governor’s union pals. ‘This is the first action that the governor has taken that has kind of shown his colors by giving this nod - and what some would call a payback - to the SEIU,’ said State Sen. Kevin Coughlin, a Cuyahoga Falls Republican who heads the Senate’s Health, Human Services and Aging Committee.” [Plain

Dealer, 7/19/07]

### **2007: Coughlin Criticized Organized Labor And Said It Did Not Benefit Ohio Jobs**

**2007: Coughlin Criticized Organized Labor, Saying It Was “Not Going To Create Jobs In This State [...] Modernize Our State [...] Or] Make Ohio Competitive On A Global Stage.”** ““Organized labor is not going to create jobs in this state,” said Coughlin. ‘It’s not going to modernize our state and not going to make Ohio competitive on a global stage.’” [Plain Dealer, 7/19/07]

### **2005: Coughlin Voted Not To Let Ohio School Facilities Commission Employees Unionize**

**2005: Coughlin Voted Not To Let Ohio School Facilities Commission Employees Unionize.** “Unionization (SB 56): The Ohio Senate passed a bill barring employees of the Ohio School Facilities Commission from unionizing. The bill goes next to the House. Senate members voting yes: Ron Amstutz, R-Wooster; Jeffry Armbruster, R-North Ridgeville; Kevin Coughlin, R-Cuyahoga Falls; Tim Grendell, R-Chester Township; Bob Spada, R-North Royalton.” [Plain Dealer, 3/7/05]

### **1998: Coughlin Sponsored A Bill That Would Allow Employers Not To Pay Employees Extra For Overtime Work**

**Coughlin Sponsored A Bill That Would Allow Employers Not To Pay Employees Extra For Overtime Work.** “The third time through the Legislature could be the charm for a measure aimed at giving small businesses relief from overtime pay and work scheduling restrictions. Supporters of the bill say it has a better chance of passing than two similar measures proposed in 1997 because it is limited to companies with gross annual sales of between \$150,000 and \$500,000. Such companies would be able to offer their workers compensatory time off in lieu of time-and-a-half pay. The previous bills sought to grant the time-off options to all companies not governed by collective bargaining agreements with their employees. “It is a win-win situation for employers and employees alike,’ said state Rep. Kevin Coughlin, R-Cuyahoga Falls, sponsor of the bill. ‘It would give smaller companies, which make up about 70% of all the employers in the state and are not as highly unionized, a lot more flexibility, save them money, and make their employees happy.’” [Crain’s Cleveland Business, 3/2/98]

- **The Executive Secretary Of The Cleveland AFL-CIO Opposed The Bill.** “In contrast, John Ryan, executive secretary of the Cleveland AFL-CIO, sees a number of reasons not to support the measure. “The whole concept of comp time takes away from the standard of the guaranteed 40-hour week, and overtime rules are based on the idea that the employer has to pay more for taking a worker away from his family,’ Mr. Ryan said. ‘We are concerned about who keeps track of time taken off the job, and how it is controlled.’ Mr. Ryan said despite supporters’ claims, the measure does little to allow workers more time with their families, because time off could be granted when workers did not want it. He said the measure also could allow employers to hire more temporary workers and to cut back on full-time employees’ hours.” [Crain’s Cleveland Business, 3/2/98]
- **Ohio AFL-CIO: The Proposal Was “Just An Attempt To Permit Employers To Force Employees To Work Overtime Without Paying Them For Extra Time On The Job.”** “But Kent Darr, a spokesman for the Ohio AFL-CIO, said the proposal is just an attempt to permit employers to force employees to work overtime without paying them for the extra time on the job.” [Dayton Daily News, 3/1/01]

### **Coughlin Had A Documented History Of Support For Cutting Medicaid**

#### **While In The State Senate, Coughlin Supported Cutting Medicaid**

**2002: Coughlin Supported Cutting Medicaid.** “Coughlin and Amstutz support examining Ohio’s Medicaid budget for places to reduce spending. The current two-year budget spends about \$7.1 billion this year on Medicaid, a 9.3 percent

increase, and \$7.6 billion in the next fiscal year, which begins July 1, a 6.9 percent increase. Coughlin said that during the 1990s, when tax revenues were high, Ohio and many other states increased social service spending in areas not required by the federal government. ‘It’s nice to do if you can,’ Coughlin said. ‘When you can’t, do you try to sustain that or do you make some modifications?’” [Associated Press State & Local Wire, 4/30/02]

**Coughlin And Jim Jordan Jointly Suggested That The Ohio Senate “Consider Cutting Optional Medicaid Programs And Services.”** “State Sen. Jim Jordan, R-Urbana, said that at least five of the Senate’s 21 Republicans don’t support the cigarette tax proposal. Passage of any legislation in the 33-member Senate would require 17 votes and Democrats, so far, have not indicated they will give any support. He and Sen. Kevin Coughlin, R-Cuyahoga Falls, said the Senate should consider cutting optional Medicaid programs and services. ‘If we as the government continue to do things for people, aren’t we promoting dependence?’ Jordan asked. He said government should encourage people to take personal responsibility.” [Dayton Daily News, 5/3/02]

## **Coughlin Supported Anti-LGBTQ+ Policy, Including Voting To Ban Ohio From Recognizing Same-Sex Marriage**

### **2004: Coughlin Voted To Prevent Ohio From Recognizing Same-Sex Marriages Or Granting Benefits To Unmarried Domestic Partners**

**2004: Coughlin Voted To Prevent Ohio From Recognizing Same-Sex Marriages.** “Gay marriage: The Ohio Senate passed a bill last week preventing the state from recognizing same-sex marriages, or from extending legal benefits of marriage to any unmarried couple, including gay partners or straight couples who share a household. Changes the Senate made to the bill are expected to be taken up by the Ohio House this week. Senate members voting yes: Ron Amstutz, R-Wooster; Kevin Coughlin, R-Cuyahoga Falls; Bob Spada, R-North Royalton.” [Plain Dealer, 1/26/04]

- **The Bill Said Same-Sex Marriages And State Benefits To Unmarried, Domestic Partners Are “Against The Strong Public Policy” Of Ohio And “Shall Have No Legal Force Or Effect.”** “The bill, as passed by the House, specifically declares that same-sex marriages and the extensions of state benefits to any unmarried, domestic partners are ‘against the strong public policy of the state.’ It also says that any marriage between people of the same sex ‘shall have no legal force or effect’ in Ohio.” [New York Times, [1/21/04](#)]
- **The Bill Prohibited Ohio From Recognizing Same-Sex Marriages Granted By Other States Or Jurisdictions.** “It also prohibits the state from recognizing any “public act, record or judicial proceeding” from any jurisdiction that extends the benefits of marriage to nonmarital unions. The bill’s sponsors say the provision is needed to ensure that courts cannot require Ohio to recognize same-sex unions of any type granted by other states, cities or countries.” [New York Times, [2/4/04](#)]

## **Coughlin Advocated For Legislation Police Officers Opposed And Once Called For More Civilian Oversight Of Police**

### **Coughlin Supported Legislation That Would Have Restricted The Collective Bargaining Rights Of Police Officers**

**Coughlin Said He Would Have Voted For A Bill That Restricted The Collective Bargaining Rights Of Public Workers.** “The state law, passed by Republican lawmakers and signed by Gov, John Kasich, restricts the collective bargaining rights of public workers. It bans them from striking and will require many of them to pay a greater share of their health care and pension premiums. [...] He was no longer in the state Senate when the bill came up, but Coughlin says he would have voted for it had he been there. ‘Everyone agrees,’ he said, that public employees need to pay more toward their health care and pensions, and that there was a need for greater checks and balances on the rights of public employees.” [Cleveland.com, [5/6/11](#)]

- **The Akron Police Union President “Strongly Oppose[d]” The Bill, Especially In Light Of “Bitter Negotiations With Akron Mayor [...] Trying To Prevent The Layoffs Of Police Officers.”** “Akron Police Union President Paul Hlynsky was also at the Statehouse to testify before the state senate at Tuesday's hearing. Hlynsky has been through several bitter negotiations with Akron Mayor Don Plusquellic trying to prevent the layoffs of police officers and strongly opposes the complete elimination of their right to bargain in good faith. ‘Basically O.R.C. 4117, the collective bargaining law as written right now, keeps all sides in check not just the mayor,’ Hlynsky told Fox 8 News shortly before offering his testimony. ‘It keeps all of us in check and is fair to both sides,’ Hlynsky continued. ‘No one would be happier than the city of the law is changed because basically all the marbles will be theirs.’” [Fox 8, 2/22/11]

### **Coughlin Called For More Police Oversight And Student Boycotts After Police Raided Off-Campus Parties**

**Bowling Green State University Students Said Police Violated Their Rights By Raiding Off-Campus Parties Without Search Warrants.** “Bowling Green State University students planned to demonstrate last night to call attention to complaints of police mistreatment of students. Organizers of the demonstration said Bowling Green police violated students' rights three weeks ago during raids at off-campus parties. Police arrested 104 people Sept. 7, charging most with disorderly conduct and underage drinking. Student leaders said the raids were illegal because police entered apartments without obtaining search warrants.” [Plain Dealer, 10/4/90]

- **In Response To The Off-Campus Party Raids, Then-Student Senate President Coughlin Called For A Civilian Review Board To Oversee Police.** “Kevin Coughlin, student senate president, has called for the city to establish a civilian review board to oversee police. The faculty senate has expressed its support for a similar measure. ‘You need to have some kind of community input into the way police are going to handle certain situations, particularly in a college town,’ he said.” [Plain Dealer, 10/4/90]
- **In Response To The Off-Campus Party Raids, Coughlin Led A Student Boycott To “Draw Attention To The Problem.”** “Coughlin said students would boycott stores in the city on Oct. 18 to draw attention to the problem.” [Plain Dealer, 10/4/90]

### **Coughlin Introduced A Bill He Claimed Would Help Law Enforcement Officials Recognize Sexual Predators, Even Though Law Enforcement Officials Opposed The Bill**

**Coughlin Introduced A Bill Requiring Sex Offenders To Have Fluorescent Green License Plates.** “Senate Bill 56, referred to as ‘Kristen's Law,’ was officially presented to the Judiciary and Criminal Justice Committee on Wednesday by state Sen. Kevin Coughlin, R-Cuyahoga Falls. If passed, it will require fluorescent green license plates on vehicles driven by sex offenders.” [Daily Record, 3/11/07]

- **The Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association, Buckeye Sheriffs Association, And Ohio Association Of Chiefs Of Police Opposed The Idea.** “Ohio isn't likely to become the first state in the union to require sex offenders to have special, fluorescent green license plates on their cars or trucks. The Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association, Buckeye Sheriffs Association and Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police all announced their opposition to the idea, citing concerns about vigilantism, road rage and giving children a false sense of security. Each group testified this week against a bill sponsored by Sen. Kevin Coughlin, R-Cuyahoga Falls, that would mandate the green plate for rapists and pedophiles on the sexual offender registry.” [Dayton Daily News, 11/9/07]
- **Law Enforcement Organizations Opposed The Bill.** “Law enforcement organizations opposed the bill, saying it would invite vigilantism and could lead people to believe - often falsely - that anyone driving without a neon plate is not a sexual predator. Sen. Kevin Coughlin (R., Cuyahoga Falls) said yesterday he hasn't decided whether to reintroduce the bill. He said the bill targeted adults who committed sex crimes against children, used violence, and

were habitual offenders. ‘Many of these offenders use their cars as weapons, and specially marked license plates would give the public another tool to know how to react when they come in contact with these people,’ Mr. Coughlin said.” [Toledo Blade, 4/8/09]

**Coughlin Justified The Bill As Helping Law Enforcement Officials Recognize Sexual Predators.** “‘We are dealing with a unique and highly repetitive criminal base, and we need to make it as easy as possible for our children -- and law enforcement -- to be able to recognize when known sexual predators are lurking near our schools and parks or other places (where young people gather),’ according to Coughlin’s testimony. ‘By making these vehicles easily identifiable to our children, parent and law enforcement officials, we are taking the power out of the hands of these repeat offenders and putting it back into the hands of the community.’” [Daily Record, 3/8/07]

## **Coughlin’s Campaigns And Public Positions Were Riddled With Ethics Investigations And Accusations Of Impropriety**

### **2015: During Coughlin’s Re-Election Campaign For Stow Court Clerk He Faced Calls For An Ethics Investigation For Illegally Awarding A Contract To A Partner Of His Firm And “Friend”**

#### **The Summit County Democratic Party Requested A State Investigation Of Coughlin Regarding A Contract He Issued To David Stofka**

**2015: The Summit County Democratic Party Requested A State Investigation Of Coughlin Regarding The Contract He Issued To Stofka.** “The Summit County Democratic Party has requested a state investigation of a contract awarded by Stow Clerk of Courts Kevin Coughlin. The party recently asked the Ohio Ethics Commission to look into whether Coughlin violated state law when he issued a contract to David Stofka, a longtime friend with whom he had a past business affiliation. Ohio law says a public official may not enter into a contract in which the official or any of the official’s business associates has an interest.” [Akron Beacon Journal, [9/30/15](#)]

**Coughlin Faced Allegations Of Illegally Awarding The Contract.** “Now Colavecchio and the Democratic Party say it’s time for Coughlin to answer some questions, including whether he illegally awarded a contract to a business friend, created a new courthouse position for a campaign supporter, and had an unusually long absence from his office. [...] But as Coughlin, Colavecchio and Robart spar for a six-year term that will pay \$101,872.50 a year, Colavecchio insisted: ‘There’s enough here to at least ask him for an explanation.’” [Akron Beacon Journal, 9/14/15]


**Coughlin Gave A Contract To Redesign The Courthouse Website To Friend David Stofka.** “In April 2014, Coughlin requested a contract be given to his longtime friend, campaign supporter and creative partner David Stofka to redesign the courthouse’s website.” [Akron Beacon Journal, 9/14/15]

- **The Court Paid Stofka \$5,400.00 For Web Design Services.** “On Sept. 29, the Summit County Democratic Party announced it is asking the Ohio Ethics Commission to investigate whether Clerk of Courts Kevin Coughlin ‘unlawfully issued a public contract to a business associate.’ The issue centers on a payment made in 2014 for more than \$5,400 from the court to Stofka Creative for web design services.” [Akron Beacon Journal, [10/4/15](#)]

#### **Stofka Was Listed On The Site’s Team Page As “The Official Web Design And Development Partner” At Coughlin’s Company As Well As A “Longtime Friend”**

**Stofka Was Listed As “The Official Web Design And Development Partner” At Lexington Companies.** “Stofka Creative Ltd. is the official Web design and development partner of Lexington Companies. Owner Dave Stofka is an accomplished provider of new media creativity and technology for over 17 years, having helped launch Kevin Coughlin’s inaugural Statehouse campaign in 1996 with a visual identity and Internet presence when the World Wide Web was still in its infancy.” [Lexington Companies via Internet Archive, Our Team, archived [9/22/13](#)]

**Dave Stofka**

 **stofka creative**

**Stofka Creative Ltd.** is the official Web design and development partner of Lexington Companies. Owner Dave Stofka is an accomplished provider of new media creativity and technology for over 17 years, having helped launch Kevin Coughlin's inaugural Statehouse campaign in 1996 with a visual identity and Internet presence when the World Wide Web was still in its infancy.


Dave specializes in web design & development, cartoon animation, motion graphics, flash & javascript interactivity and full-service multimedia production.

Working with Stofka Creative, we can give your marketing communication efforts both left-brain technical know-how and right-brain artistry whether your organization has an existing team or is starting from scratch.

Here's a sampling of Dave's work. Click the links to go to the websites:

- GPD Group
- Welty Building Company
- SPS Stone Group
- Leeners
- M Campana Fitness

Dave Stofka can be reached at [info@stofkacreative.com](mailto:info@stofkacreative.com).



[Lexington Companies via Internet Archive, Our Team, archived [9/22/13](#)]

**Coughlin Was The President Of Lexington Companies.** According to Coughlin's LinkedIn, he was the President of Lexington Companies from 2010 to present. [Kevin Coughlin, LinkedIn, accessed [10/10/23](#)]



**Kevin Coughlin**  
President, Lexington Companies



**President**  
Lexington Companies  
Nov 2010 - Present · 13 yrs  
Cleveland/Akron, Ohio Area

Chief executive of a family of businesses providing multi-state public affairs, communications, continuing education, and real estate investment.

[Kevin Coughlin, LinkedIn, accessed [10/10/23](#)]

- **Lexington Companies' Website Listed Kevin Coughlin As President.** "As President of Lexington Companies Kevin Coughlin provides strategic counsel and expertise in management, communications and public policy to our corporate and nonprofit clients." [Lexington Companies, Kevin Coughlin, accessed [10/10/23](#)]

Home -

## Kevin Coughlin

As President of Lexington Companies Kevin Coughlin provides strategic counsel and expertise in management, communications and public policy to our corporate and nonprofit clients.

Kevin has a public service career spanning over 25 years, first elected to the Ohio House of Representatives in 1996 where he served until 2001. He became a member of the Ohio Senate in 2001 and served until his term was limited in 2011.

For six years Kevin was chairman of the Senate Health, Human Services & Aging Committee. He also served stints as chairman of the House Finance & Appropriations Higher Education Subcommittee and the Senate State & Local Governments & Veterans Affairs Committee.



Kevin Coughlin served on the Council of State Governments Executive Committee and Governing Board and as Co-Chair of CSG's International Committee. He was the 2005 Chair of CSG's Midwestern Legislative Conference. For five years, he co-chaired the Bowhay Institute for Legislative Leadership Development which trains Midwestern legislators to be strong leaders.

Kevin was elected Clerk of the Stow Municipal Court in 2013 and led it through a period of transition through 2015, computerizing records and upgrading technology in the courthouse.

Kevin serves on the boards of the Capitol Square Foundation and the Western Reserve Hospital Community Business Leaders Council. He is a member of the Summit County Republican Party Executive Committee and has served on the boards of Blossom Music Center, the Ohio Arts Council, Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens, Flying Horse Farms, and as Board President of Ballet Excel Ohio. He was a 1999 Marshall Fellow at the German Marshall Fund of the United States, and is a commissioned member of the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels.

Kevin graduated from Woodridge High School and holds a BA and a Master of Public Administration from Bowling Green State University. He resides in Bath Township, Ohio with his wife, Anne, and their daughters Kathryn and Elizabeth.

[Lexington Companies, Kevin Coughlin, accessed [10/10/23](#)]

**Coughlin Gave A Contract To Redesign The Courthouse Website To “Longtime Friend” David Stofka.** “In April 2014, Coughlin requested a contract be given to his longtime friend, campaign supporter and creative partner David Stofka to redesign the courthouse's website.” [Akron Beacon Journal, 9/14/15]

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### Stofka Was Paid Nearly \$10,000 By Coughlin’s Campaigns

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**1996: Stofka Helped Launch Coughlin’s 1996 Statehouse Campaign.** “Dave Stofka is an accomplished provider of new media creativity and technology for over 17 years, having helped launch Kevin Coughlin’s inaugural Statehouse campaign in 1996 with a visual identity and Internet presence when the World Wide Web was still in its infancy.” [Lexington Companies via Internet Archive, Our Team, archived [9/22/13](#)]

**Stofka Was Paid Nearly \$10,000 From Coughlin’s Campaigns For Consulting And Web Services.** [Ohio Secretary Of State, File Transfers – Candidate Files, accessed [1/9/24](#)]

Kevin Coughlin Campaign Payments To David Stofka & Stofka Creative		
Year	Amount	Description
2000	\$1,337.50	CONSULTING
	\$331.25	CONSULTING
	\$75.00	CONSULTING
	\$475.00	WEB CONSULTING
2001	\$431.25	WEB SITE CONSULTING

2002	\$306.25	WEB CONSULTING
	\$256.25	INTERNET CONSULTING
2005	\$112.50	WEB CONSULTING
2006	\$981.25	INTERNET CONSULTING
	\$981.25	INTERNET CONSULTING
	\$745.15	INTERNET CONSULTING
	\$936.50	INTERNET CONSULTING
2007	\$137.50	INTERNET CONSULTING
	\$62.50	INTERNET CONSULTING
	\$75.00	INTERNET CONSULTING
	\$701.45	INTERNET CONSULTING
2008	\$43.75	INTERNET CONSULTING
2009	\$543.75	WEB CONSULTING
	\$551.45	WEB CONSULTING
	\$250.98	WEB CONSULTING
<b>TOTAL: \$9,335.53</b>		

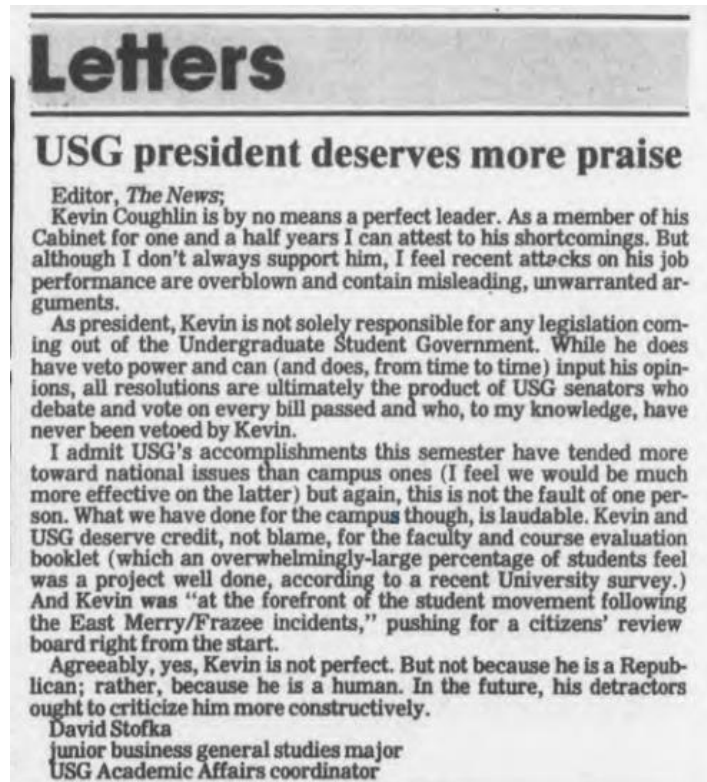
[Ohio Secretary Of State, File Transfers – Candidate Files, accessed [1/9/24](#)]

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**Stofka And Coughlin Have Worked Together Since College, When Coughlin Was Bowling Green University’s Student President And Stofka Was A Member Of His Cabinet**

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**1990: While A Bowling Green University Student Stofka Published A Letter In The Student Paper Defending Then-Student President Kevin Coughlin.** Headline: “USG President Deserves More Praise.” [...] “Kevin Coughlin is by no means a perfect leader. As a member of his Cabinet for one and a half years I can attest to his shortcomings. But although I don’t always support him, I feel recent attacks on his job performance are overblown and contain misleading, unwarranted arguments. [...] What we have done for the campus though, is laudable. Kevin and USG deserve credit, not blame [...]. Agreeably, yes, Kevin is not perfect. But not because he is a Republican; rather, because he is a human. In the future, his detractors ought to criticize him more constructively.” [Bowling Green State University News, page 3, [12/17/1990](#)]



[Bowling Green State University News, page 3, [12/17/1990](#)]

**Coughlin Was Bowling Green University's Undergraduate Student Government President.** "As president, Kevin [Coughlin] is not solely responsible for any legislation coming out of the Undergraduate Student Government."

**Stofka Was A Member Of Coughlin's Undergraduate Student Government Cabinet At Bowling Green State University.** "Kevin Coughlin is by no means a perfect leader. As a member of his Cabinet for one and a half years I can attest to his shortcomings. But although I don't always support him, I feel recent attacks on his job performance are overblown and contain misleading, unwarranted arguments." [Bowling Green State University News, page 3, [12/17/1990](#)]

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### **Ohio Law Prohibited Public Officials From Giving Contracts To Business Associates**

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**Ohio Law Prohibited Public Officials From Giving Contracts To Business Associates.** "Colavecchio, however, noted that Ohio law prohibits public officials from giving contracts to 'business associates' and that Stofka 'from my perspective, is clearly a business associate' of Coughlin. Coughlin operates a lobbying enterprise called Lexington Companies, which had listed the resumes of two people under the link 'Our Team' on its website. They were Coughlin and Stofka, the latter described in text as 'the official web design and development partner of Lexington Companies.' There are also records that show Stofka was on Coughlin's nominating petition committee for this year's court race, that Stofka did web design for Coughlin's court race and previous Ohio Senate races, and that Stofka donated to Coughlin and once served as his campaign treasurer." [Akron Beacon Journal, 9/14/15]

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### **A Judge Ruled That Stofka And Coughlin Were Not Business Associates Because They Were Not Invested In Each Other's Companies**

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- **Coughlin Said That He And Stofka Were Not Business Associates Because They Were Never Financially Invested In Each Other's Company, And A Judge Agreed.** "But the pair were never financially invested in each other's company, and Coughlin said he believes that is the definition of 'business associate.' [...] While some may debate the legal definition of what it means to be a 'business associate,' Judge Hoover said he'll take Coughlin's side.

He said he saw no conflict of interest. 'If they didn't share profit or loss in a shared venture, then it doesn't make them business associates,' Hoover said. 'It makes them business contacts.'" [Akron Beacon Journal, 9/14/15]

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**2015: During Coughlin's Re-Election Campaign For Stow Court Clerk He Faced Allegations Of Creating A New Courthouse Position For A Campaign Supporter Who Did Little Work Assigned To Him**

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**Coughlin Faced Allegations Of Creating A New Courthouse Position For Victor Milani, A Campaign Supporter**

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**2015: In The Stow Municipal Court Clerk Race, Coughlin Faced Allegations Of Creating A New Courthouse Position For A Campaign Supporter.** "Now Colavecchio and the Democratic Party say it's time for Coughlin to answer some questions, including whether he illegally awarded a contract to a business friend, created a new courthouse position for a campaign supporter, and had an unusually long absence from his office. [...] But as Coughlin, Colavecchio and Robart spar for a six-year term that will pay \$101,872.50 a year, Colavecchio insisted: 'There's enough here to at least ask him for an explanation.'" [Akron Beacon Journal, 9/14/15]

**Coughlin Created A New Position Called "Deputy Clerk Of Community Relations" And Hired A Campaign Supporter Victor Milani.** "Soon after taking office, Coughlin created a new part-time position called 'deputy clerk of community relations' and hired Victor Milani, the former mayor of Northfield who lost his re-election bid in 2011. The job description called for Milani to be liaison to local governments and law enforcement; to work with local media; to manage social media accounts and write a website newsletter, and to attend and document meetings and events attended by Coughlin. Milani held the post for 14 months, resigning in March when he decided to run for mayor again this fall. He was paid \$18.27 an hour and collected \$23,202 during his employment. But some folks saw the job as a political favor - Milani helped with Coughlin's 2013 campaign for court clerk - and saw little evidence Milani was working four to five hours a day as indicated on his weekly time sheets." [Akron Beacon Journal, 9/14/15]

- **Coughlin Hired Victor Milani, A Former Mayor And A Campaign Supporter For A "Part-Time Community Liaison Job."** "Victor Milani, a Coughlin campaign supporter who was hired by Coughlin to a new part-time community liaison job. Milani was paid for that job for more than a year before resigning in March." [Akron Beacon Journal, [10/13/15](#)]

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**Milani Received \$23,202 From The Deputy Clerk Of Community Relations Position**

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**Milani Received \$23,202 From The Deputy Clerk Of Community Relations Position.** "Milani held the post for 14 months, resigning in March when he decided to run for mayor again this fall. He was paid \$18.27 an hour and collected \$23,202 during his employment." [Akron Beacon Journal, 9/14/15]

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**Critics Said There Was Little Evidence Milani Worked As Much As He Indicated**

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**Critics Said There Was Little Evidence Milani Was Working As Much As He Indicated On His Weekly Time Sheets.** "Soon after taking office, Coughlin created a new part-time position called 'deputy clerk of community relations' and hired Victor Milani, the former mayor of Northfield who lost his re-election bid in 2011. [...] But some folks saw the job as a political favor - Milani helped with Coughlin's 2013 campaign for court clerk - and saw little evidence Milani was working four to five hours a day as indicated on his weekly time sheets." [Akron Beacon Journal, 9/14/15]

**An LTE Writer Complained That Milani Was Allowed To Work From Home And Was Only In The Courthouse For 37 Out Of 297 Days.** "As someone who works from home for a private company, I was somewhat annoyed to read that a former employee of Kevin Coughlin's, namely, Victor Milani, was allowed to work from home for the Stow clerk of courts. I am not aware of any court that allows employees to work from home. Even though he claimed to have the clerk's permission to come and go as he pleased, it seemed he did more going and almost no coming - records show he was in the courthouse just 37 of 297 days. Milani was quoted in the Sept. 14 Beacon Journal as saying 'There wasn't a place in the muni court for me.' That's very curious given that Coughlin told a local newspaper when he hired Milani in

2014 that he ‘has an assigned desk and work station in the courthouse.’” [Akron Beacon Journal, Letters To The Editor, [10/13/15](#)]

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### **The Summit County Democratic Party Treasurer Requested Card Swipe Information After Rumors That Coughlin Was Frequently Absent From The Courthouse And Milani Hardly Worked**

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**The Summit County Democratic Party Treasurer Requested Security Card Swipe Information For Coughlin And Milani To Check On “Rumors That Coughlin [...] Is Absent From The Courthouse A Lot And That Milani [...] Does Little If Any Work In The New Position Coughlin Created For Him.”** “May 10: Summit County Democratic Party Treasurer Chris Grimm requests security card swipe information for Stow Clerk of Courts Kevin Coughlin and part-time employee Victor Milani. His request is made to the city of Stow Law Department, the legal and fiduciary agent of the courthouse. Grimm says he is checking on rumors that Coughlin, who owns a lobbying firm, is absent from the courthouse a lot and that Milani, a Coughlin campaign supporter, does little if any work in the new position Coughlin created for him.” [Akron Beacon Journal, [10/13/15](#)]

### **2015: Security Card Records Showed That Coughlin Was Not Present For 44% Of All Business Days As Stow Court Clerk**

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### **Coughlin Was Accused Of An “Unusually Long Absence” As Stow Court Clerk**

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**2015: During Coughlin’s Re-Election Campaign For Stow Court Clerk He Was Attacked For An “Unusually Long Absence From His Office” During His First Term.** “Now Colavecchio and the Democratic Party say it's time for Coughlin to answer some questions, including whether he illegally awarded a contract to a business friend, created a new courthouse position for a campaign supporter, and had an unusually long absence from his office. [...] But as Coughlin, Colavecchio and Robart spar for a six-year term that will pay \$101,872.50 a year, Colavecchio insisted: ‘There's enough here to at least ask him for an explanation.’” [Akron Beacon Journal, 9/14/15]

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### **Coughlin’s Security Card Records Showed That It Was Not Used 44% Of All Business Days, Including A 135-Day Stretch When It Was Not Used At All**

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**Coughlin’s Attendance Records Were Checked And Coughlin’s Security Card Records Showed That It Was Not Used 44% Of All Business Days.** “The Beacon repeated the records request and confirmed what Grimm found: From December 2013 through May 2015, Coughlin's security card was not used in the courthouse on 154 of the 349 days that the court was open, or 44 percent of all business days. The records also show a 135-day stretch - from late October 2014 into March 2015 - in which Coughlin's employee card was not swiped a single time.” [Akron Beacon Journal, 9/14/15]

- **The Court’s Judges Backed Up That Coughlin Was Regularly At The Courthouse.** “The court's judges back him up. Hoover and Judge Lisa Coates said they recall seeing Coughlin multiple times during the period in question, and Hoover went as far as to add: ‘If I had to testify, I would say I've seen this guy two to three times a week since he started.’” [Akron Beacon Journal, 9/14/15]
- **Coughlin Showed His Email History, Saying That Email Was Not Accessible Outside Of The Office.** “Coughlin also provided screen shots of his email ‘sent’ folder showing regular email activity throughout the five-month period. Email from his official courthouse account can only be sent, received or viewed from the computer physically located in his office, Coughlin said. Hoover confirmed there is no remote access to official email outside of the building.” [Akron Beacon Journal, 9/14/15]
- **Coughlin Said He Lost His Security Card For A Period Of Time, And Had To Be Buzzed In.** “Coughlin said for a short portion of those five months - he didn't know how long - he was missing his card. He said he can get by without a card at all because security often buzzes him in through the employee entrance, and there is generally

another clerk's card available at the counter where he swipes to enter the door to his office.” [Akron Beacon Journal, 9/14/15]

**There Was A 135-Day Stretch When Coughlin’s Security Card Was Not Used At All.** “The Beacon repeated the records request and confirmed what Grimm found: From December 2013 through May 2015, Coughlin's security card was not used in the courthouse on 154 of the 349 days that the court was open, or 44 percent of all business days. The records also show a 135-day stretch - from late October 2014 into March 2015 - in which Coughlin's employee card was not swiped a single time.” [Akron Beacon Journal, 9/14/15]

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### **Coughlin Called Colavecchio’s Claims “Completely Untrue”**

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**Coughlin Filed A Complaint With The Ohio Elections Commission Against Opponent Colavecchio, Saying Her Claims Regarding His Attendance Were “Completely Untrue.”** “On Monday, the clerk filed a complaint with the Ohio Elections Commission, charging that his Democratic challenger lied to a newspaper about his attendance record. [...] In this latest twist, Coughlin cited an Oct. 11 story in the Cuyahoga Falls News Press in which Colavecchio said: ‘The current clerk has a miserable 44 percent attendance rate. He also failed to use his security swipe card for a consecutive 135 days, breaching the courthouse security policy.’ ‘Her statement that I have a 44 percent attendance rate on the job is completely untrue and is made with the intention of misleading the public,’ Coughlin said in a news release. ‘My opponent’s statements appear to be the result of an inability to execute simple math or to accurately quote a news report.’” [Akron Beacon Journal, [10/12/15](#)]

### **2015: Coughlin Obstructed Public Records Of Former Employees And Broke With Stow’s Public Record Request Policy After His Opponents Sought Access To The Former Employees’ Emails**

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### **The Summit County Democratic Party Treasurer Requested Card Swipe Information After Rumors That Coughlin Was Frequently Absent From The Courthouse And One Of His Employees Hardly Worked**

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**The Summit County Democratic Party Treasurer Requested Security Card Swipe Information For Coughlin And Milani To Check On “Rumors That Coughlin [...] Is Absent From The Courthouse A Lot And That Milani [...] Does Little If Any Work In The New Position Coughlin Created For Him.”** “May 10: Summit County Democratic Party Treasurer Chris Grimm requests security card swipe information for Stow Clerk of Courts Kevin Coughlin and part-time employee Victor Milani. His request is made to the city of Stow Law Department, the legal and fiduciary agent of the courthouse. Grimm says he is checking on rumors that Coughlin, who owns a lobbying firm, is absent from the courthouse a lot and that Milani, a Coughlin campaign supporter, does little if any work in the new position Coughlin created for him.” [Akron Beacon Journal, [10/13/15](#)]

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### **Coughlin Changed Public Record Request Policy After His Opponents Sought Information Related To His Job Performance, Saying His Office Would Handle Any Future Records Requests**

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**2015: Coughlin Changed Public Record Request Policy After His Opponents Sought Information Related To His Job Performance, Saying His Office Would Handle Any Future Records Requests.** “After a public records request was made to explore recent activities of Stow Municipal Clerk of Courts Kevin Coughlin, the clerk informed the city his office will handle any future records requests, breaking with city policy of the law department being the gatekeeper for such matters. Coughlin, who is running for re-election as a nonpartisan against Democrat Diana Colavecchio and Republican Don Robart, announced the change in practice after the camps of both challengers sought information related to his job performance the past two years.” [Akron Beacon Journal, [9/28/15](#)]

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### **Coughlin Broke With City Policy Of The Law Department Handling Record Requests**

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request was made to explore recent activities of Stow Municipal Clerk of Courts Kevin Coughlin, the clerk informed the city his office will handle any future records requests, breaking with city policy of the law department being the gatekeeper for such matters. Coughlin, who is running for re-election as a nonpartisan against Democrat Diana Colavecchio and Republican Don Robart, announced the change in practice after the camps of both challengers sought information related to his job performance the past two years.” [Akron Beacon Journal, [9/28/15](#)]

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### **Coughlin Instructed The Courthouse Not To Cooperate With Public Records Requests**

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**October 2, 2015: Coughlin Told Dynamic Data, Inc. That They Were Not To Provide The City Of Stow Or Its Law Department With Any Public Records.** “On Oct. 2, Coughlin made another effort to cut the city out of the process of public record requests involving his office. In an email to DDI, he stated ‘you are not to provide the City of Stow or the Law Department any records or emails related to recent public records request.’” [Akron Beacon Journal, [10/13/15](#)]

- **DDI Stands For Dynamic Data, Inc., Which Was The Company That Maintained The Courthouse Server.** “The Beacon Journal requested a copy of the records that were delivered to Coughlin, as well as any communications the city has had with Dynamic Data Inc. (DDI), the company that maintains the courthouse server.” [Akron Beacon Journal, [10/13/15](#)]

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### **Coughlin Ordered That The Email Inboxes Of Two Employees Under Investigation Be Deleted**

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**June 15, 2015: Coughlin Specifically Requested That The Email Mailboxes Of Two Former Employees Be Deleted A Day Before A Robart Supporter Requested Their Security Card Records.** “On Sept. 8, Cuyahoga Falls resident Jonathan Schulz — a supporter of the Republican Robart — requested copies of email communications between Coughlin and two employees: Kim Holcomb, a 21-year veteran of the clerk’s office who was fired in February. The court has produced no document explaining why she was fired, and she declined to comment for this story through a third party. Victor Milani, a Coughlin campaign supporter who was hired by Coughlin to a new part-time community liaison job. Milani was paid for that job for more than a year before resigning in March. [...] Emails obtained by the Beacon Journal show that June 15, the day before Zibritosky filled the security card request, Coughlin’s office contacted DDI to specifically request that the email mailboxes of Milani and Holcomb be deleted in their entirety.” [Akron Beacon Journal, [10/13/15](#)]

- **Robart Was One Of Coughlin’s Opponents In The Stow Municipal Court Clerk Race.** “On the November ballot, voters in northern Summit County will choose among incumbent Kevin Coughlin, who is running as a nonpartisan, Democratic challenger Diana Colavecchio, who lost to Coughlin in the last election, and Republican Don Robart, the former mayor of Cuyahoga Falls.” [Akron Beacon Journal, [10/20/15](#)]
- **Coughlin Said That The Timing Of The Emails Being Deleted Was A Coincidence.** “Coughlin indicated the timing was coincidence: ‘Mark Hatfield, our IT director, asked why those email addresses were still in the system months after they departed from service.’” [Akron Beacon Journal, [10/13/15](#)]
- **September 8, 2015: The Former Employees’ Email Records Weren’t Requested Until 3 Months After They Were Deleted.** “While Milani’s work habits were being looked into the week his emails were erased, no request for his emails was made until Schulz’s Sept. 8 request, nearly three months after they were destroyed.” [Akron Beacon Journal, [10/13/15](#)]

<p><b>2002: The Ohio Ethics Commission Found Probable Cause Against Coughlin For Misleading Voters While Running For State Senate</b></p>
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## **The Ohio Ethics Commission Found Probable Cause Against Coughlin For Misleading Voters By Leaving Outdated Endorsements On His Website**

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**The Ohio Ethics Commission Found Probable Cause Against Coughlin For Misleading Voters By Posting Outdated Endorsements To His Website.** “The commission panel also found probable cause that Coughlin might have misled voters by failing to remove outdated newspaper endorsements on his Web site, and for calling his Democratic opponent, Tom Bevan of Hudson, a liar in a new television ad. The ad, referring to a ruling against Bevan last week, says, ‘The elections commission is not going to let Bevan get away with it.’” [Columbus Dispatch, 10/17/02]

**Coughlin Was Accused Of Improperly Posting Old Newspaper Endorsements As If They Were For His Current Campaign.** “Coughlin also is accused of improperly posting old newspaper endorsements on a Web site for the current campaign, and putting out a press release saying that his Democratic opponent, Tom Bevan, was lying.” [Associated Press State & Local Wire, 10/16/02]

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## **The Ohio Elections Commission Found Probable Cause Of Coughlin Airing False Attack Statements Against His Opponent**

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**The Ohio Elections Commission Found Probable Cause Of Coughlin Airing False Attack Statements Against His Opponent.** “The Ohio Elections Commission found probable cause yesterday of campaign violations by two Republican state senators. [...] The commission panel also found probable cause that Coughlin might have misled voters by failing to remove outdated newspaper endorsements on his Web site, and for calling his Democratic opponent, Tom Bevan of Hudson, a liar in a new television ad. The ad, referring to a ruling against Bevan last week, says, ‘The elections commission is not going to let Bevan get away with it.’ Brunner argued that the elections commission should halt the ad. ‘Otherwise this process will constantly be abused.’ Coughlin also used the word re-elect in a fund-raising e-mail sent to lobbyists even though he had been appointed to his Senate seat last year, according to Craig Bieber, the Senate Democratic political director who filed the complaints.” [Columbus Dispatch, 10/17/02]

**A Judge Ordered Coughlin To Stop Airing The Commercial Accusing His Opponent, Tom Benant Of Lying And Being Under An Ethics Investigation.** “A judge yesterday ordered Republicans to stop airing a commercial that accused two Democratic state Senate candidates of lying. The spot showed photos of candidate Tom Bevan in the 27th District and Sue Morano in the 13th with the word ‘lying’ below their pictures. The ad promotes the campaigns of Republicans Jeffrey Armbruster of North Ridgeville and Kevin Coughlin of Cuyahoga Falls, who was appointed to the Senate seat in 2001. Bevan said he filed the action because the ad also claimed he was under investigation by the Ohio Elections Commission.” [Plain Dealer, 10/19/02]

### ***Coughlin Aired A Commercial Against His Opponent, Tom Bevan That Accused Him Of Lying And Being Under An Ethics Investigation***

**Coughlin Aired A Commercial Accusing Tom Bevan Of Lying And Being Under An Ethics Investigation.** “A judge yesterday ordered Republicans to stop airing a commercial that accused two Democratic state Senate candidates of lying. The spot showed photos of candidate Tom Bevan in the 27th District and Sue Morano in the 13th with the word ‘lying’ below their pictures. The ad promotes the campaigns of Republicans Jeffrey Armbruster of North Ridgeville and Kevin Coughlin of Cuyahoga Falls, who was appointed to the Senate seat in 2001. Bevan said he filed the action because the ad also claimed he was under investigation by the Ohio Elections Commission.” [Plain Dealer, 10/19/02]

### ***Friends Of Tom Bevan Filed A Temporary Restraining Order Against Kevin Coughlin***

**Friends Of Tom Bevan Filed A Temporary Restraining Order Against Kevin Coughlin.** According to the Cuyahoga County Clerk of Courts, Friends of Tom Bevan filed a restraining order against Kevin Coughlin, with a hearing for a temporary restraining order set on October 18, 2002. [Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas, Friends of Tom Bevan VS Kevin Coughlin, et al., CV-02-484496, Cuyahoga County Clerk of Courts, Docket, filed [10/18/02](#)]

10/18/2002 P JE HEARING FOR TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDERS SET FOR 10/25/02 AT 9:00 AM....VOL.2823 PGS.0988-990 NOTICE ISSUED

[Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas, Friends of Tom Bevan VS Kevin Coughlin, et al., CV-02-484496, Cuyahoga County Clerk of Courts, Docket, filed [10/18/02](#)]

- **Friends Of Tom Bevan Was The Plaintiff In This Case, And Coughlin Was One Of The Defendants.** Friends of Tom Bevan was listed as the plaintiff in this case, and Kevin Coughlin was listed as one of the defendants. [Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas, Friends of Tom Bevan VS Kevin Coughlin, et al., CV-02-484496, Cuyahoga County Clerk of Courts, Parties, filed [10/18/02](#)]

Case Parties		
<b>PLAINTIFF (1)</b>	FRIENDS OF TOM BEVAN 530 MEADOWRIDGE WAY HUDSON, OH 44236-0000	<b>ATTORNEY</b> ANTHONY LANIA (0055161) 34501 SOUTHSIDE PARK DRIVE SOLON, OH 44139-0000 Ph: 216-482-0259 Answer Filed: N/A
<b>DEFENDANT (1)</b>	KEVIN COUGHLIN 2324 IOTA AVENUE CUYAHOGA FALLS, OH 44223-0000	
<b>DEFENDANT (2)</b>	TEAM COUGHLIN DONALD POND, TREASURER 2324 IOTA AVENUE CUYAHOGA FALLS, OH 44223-0000	
<b>DEFENDANT (3)</b>	DONALD POND 2324 IOTA AVENUE CUYAHOGA FALLS, OH 44223-0000	
<b>DEFENDANT (4)</b>	JIMMY HANSEN 57 E GAY ST COLUMBUS, OH 43215-0000	

[Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas, Friends of Tom Bevan VS Kevin Coughlin, et al., CV-02-484496, Cuyahoga County Clerk of Courts, Parties, filed [10/18/02](#)]

**Bevan Said He Filed The Action Because Of The Claims That He was Under Investigation By The Ohio Ethics Commission.** “A judge yesterday ordered Republicans to stop airing a commercial that accused two Democratic state Senate candidates of lying. The spot showed photos of candidate Tom Bevan in the 27th District and Sue Morano in the 13th with the word ‘lying’ below their pictures. The ad promotes the campaigns of Republicans Jeffry Armbruster of North Ridgeville and Kevin Coughlin of Cuyahoga Falls, who was appointed to the Senate seat in 2001. Bevan said he filed the action because the ad also claimed he was under investigation by the Ohio Elections Commission.” [Plain Dealer, 10/19/02]

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**Coughlin Said He Was Trying To Get The Ohio Supreme Court To Overturn The Restraining Order Against The Ad**

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**Coughlin Said He Was Trying To Get The Ohio Supreme Court To Overturn The Restraining Order Against The Ad.** “A judge yesterday ordered Republicans to stop airing a commercial that accused two Democratic state Senate

candidates of lying. The spot showed photos of candidate Tom Bevan in the 27th District and Sue Morano in the 13th with the word 'lying' below their pictures. The ad promotes the campaigns of Republicans Jeffry Armbruster of North Ridgeville and Kevin Coughlin of Cuyahoga Falls, who was appointed to the Senate seat in 2001. [...] Armbruster said the elections commission was the appropriate place for complaints to be filed, not the courts. A full hearing about the legality of the television ads is set for Oct. 25. Meanwhile, Coughlin, who denied any wrongdoing, was trying late yesterday to get the Ohio Supreme Court to overturn the restraining order." [Plain Dealer, 10/19/02]

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### **2002: Coughlin Faced Five Complaints By His State Senate Election Day**

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**Coughlin Faced Five Complaints By Election Day.** "The Republican Senate Campaign Committee took aim at both Bevan and Morano with an "Election Alert" ad claiming the Elections Commission was investigating 'lying' by the two challengers. Democrats filed their own complaints about the 'lying' ad. The Elections Commission again found 'probable cause.' By Election Day, Bevan faced two complaints, Coughlin five, Morano four and Armbruster two, said Richter of the Elections Commission." [Plain Dealer, 11/10/02]

### **1998: One Of Coughlin's Volunteers Was Accused Of Stealing A Piece Of Coughlin's Opponents Campaign Literature, But Coughlin Denied It**

**1998: A Volunteer On Coughlin's Campaign Was Accused Of Stealing A Piece Of Coughlin's Opponent's Campaign Literature.** "Forsyth said he and his wife arrived at their Osage Rd. home about 2 p.m. Sunday to find a bright orange flier for Democratic candidate S. David Worhatch stuck in the screen door. About a half-hour later, Forsyth said, he heard his screen door bang shut and discovered a piece of campaign literature for State Rep. Kevin Coughlin, a Republican who is completing his first term in the House. That is when he noticed a teenager on the lawn next door, sticking a piece of Worhatch's literature in his back pocket. A Worhatch flier left for Forsyth's parents, who live on the other side of his duplex and were out of town, also was gone. Forsyth was so outraged he called Worhatch and Coughlin to inform them and then drove up and down several nearby streets. Worhatch material evidently had been lifted there as well." [Plain Dealer, 10/28/98]

- **Coughlin Denied The Accusation.** "Coughlin said none of his campaign volunteers would have stolen Worhatch material. 'It's a creative way to get news, but it's not happening,' Coughlin said." [Plain Dealer, 10/28/98]

### **On Multiple Occasions, Coughlin Sought Unconventional And Overly Litigious Routes To Achieve Campaign Goals**

### **2007: Coughlin Worked To Undermine The Election Of Alex Arshinkoff To The Republican Central Committee**

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#### **Coughlin Worked To Unseat Arshinkoff As The Chairman Of The Republican Central Committee**

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**Coughlin Worked To Unseat Arshinkoff As The Chairman Of The Republican Central Committee.** "Coughlin's campaign, launched this fall, is a referendum on Arshinkoff. Coughlin's supporters haven't named a candidate for chairman. Instead, they will wage a precinct-by-precinct campaign to get a majority in the county's 474-member Republican Central Committee, which can replace the chairman. The election of the chairman, after the March primary, may be as closely watched by party insiders and Democrats as the returns for the presidential nominations. Coughlin said he already has 100 central committee candidates. 'They will campaign on a message to replace the chairman,' he said." [Cleveland.com, [10/31/07](#)]

- **Coughlin Tried To Pack The Republican Central Committee In Order To Unseat Arshinkoff.** "For the past six months, Coughlin has worked to dethrone Arshinkoff, recruiting Republicans to run for the party's central committee. He's not endorsing a new chairman, though, calling it an 'anybody-but-Alex campaign.'" [Plain Dealer, 2/21/08]

- **Coughlin Named Carol Klinger, A Councilwoman, As The Candidate Who Would Be Facing Arshinkoff.** “Chairman Alex Arshinkoff is fighting to retain control of the party he has led for 30 years. Last fall, State Sen. Kevin Coughlin, of Cuyahoga Falls, announced the launch of the New Summit Republicans campaign to unseat the chief, accusing Arshinkoff of being dictatorial and ineffective. Cuyahoga Falls Councilwoman Carol Klinger emerged as the group's candidate and has worked to find votes among the party's 471 central committee members. At the March primary election, Republican voters elected 207 new central committee members.” [Plain Dealer, 4/29/08]

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**Coughlin Called Republican Party Boss Alex Arshinkoff “Vindictive,” “Untrustworthy,” And “The Dancing Bear On A Chain Held Firmly By The Local Democratic Party.”**

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**Coughlin Called Republican Party Boss Alex Arshinkoff “Vindictive,” “Untrustworthy,” And “The Dancing Bear On A Chain Held Firmly By The Local Democratic Party.”** “State Sen. Kevin Coughlin, a Republican from Cuyahoga Falls, is going after the bear - namely, powerful Summit County GOP boss Alex Arshinkoff. ‘More and more, Alex appears to be the dancing bear on a chain held firmly by the local Democratic Party,’ Coughlin wrote party regulars in a plea to overthrow the boss. He said Arshinkoff’s ‘bunker mentality’ and coziness with Dems, including Akron Mayor Don Plusquellic, are the cause for a decline in the GOP in Summit County. [...] ‘In short, he is too paranoid, too vindictive, too manipulative, too untrustworthy and too erratic to continue leading our party,’ thundered Coughlin in the letter.” [Plain Dealer, 8/18/07]

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**Coughlin Accused Arshinkoff Of Using Party Funds For Personal Expenditures And His Car**

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**Coughlin Accused Arshinkoff Of Using Party Funds For Personal Expenditures And His Car.** “Coughlin accuses Arshinkoff of exploiting his position at the party to steer business to his lobbying firm and to pay for a car and other personal perks. ‘He's got about \$600,000 that he budgets for loosely defined operational overhead, which includes a Cadillac Escalade and three meals a day, a bloated staff, and his pay,’ Coughlin said. ‘We want a chairman who's interested in winning elections and not feathering his own nest.’” [Columbus Dispatch, [3/10/08](#)]

- **Arshinkoff Called Coughlin “Truth-Challenged.”** “Arshinkoff calls Coughlin ‘truth-challenged.’ He said he makes \$72,000 a year as party chairman and that he and his wife, Karen, have often taken on personal debt to make the contributions to the party that are required of central committee members.” [Columbus Dispatch, [3/10/08](#)]

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**Arshinkoff Won The Race And Was Reelected Chairman Of The Republican Party**

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**Despite Coughlin’s Efforts, Arshinkoff Was Reelected Chairman Of The Republican Party.** “Alex Arshinkoff, the college dropout who rose from a Summit County janitor to become the county's Republican Party chairman, beat back a challenge Wednesday night from party dissidents seeking to end his 30-year reign. Arshinkoff defeated Akron attorney Donald Varian 260-115 for chairmanship of the party's central committee at a meeting at the Tangier restaurant. [...] Central committee members voted overwhelming to replace party rules with a stricter set of rules proposed by Arshinkoff. They defeated reform rules proposed by Klinger and State Sen. Kevin Coughlin, who had campaigned against Arshinkoff.” [Plain Dealer, 5/1/08]

**2013: Coughlin Embarked On A Legal Campaign To Allow Himself To Run As A Non-Partisan In The Stow Municipal Clerk Election After Unanimous Objection From Both Republicans And Democrats On The Election Board**

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**Coughlin Filed To Run For Clerk Of Stow Municipal Court As A Non-Partisan**

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**Coughlin Filed To Run For Stow Municipal Clerk As A Nonpartisan.** “Coughlin filed last week to run nonpartisan in the Stow Municipal Court clerk’s race, a move he says is permitted by a law he co-sponsored during his time in the state

legislature. But both Republican and Democratic members of the Summit County elections board are questioning whether Coughlin can run nonpartisan, given his strong ties to the Republican party and the fact that a partisan primary was held for the office last Tuesday.” [Akron Beacon Journal, [5/12/13](#)]

- **Coughlin Said He Could Run As A Nonpartisan Because Of A Bill He Co-Sponsored When He Was A State Legislator, And If Not Allowed To Run, He Would Go To The Ohio Supreme Court.** “As evidence, [Coughlin] points to a bill he co-sponsored with former state Sen. Kim Zurz, now the Democratic deputy director of the Summit County elections board, in December 2006 that moved the Cuyahoga Falls Municipal Court to Stow. He said the bill also changed how the Stow Municipal Court clerk was elected, providing that the clerk be elected ‘in the same manner’ as Stow judges, which means ‘candidates for clerk may be nominated by petition or by partisan primary.’ He said this provision became effective Jan. 1, 2009, and hasn’t been changed. [...] If the board refuses to certify his candidacy, Coughlin said he will challenge the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court.” [Akron Beacon Journal, [5/12/13](#)]

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### **Republicans And Democrats On The Summit County Elections Board Unanimously Decided Coughlin Could Not Run As A Non-Partisan Due To His Political Ties To The Republican Party**

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**Republicans And Democrats Questioned Whether Coughlin Could Run As Non Partisan “Given His Strong Ties To The Republican Party.”** “Coughlin filed last week to run nonpartisan in the Stow Municipal Court clerk’s race, a move he says is permitted by a law he co-sponsored during his time in the state legislature. But both Republican and Democratic members of the Summit County elections board are questioning whether Coughlin can run nonpartisan, given his strong ties to the Republican party and the fact that a partisan primary was held for the office last Tuesday.” [Akron Beacon Journal, [5/12/13](#)]

**The Summit County Board Of Elections Unanimously Decided That Coughlin Could Not Run As A Non-Partisan.** “A flow chart would help in tracking Kevin Coughlin's challenge of the unanimous decision of the Summit County Board of Elections to boot him off the Nov. 5 ballot as a nonpartisan candidate for clerk of the Stow Municipal Court.” [Akron Beacon Journal, 8/18/13]

**Alex Arshinkoff, The Republican Party Chairman, Said That Coughlin Running As A Nonpartisan Would Set A Dangerous Precedent.** “Alex Arshinkoff, a Republican member of the elections board and the county GOP chairman [...] agrees that neither party wants Coughlin on the ballot because of the precedent this would set and how an unfettered ability to run nonpartisan could weaken the two-party system. ‘If we start this thing, pretty soon we are back to independents running for everything,’ he said. ‘Why have a primary when you can go right around it? Partisan people can hide and get on the ballot. That doesn’t make any sense.’” [Akron Beacon Journal, [5/12/13](#)]

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### **Coughlin Appealed The Elections Board Decision At The Ohio Supreme Court, Who Decided Coughlin Could Run As A Non-Partisan Candidate**

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**Coughlin Took His Case For Ballot Access To The Ohio Supreme Court.** “Coughlin on Thursday followed through on his promise to file a legal challenge to the Summit County Board of Election’s decision to deny him ballot access. He is asking the Ohio Supreme Court to require the board to allow his candidacy. ‘Coughlin had a clear legal right to obtain timely acceptance and certification of his nominating petition and to have his name placed on the November 5, 2013 general election ballot,’ Akron attorney Don Varian wrote in Coughlin’s complaint.” [Akron Beacon Journal, [8/8/13](#)]

- **Coughlin Filed A Writ Of Mandamus Seeking For The Summit County Board Of Elections To Place Him On The Ballot.** “The Summit County Board of Elections has a clear legal duty to follow the Ohio Revised Code and this Court's unanimous holding in Allen. Yet, in blatant violation of this legal duty, the Board of Elections abused its discretion and clearly disregarded applicable law by deciding that Allen was not applicable to non-partisan candidates for the Office of Clerk for the Stow Municipal Court. [...] Accordingly, Coughlin seeks a Writ of Mandamus and, if necessary, a preemptory or alternative writ, to compel the Board of Elections to accept and to certify his Nominating

Petition and to place his name on the general election ballot for the Office of Clerk for the Stow Municipal Court. There is no adequate remedy in the ordinary course of law.” [The Supreme Court of Ohio, State of Ohio, ex rel. Kevin J. Coughlin VS Summit County Board of Elections, 2013-1264, [Complaint in Mandamus of Kevin J. Coughlin](#), filed [8/8/13](#)]

**The Ohio Supreme Court Ruled That Coughlin Could Run As A Non-Partisan Candidate.** “Former state Sen. Kevin Coughlin will appear on November ballot in the race for Stow Municipal Court clerk, the Ohio Supreme Court ruled Sept. 9. Coughlin filed last month with the state’s highest court, asking for the Summit County Board of Elections to be compelled to place his name on the Nov. 5 ballot, after the elections board decided against certifying his petitions for the non-partisan post. Coughlin had asked the Ohio Supreme Court for an expedited action due to the timing of having ballots printed. ‘The Summit County Board of Elections disregarded clearly established law when it concluded that Coughlin had to disaffiliate or else seek nomination through a partisan primary and that therefore his nominating petition was untimely. For this reason, Coughlin has a clear legal right to have his name on the ballot, the board has a clear legal duty to place his name on the ballot, and, given the proximity of the election, Coughlin has no adequate remedy at law,’ stated the Sept. 9 decision by the justices.” [Akron Beacon Journal, [9/15/13](#)]

- **The Chief Justice Granted Coughlin’s Writ Of Mandamus.** “Upon consideration thereof, it is ordered by the Court that a writ of mandamus is granted to compel the Summit County Board of Elections to place relator’s name on the November 5, 2013 nonpartisan ballot as a candidate for Stow Municipal Court Clerk of Courts, consistent with the opinion rendered herein. Maureen O’Connor Chief Justice” [The Supreme Court of Ohio, State of Ohio, ex rel. Kevin J. Coughlin VS Summit County Board of Elections, 2013-1264, [Decision](#), filed [9/9/13](#)]

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### **Coughlin Admitted To Authoring The Legislation That He Sought To Have The Court “Apply In His Favor”**

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**According To Court Documents, Coughlin Admitted To Authoring The Legislation That “He Now Seeks To Have This Court Apply In His Favor.”** “1. Relator has failed to state a claim upon which relief can be granted. 2. Relator’s own conduct has caused his harm, and he is not entitled to the relief he seeks from this Court. 3. Relator has unclean hands in that he admits he authored the legislation that he now seeks to have this Court apply in his favor. [...] 12. Respondent afforded Relator a full hearing regarding the protest of his candidacy and has no further clear legal duty to act as sought by the Relator. 13. Relator does not have a clear right to the relief sought.” [The Supreme Court of Ohio, State of Ohio, ex rel. Kevin J. Coughlin VS Summit County Board of Elections, 2013-1264, [Answer of Respondent](#), filed [8/19/13](#)]

### **Coughlin Was Disliked By His Colleagues—including Multiple Members Of The Ohio Republican Party—Throughout His Political Career And Life**

#### **The Summit County Republican Party Chairman Called Coughlin “Radioactive” And Said “He’s On Nobody’s List”**

**Alex Arshinkoff Described Coughlin As “Radioactive” And Said “He’s On Nobody’s List.”** “Arshinkoff described Coughlin as ‘radioactive.’ ‘If Kevin was the power he thought he was, somebody would give him a job,’ he said. ‘He’s on nobody’s list.’” [Akron Beacon Journal, 12/30/10]

- **Arshinkoff Was The Summit County Republican Party Chairman.** “Summit County Republican Party Chairman Alex Arshinkoff died Monday at 62. Arshinkoff held a tight grip on money and support in the county Republican Party for more than 30 years. Republicans saw him as a savvy political mind who raised millions of dollars to take on Democrats in a predominantly Democratic county.” [Cleveland.com, [8/29/17](#)]

#### **Summit County Republican Chairman Alex Arshinkoff Worked To Make Coughlin Lose The Race For**

## Stow Municipal Court Clerk, Even At The Cost Of A Democrat Winning

### 2015: Alex Arshinkoff Worked To Split The Republican Vote To Make Coughlin Lose The Race For Stow Municipal Court Clerk, Even At The Cost Of A Democrat Winning

**Alex Arshinkoff Targeted Coughlin, And Said “Dead Is Dead” Regarding Coughlin’s Possibly Losing The Stow Municipal Court Clerk Race.** “Read on at your own risk. Fearless predictions for Election Day and beyond follow in this space. [...] In the hotly contested race for clerk of the Stow Municipal Court, Democrat Diana Colavecchio, a former clerk, will beat Kevin Coughlin, the nonpartisan incumbent, and former Cuyahoga Falls Mayor Don Robart, a Republican. Coughlin, who has run in the past as a Republican, was targeted by Alex Arshinkoff, the Summit County Republican chairman, after Coughlin tried to oust him. Well aware of the possibility that Colavecchio could win if Robart got in the race and split the vote, Arshinkoff said of Coughlin, ‘Dead is dead.’” [Akron Beacon Journal, Hoffman Op-ed, 10/29/15]

- **Arshinkoff Had Worked Towards Coughlin’s Loss In The Race For Stow Municipal Court Clerk, Entering A Republican Candidate To Split The Vote Even At The Cost Of A Democrat Winning.** “Robart’s entrance into the race was intended by GOP Chairman Alex Arshinkoff as payback to Coughlin for trying to oust him. Arshinkoff didn’t care who won the race, as long as it wasn’t Coughlin. Coughlin came close to winning through a brutal mailer attacking both Robart and Colavecchio. The tactic tightened up the race, but the negative lit drop wasn’t quite enough to keep Coughlin in the office.” [Akron Beacon Journal, Opinion, [11/5/15](#)]

### “Arshinkoff Didn’t Care Who Won The Race, As Long As It Wasn’t Coughlin”

**“Arshinkoff Didn’t Care Who Won The Race, As Long As It Wasn’t Coughlin.”** “Robart’s entrance into the race was intended by GOP Chairman Alex Arshinkoff as payback to Coughlin for trying to oust him. Arshinkoff didn’t care who won the race, as long as it wasn’t Coughlin. Coughlin came close to winning through a brutal mailer attacking both Robart and Colavecchio. The tactic tightened up the race, but the negative lit drop wasn’t quite enough to keep Coughlin in the office.” [Akron Beacon Journal, Opinion, [11/5/15](#)]

### 2015: Coughlin Lost The Race For Stow Municipal Court Clerk To Diana Colavecchio

- **Coughlin Lost The Race For Stow Municipal Court Clerk To Diana Colavecchio.** “For several months, the three candidates for Stow Municipal Court clerk of courts have had their say, exchanging accusations bordering on the criminal, trading ugly barbs on social media and campaign fliers, and filing complaints with state agencies. Tuesday night, northern Summit County voters got to talk — and they gave the job to challenger Diana Colavecchio. Colavecchio eked out a slim victory with 40 percent of the vote. Trailing her were incumbent Kevin Coughlin with 39 percent, and former Cuyahoga Falls mayor Don Robart with 21 percent.” [Akron Beacon Journal, [11/4/15](#)]

## Former Republican Cuyahoga Falls Mayor Don Robar Said Coughlin Was “Vindictive” And A “Nuisance”

**Former Cuyahoga Falls Mayor And Republican Don Robart Said Coughlin Was “Vindictive” And A “Nuisance.”** “Whether state Sen. Kevin Coughlin leaving public service is a good or bad thing depends on whom you ask. ‘I can’t wait!’ Cuyahoga Falls Mayor and fellow Republican Don Robart said emphatically. ‘He has been nothing but a thorn in our side in Cuyahoga Falls. I can’t say something nice. He has been a nuisance.’ [...] ‘He is a very vindictive person,’ Robart said.” [Akron Beacon Journal, 12/30/10]

**Robart Said He Wouldn’t Do Anything To Help Coughlin.** “Robart said Coughlin has ‘slammed door after door’ and now ‘everyone’s slammed the door on him.’ ‘I don’t wish him any ill will,’ he said. ‘But I wouldn’t do anything to help him.’” [Akron Beacon Journal, 12/30/10]

**When Running Against Coughlin For Stow Clerk Of Courts, Robart Said, “Everyone Knows Coughlin’s Reputation Regarding Negative Campaigning.”** “On the November ballot, voters in northern Summit County will choose among incumbent Kevin Coughlin, who is running as a nonpartisan, Democratic challenger Diana Colavecchio, who lost to Coughlin in the last election, and Republican Don Robart, the former mayor of Cuyahoga Falls. [...] Robart announced his candidacy weeks before Coughlin did, ‘therefore, I did not know what to expect’ in terms of how this campaign season would go. But once Coughlin entered the race, ‘everyone knows Coughlin’s reputation regarding negative campaigning,’ Robart said. [Akron Beacon Journal, [10/20/15](#)]

**Akron Beacon Journal: Coughlin Was “An Outcast Among County Republicans”**

**Akron Beacon Journal: Coughlin Was “An Outcast Among County Republicans.”** “An outcast among county Republicans, Coughlin wanted his electoral fate decided by the general voting population and not the party rank and file.” [Akron Beacon Journal, [2/5/15](#)]

**Coughlin’s University Newspaper Described His Undergraduate Student Presidency As “Volatile” And “Stirring Controversy”**

**1988: Coughlin Entered Bowling Green State University As A Freshman.** “[Coughlin] stormed campus as a freshman in 1988 creating publicity and stirring controversy by debating for presidential candidate George Bush and assuming the leadership reins of USG.” [Bowling Green State University News, 3, [4/24/1991](#)]



**THE BG NEWS** Wednesday, April 24, 1991 3

**Campus**

**Coughlin looks ahead**  
*Outgoing USG president sees optimistic future*

by Scott Geringer  
staff writer

Coughlin is looking forward to reducing a tireless schedule which dates back to high school. Captaining the track and cross country teams at Woodridge High School in Peninsula, Ohio, Coughlin had little interest in politics but was considered “the voice of the school” for his re-

Kevin Coughlin is the most recognizable University student and for good reason. He stormed campus as a freshman in 1988 creating publici-

events for the Republican convention that summer and lined up support for Bush’s campaign. Upon entering the University in fall of 1988, Coughlin duelled verbally with College Democrat members on the presidential election. Through his efforts in support of Bush, he came in contact with the College Republicans but was quickly alienated by their tactics such as harassment of political opponents. “The College Republicans did things the campaign didn’t want,” he recalled. “Their behavior was tacky and tasteless.” After the election, Coughlin involved himself in USG and was selected vice-president under Tim Peterson when the position was vacated. His experience with USG and personal ambition pushed him toward a remarkable USG presidential victory in the spring of 1989. “The times and the person met,” he said. “We needed someone who took it very seriously — we needed someone heavy-handed.” Coughlin’s first year as president was a year of progress, he said. “We needed to bring students back into the action — protect the students,” he said. “For instance, course and faculty evaluation. □ See **COUGHLIN**, page 4.

**“If a leader keeps his plans secret and then springs them on people without seeking the advice of others, then all that he has done one day is pretty much undone the next. Because public reaction to it is so great ... the leader becomes subservient to the opinions of the masses rather than the opinions of the people on his team.”**

ty and stirring controversy by debating for presidential candidate George Bush and assuming the leadership reins of USG. Now that his volatile two year administration has been replaced, all he strives to be is anonymous. “Next fall I’m going to spend a lot of time with my friends and my [fraternity] brothers. I love to cook — I’m going to have the best kitchen in Bowling Green,” he said. “I’m just going to kick back and have fun for once.”

bellious morning announcements. Upon graduation, several teachers helped him move to Washington, D.C. — beginning his political career four days after receiving his diploma in the summer of 1988. Coughlin said he was motivated to make this bold move when he role-played U.S. Senator Jesse Helms in a senior American government class. Ironically, his first contact in Washington was Helms who showed him around the White House. He planned

[Bowling Green State University News, 3, [4/24/1991](#)]

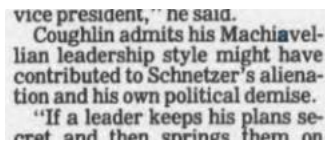
**Coughlin Was Undergraduate University President At Bowling Green State University.** “Kevin Coughlin is the most recognizable University student and for good reason. He stormed campus as a freshman in 1988 creating publicity and stirring controversy by debating for presidential candidate George Bush and assuming the leadership reins of USG. Now

that his volatile two year administration has been replaced, all he strives to be is anonymous.” [Bowling Green State University News, 3, [4/24/1991](#)]

**Bowling Green State University News Described Coughlin’s Tenure As USG President As A “Volatile Two-Year Administration.”** “Kevin Coughlin is the most recognizable University student and for good reason. He stormed campus as a freshman in 1988 creating publicity and stirring controversy by debating for presidential candidate George Bush and assuming the leadership reins of USG. Now that his volatile two year administration has been replaced, all he strives to be is anonymous.” [Bowling Green State University News, 3, [4/24/1991](#)]

**Coughlin Was Described By Bowling Green State University As Immediately “Creating Publicity And Stirring Controversy.”** “Kevin Coughlin is the most recognizable University student and for good reason. He stormed campus as a freshman in 1988 creating publicity and stirring controversy by debating for presidential candidate George Bush and assuming the leadership reins of USG. Now that his volatile two year administration has been replaced, all he strives to be is anonymous.” [Bowling Green State University News, 3, [4/24/1991](#)]

**As Undergraduate Student President, Coughlin Was Described As Having “Machiavellian Leadership Style.”** “Coughlin admits his Machiavellian leadership style might have contributed to Schnetzer's alienation and his own political demise.” [Bowling Green State University News, 5, [4/24/1991](#)]



[Bowling Green State University News, 5, [4/24/1991](#)]

**Bowling Green News Editorial: “Almost Everyone Who Spends More Than 10 Minutes With Kevin Coughlin Finds Him Personally Repugnant”**

**Bowling Green News Editorial: “Almost Everyone Who Spends More Than 10 Minutes With Kevin Coughlin Finds Him Personally Repugnant.”** “Almost everyone who spends more than 10 minutes with Kevin Coughlin finds him personally repugnant, but the fact remains he is a potentially consummate administrator and student advocate.” [The Bowling Green News, [4/24/91](#)]

**Coughlin “Ruled [Undergraduate Student Government] With An Iron Fist” By Locking Doors, Alienating His Vice President, And Allegedly Threatening His Opponent With Violence.** “Kevin Coughlin lost this year's USG presidential election. A fairly simple statement on the surface, but this campaign will be remembered foremost as the election Kevin lost — not the election Mike Sears won. [...] He ruled USG with an iron fist — locking doors, alienating VP Linda Schnetzer and even allegedly threatening Sears with physical violence.” [The Bowling Green News, [3/15/91](#)]

**Coughlin Killed A Bill To Get Back At The Co-Author Of A Constitutional Amendment To End Gerrymandering In Ohio For The Author's Involvement In The Initiative**

**2005: Coughlin Admitted To Killing A Bill To Get Back At The Co-Author Of A Constitutional Amendment To End Gerrymandering In Ohio, Because He Was “Not Real Happy With [The Author's] Involvement In The Initiative”**

**2005: Coughlin Admitted Telling A Lobbyist That He Killed A Bill To Get Back At The Co-Author Of A Proposed Constitutional Amendment Intended To End The Gerrymandering Of Ohio's Congressional And State Legislative Districts, Because He Was “Not Real Happy With [The Author's] Involvement In The Initiative.”** “In an arena where Republicans rule, Democrat Paul Tipps has remained a successful Statehouse lobbyist because he does his

homework, he works hard for clients and, as much as possible in the era of term limits, he takes time to build relationships with lawmakers from both parties. [...] Coughlin, for political reasons, killed a bill that officials in both cities and most others around the state believe would have helped alleviate the financial bath they are taking on emergency medical-service operations. The bill would require insurance companies to pay the cities for each emergency medical service run and emergency-room doctors for each victim they treat. Currently, insurers pay the victim being transported -- an arrangement that Tipps argues is aimed at driving down the insurers' costs -- and cities and doctors have trouble collecting from people who pocket and spend the money. Coughlin admitted telling another lobbyist that he killed the bill to get back at Tipps for co-writing a proposed constitutional amendment intended to end the gerrymandering of Ohio's congressional and state legislative districts. He later told The Dispatch that while he's 'not real happy with Paul's involvement in the initiative,' the bill died because other legislators had concerns about it." [Columbus Dispatch, 7/3/05]

- **The Proposed Constitutional Amendment Intended To End The Gerrymandering Of Ohio's Congressional And State Legislative Districts.** "In an arena where Republicans rule, Democrat Paul Tipps has remained a successful Statehouse lobbyist because he does his homework, he works hard for clients and, as much as possible in the era of term limits, he takes time to build relationships with lawmakers from both parties. [...] Coughlin, for political reasons, killed a bill that officials in both cities and most others around the state believe would have helped alleviate the financial bath they are taking on emergency medical-service operations. The bill would require insurance companies to pay the cities for each emergency medical service run and emergency-room doctors for each victim they treat. Currently, insurers pay the victim being transported -- an arrangement that Tipps argues is aimed at driving down the insurers' costs -- and cities and doctors have trouble collecting from people who pocket and spend the money. Coughlin admitted telling another lobbyist that he killed the bill to get back at Tipps for co-writing a proposed constitutional amendment intended to end the gerrymandering of Ohio's congressional and state legislative districts. He later told The Dispatch that while he's 'not real happy with Paul's involvement in the initiative,' the bill died because other legislators had concerns about it." [Columbus Dispatch, 7/3/05]

## Coughlin Sponsored H.B. 590, A Bill That Would Require Any New Prisons Built In Ohio To Be Privatized

### Coughlin Sponsored A Bill That Would Require Any New Prisons Built To Be Privatized

**Coughlin Sponsored H.B. 590, Which Would Require That Any New Prisons Built Be Privatized.** In September 1997, Coughlin sponsored a bill "To amend section 9.06 of the Revised Code to require the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction to contract for the private operation and management of state correctional institutions constructed after the effective date of this act." The bill died in committee. [Ohio General Assembly Archives, [H.B. 590](#), Sponsored, [9/23/97](#)]

**Coughlin Introduced A Bill That Would Require Any New Prisons Built In Ohio To Be Privatized.** "A bill introduced in the Ohio House by Rep. Kevin J. Coughlin, a Cuyahoga Falls Republican, would require that any new prisons built by the state be operated by a private company. However, the legislation stops short of privatizing current prisons. 'As we are looking for ways to save money for schools, I think this is an area we should consider,' said Coughlin. 'Privatizing current prisons would save less money, but even that is on the table for discussion.' Currently, the state cannot hire private contractors to run Ohio prisons, which fall under the domain of the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction. Under Coughlin's bill, the correction department would still oversee state prisons, but a private company would be hired to run all newly constructed facilities, including some already on the drawing board." [Plain Dealer, 10/2/97]

- **There Were No Conclusive Studies On Coughlin's Bill, H.B. 590, But He Thought There Was "Potential" For "Significant Savings."** "State Rep. Kevin J. Coughlin, R-Peninsula, has no qualms about moving ahead with more private prisons even before the razor wire goes up around the Lake Erie facility. His proposal, House Bill 590, would require the state to privatize all new prisons. Coughlin argues that the annual savings to the state - 5 percent to 15 percent or more - could be used to pay for education and other programs. 'If we're going to maintain our commitment . . . to meet the needs of public education and an aging population, we have to do that in a more efficient

manner.’ Coughlin acknowledged that there are no conclusive studies from other states, but he feels there is potential for significant savings. His proposal would not require the state to privatize existing prisons, or accept prisoners from other states.” [Columbus Dispatch, 11/23/97]

### Private Prisons Faced Criticism For Having A Business Model Predicated On Locking Up More People And Not Maintaining The Same Level Of Safety And Security

**United States Deputy Attorney General: Private Prisons “Do Not Provide The Same Level Of Correctional Services [...] Do Not Save Substantially On Costs [...] And] Do Not Maintain The Same Level Of Safety And Security.”** “They simply do not provide the same level of correctional services, programs, and resources; they do not save substantially on costs; and as noted in a recent report by the Department’s Office of Inspector General, they do not maintain the same level of safety and security.” [Department of Justice, [8/18/16](#)]

**ACLU: “Private Prison Companies Essentially Admit That Their Business Model Depends On Locking Up More And More People.”** “While the nation’s unprecedented rate of imprisonment deprives individuals of freedom, wrests loved ones from their families, and drains the resources of governments, communities, and taxpayers, the private prison industry reaps lucrative rewards. As the public good suffers from mass incarceration, private prison companies obtain more and more government dollars, and private prison executives at the leading companies rake in enormous compensation packages. Private prison companies essentially admit that their business model depends on locking up more and more people. The American economy should not include locking people in cages for profit.” [ACLU, accessed [9/27/23](#)]

### Coughlin Posted A Photo On Instagram With Ron DeSantis

### Coughlin Posted A Photo On Instagram With Ron DeSantis

**Coughlin Posted A Photo On Instagram With Ron DeSantis.** “Still energized from this morning’s event with @rondesantis A great conservative Governor fighting for freedom and providing results. Principled, competent, a proven winner. Thanks for your support of the @summitcogop#m” [Kevin Coughlin, Instagram, [4/13/23](#)]

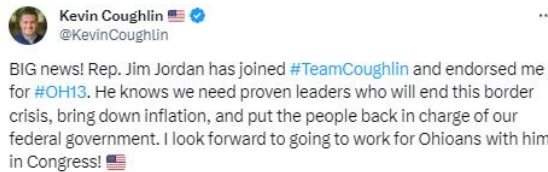


[Kevin Coughlin, Instagram, [4/13/23](#)]

## Coughlin's Celebrated An Endorsement From His Former State Senate Companion, Jim Jordan

### 2023: Coughlin Celebrated His Endorsement From Jim Jordan

**December 21, 2023: Coughlin Celebrated His Endorsement From Jim Jordan.** “BIG news! Rep. Jim Jordan has joined #TeamCoughlin and endorsed me for #OH13. He knows we need proven leaders who will end this border crisis, bring down inflation, and put the people back in charge of our federal government. I look forward to going to work for Ohioans with him in Congress!” [Kevin Coughlin, Twitter, [12/21/23](#)]



Last edited 10:35 AM · Dec 21, 2023 · 23.3K Views

[Kevin Coughlin, Twitter, [12/21/23](#)]

### Jordan And Coughlin Worked Together In The Ohio State Senate

**Coughlin And Jordan Jointly Suggested That The Ohio Senate “Consider Cutting Optional Medicaid Programs And Services.”** “State Sen. Jim Jordan, R-Urbana, said that at least five of the Senate’s 21 Republicans don’t support the cigarette tax proposal. Passage of any legislation in the 33-member Senate would require 17 votes and Democrats, so far, have not indicated they will give any support. He and Sen. Kevin Coughlin, R-Cuyahoga Falls, said the Senate should consider cutting optional Medicaid programs and services. ‘If we as the government continue to do things for people, aren’t we promoting dependence?’ Jordan asked. He said government should encourage people to take personal responsibility.” [Dayton Daily News, 5/3/02]

**2003: Coughlin And Jordan Worked Together To Push For Spending Cuts Instead Of Tax Increases To Solve A Budget Crunch.** “Also on Wednesday, three conservative Republican state senators made their case that Ohio should cut spending rather than raise taxes to solve the budget crunch. Sens. Jim Jordan of Urbana, Lynn Wachtmann of Napoleon and Kevin Coughlin of Cuyahoga Falls said Ohio should make temporary spending cuts rather than make Ohioans pay more taxes.” [Dayton Daily News, 5/15/03]

## 2023: Coughlin Endorsed Trump For President

**2023: Coughlin Endorsed Trump For President.** “I endorsed @realDonaldTrump for President because Bidenomics isn’t working for Ohio. 2/3 of Americans are living paycheck to paycheck. We need to turn the country around.” [Kevin Coughlin, Twitter, [12/21/23](#)]



[Kevin Coughlin, Twitter, [12/21/23](#)]

## April 2024: Coughlin Was “Proud” To Be Endorsed By Speaker Mike Johnson

**April 2024: Coughlin Was “Proud” To Be Endorsed By Speaker Mike Johnson.** “I’m proud to say that I’ve been endorsed by @SpeakerJohnson He knows #OH13 deserves better than a radical voice who will align with Joe Biden 100% of the time. This is one of very few toss-up Congressionals, and we HAVE to flip this seat to get our country back on track in 2025!” [Kevin Coughlin, Twitter, [4/12/24](#)]

 Kevin Coughlin   
@KevinCoughlin

I'm proud to say that I've been endorsed by @SpeakerJohnson 

He knows #OH13 deserves better than a radical voice who will align with Joe Biden 100% of the time.

This is one of very few toss-up Congressionals, and we HAVE to flip this seat to get our country back on track in 2025!



10:56 AM · Apr 12, 2024 · 1,751 Views

[Kevin Coughlin, Twitter, [4/12/24](#)]

## Coughlin Was A Bush And Romney Republican

### 2007: Coughlin Endorsed Mitt Romney's Presidential Campaign

**Coughlin Endorsed Mitt Romney's Presidential Campaign.** "Today, State Senator Kevin Coughlin (R-OH) announced his endorsement of Governor Mitt Romney's presidential campaign. State Senator Coughlin represents the 27th Senate District in Ohio and has been serving the people of Ohio for ten years. 'Our nation needs a leader like Governor Romney, a candidate with a proven record of accomplishment and success at governing using conservative principles. I am confident he can build a stronger America by reforming health care, improving education, restoring fiscal responsibility, and keeping our nation's military strong. I look forward to joining Governor Romney as he discusses his ideas to bring change to Washington with Ohians,' said State Senator Coughlin." [States News Service, 9/12/07]

### 2004: Coughlin Co-Chaired George W. Bush's Reelection Campaign In Summit County And Complained About John Kerry's Plans

#### Coughlin Co-Chaired George W. Bush's Reelection Campaign In Summit County

**Coughlin Co-Chaired George W. Bush's Reelection Campaign In Summit County.** "Republican State Sen. Kevin Coughlin of Cuyahoga Falls, who co-chairs the Bush re-election campaign in [Summit] County and led the news conference, blasted Kerry's health care plan as too costly and said his plan to roll back tax cuts would kill Ohio jobs by slowing the economy. He also complained that Kerry's environmental policies, especially his call for higher fuel standards on automobiles, would lessen the demand for popular cars and leave auto workers unemployed. 'I don't see how that adds up to more jobs,' Coughlin said." [Plain Dealer, 3/16/04]

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## Coughlin Complained About John Kerry's Economic Policies And Health Care Plan

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**Coughlin Said That Kerry's Economic Policies Had "Wrinkles In His Rhetoric That Even Botox Can't Fix."** "Bush supporters launched a pre-emptive strike at Kerry yesterday, stationing about 50 protesters outside the student center and state Sen. Kevin Coughlin, a Summit County Republican, on the inside. 'Even though Summit County is a tough part of the state, we are not going to cede 1 inch of ground,' Coughlin said. 'Ohio is Bush country.' Coughlin said Kerry is 'out of touch with the mainstream' and that his economic policies, when closely examined, have 'wrinkles in his rhetoric that even Botox can't fix.'" [Columbus Dispatch, 3/15/04]

**Coughlin Said Kerry Was Wrong For The Country Because Of His Health Care Plan.** "Republicans took notice of Kerry's visit, his fourth to the state this year. State Sen. Kevin Coughlin, R-Cuyahoga Falls, cochairman of Bush's campaign in Summit County, which includes Akron, said Kerry's health-care plan would require a tax increase of more than \$600 billion. 'Sen. Kerry is wrong for the economy,' Coughlin said at a press conference before Kerry's 30-minute speech." [Dayton Daily News, 3/15/04]

## Budget

### Coughlin Claimed He Would Advocate For An Amendment To Balance The Budget In Congress

**Coughlin Platform: "In Congress, He Will Advocate For A Constitutional Amendment To Balance The Budget."** "Kevin is the candidate in this race who has walked the walk when it comes to responsible spending. Kevin helped pass balanced budgets in Ohio that generated surplus revenue. In Congress, he will advocate for a constitutional amendment to balance the budget to get America's fiscal house in order. He will work to hold the line on the Biden administration's 40-year-high inflation so that everyday expenses for Ohioans are brought under control." [Kevin Coughlin, Issues, accessed [1/8/24](#)]

### Coughlin Said "You Have To Be Willing To Shut Down The Government, Pretty Simple, And That's Important"

**January 2024: Coughlin Said, "You Have To Be Willing To Shut Down The Government, Pretty Simple, And That's Important" And House Republicans "Should Take A Stand" When Asked About Shutting Down The Government If We Don't Close The Border.** HOST: "I want to marry your first two priorities there, spending and the border together, and give you a little bit of a litmus test here. How do you feel about what Chip Roy recommended last week? He is so incensed by what is being allowed at the border. He of course is from Texas. And he's so incensed, he basically is calling for Speaker Johnson to make no deal whatsoever with the Democrats on the budget until the border is closed. In fact, he said, if we don't close the border, then we close the whole government. He's willing to do that to let the nineteenth come and go, if that's what it takes. So he's addressing both spending and the border in one fell swoop. Do you like his idea?" COUGHLIN: "Well, I think first of all, you have to be willing to shut down the government, pretty simple, and that's important. You also can't say I'm always going to shut down the government if I don't get everything that I want. I don't think that's what he's doing here. I think he's taking a stand and the Republican majority in the House should take a stand on this particular issue, because it is inconceivable to me why anyone in government would sit there and allow this to happen and not stop it. And I – I'm sure you do too – I have my theory about why the Biden administration and why Democrats are allowing all of this to happen. I think they want to get so many people in the country that we can't do anything, we don't have any option but to give them a path to citizenship, which of course means a path to voting. They're always looking for ways to maximize their ability to win elections. They're so angry that they didn't get a permanent majority in this country after the Obama years that they've been looking for ways to build that majority." [Always Right Radio With Bob Frantz, [1/12/24](#)] (AUDIO 51:38 – 53:31)

## Civil Rights

## 2006: Coughlin Endorsed Anti-Abortion Candidate Jim Petro For Governor Of Ohio

### 2006: Coughlin Endorsed Jim Petro For Governor Of Ohio

**Coughlin Endorsed Jim Petro For Governor Of Ohio.** “The Akron Beacon Journal (2/10, Abraham, Chancellor, 148K) reports, "State Sen. Kevin Coughlin, R-Cuyahoga Falls, has broken ranks with Summit County GOP Chairman Alex Arshinkoff and endorsed' Jim Petro (R). 'Arshinkoff had been supporting Auditor Betty Montgomery..., but when she decided to run for attorney general, Arshinkoff, whose dislike for Petro is no secret, quickly threw his support to" Kenneth Blackwell (R). 'Coughlin thinks Blackwell's message is too extreme for most mainstream Ohioans,' and, 'In his endorsement letter, Coughlin basically thumbed his nose at poll findings that showed Petro badly trailing Blackwell in the party's nomination race.' However, 'Petro is the favored candidate by roughly 60 percent of Republican state lawmakers.'" [The Frontrunner, 2/10/06]

### Petro Called Enforcing Abortion Delays And Requiring Parental Consent For Minors To Receive Abortions “A Victory For The Unborn”

**Petro Called Enforcing Abortion Delays And Requiring Parental Consent For Minors To Receive Abortions “A Victory For The Unborn.”** “A federal appeals court on Monday ordered that some provisions of Ohio's abortion law can take effect in one week while judges consider whether the law is constitutional. ‘This is a victory for the unborn, but the fight is not over,’ Ohio Attorney General Jim Petro said in a statement. [...] The provisions that can go into effect next week require women seeking an abortion to receive counseling from a doctor at least 24 hours in advance and minors seeking abortions to have the consent of at least one parent before an abortion can be performed.” [WTOL11, [10/4/05](#)]

### The Ohio Civil Rights Commission Found That Petro Violated The Civil Rights Of His Assistant Auditor, Who Was Black

**The Ohio Civil Rights Commission Found That Petro Violated The Civil Rights Of His Assistant Auditor, Who Was Black.** “The [Ohio Civil Rights Commission], however, did uphold its other finding that there was reason to believe Petro violated the civil rights of Annette P. Brown, a black assistant auditor in Dayton, when she was denied a promotion. Petro had asked the commission to reconsider both February probable cause findings. Brown had filed a complaint that Petro overlooked her for a promotion last year because of her race, claiming that she had years more experience than two white candidates who were promoted. She also alleged a pattern of discrimination against blacks in the office.” [Associated Press State & Local Wire, 4/26/01]

- **Petro Underrepresented Black People In Promotions In His Office.** “The original investigation found that blacks were underrepresented in Dayton in assistant auditor positions. Within the 77-employee office, promotions among auditors took an average of 3.5 years for whites and 8.2 years for blacks, according to the commission's findings.” [Associated Press State & Local Wire, 4/26/01]

## Elections

### Coughlin Voted In Favor Of S.B. 380, Which Would Shorten The Early Voting Period

**Coughlin Voted In Favor Of S.B. 380, Which Would Shorten The Early Voting Period.** Coughlin voted in favor of a bill that would “shorten the period for early voting from 35 days to 20 days before the election. Republicans called it much-needed reform, but the Democratic governor plans to veto it because he doesn't want to limit opportunities for Ohioans to vote.” The final vote count is unknown. [Plain Dealer, 12/23/08]

### Coughlin Sponsored H.B. 3, A Bill That Would Overhaul Election Procedures, Including Voter ID

## Requirements

**Coughlin Sponsored A Bill That Would Overhaul Election Procedures, Including Voter ID Requirements.** “Ohio voters would have to show identification such as a driver's license or a copy of a current utility bill before they cast their ballots, under legislation to be outlined today to the state Senate Rules Committee. The voter ID requirement is part of a proposal to overhaul election procedures to be unveiled today by Sen. Kevin Coughlin, R-Cuyahoga Falls. [...] The bill also would beef up requirements for putting proposed constitutional amendments on the ballot by gathering signatures from registered voters through the initiative process. For example, it would require supporters to gather 1,000 signatures, up from the current 100, before submitting a proposal to the attorney general for his initial approval. After this first step, supporters still must get signatures from 322,899 voters - 10 percent of the votes cast in the most recent governor's race - to get an issue on the ballot.” [Dayton Daily News, 12/6/05]

- **The Legislation Being Referred To Was H.B. 3.** “State Sen. Kevin Coughlin (R-Cuyahoga Falls) and State Rep. Kevin DeWine (R-Fairborn) today won final approval in their respective chambers for an election reform measure designed to update, streamline and safeguard Ohio elections. House Bill 3 responds to required federal changes prescribed in the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) and provides important safeguards to restore confidence in Ohio's elections system from the point of registration, to the casting of ballots at the polls and through the accurate counting and recording of election results.” [US Fed News, 1/31/06]
- **Democrats Said That This Legislation Would Suppress The Votes Of The Elderly, The Poor, And Black Voters, All Of Whom Typically Vote As Democrats.** “Roberts and other Democrats argued that there have been few proved instances of voter fraud in Ohio and that the legislation is aimed at suppressing the votes of the elderly, the poor and blacks - groups more likely to vote Democrat. [...] Coughlin fired back at Roberts and other Democrats during two hours of debate, seeking to turn the charges of voter suppression against them. ‘We seek to suppress those who commit fraud,’ he said. Those who commit voter fraud ‘disenfranchise those who cast legal ballots,’ Coughlin added.” [Dayton Daily News, 12/14/05]

## Coughlin Wrote Fundraising Letters For Ohio First, A Republican-Led Group Opposing Amendments To The Ohio Constitution That Would Expand Voting Rights

**Coughlin Wrote Fundraising Letters For Ohio First.** “Coughlin wrote fund-raising letters on Ohio First letterhead that was sent to executives of companies, including Time Warner Cable, which must abide by regulatory policy shaped by a Senate committee that Coughlin sits on. Coughlin made no apologies for his involvement. He fought back, saying Dann’s September letter on Senate stationery to lobbyists, warning that supporting Ohio First in return for governmental favors would be exposed, was ‘intimidating.’” [Plain Dealer, 11/3/05]

- **Ohio First Was A Group Of Republican Opponents To Issues 2 Through 5, Amendments Which Would Reform Election Processes.** “Meanwhile, those giving to Ohio First, the Republican-led opponents of Issues 2-5, read like a who's-who of GOP campaign all-stars. [...] If approved, state Issues 2-5 would allow for early voting without an excuse, lower campaign-contribution limits, force the drawing of competitive legislative and congressional districts, and take election systems oversight away from the secretary of state.” [Columbus Dispatch, 9/5/05]

## Environment

### Coughlin Platform: “Kevin Will Work To Protect Our Great Lakes For Future Generations”

**Coughlin Platform: “Kevin Will Work To Protect Our Great Lakes For Future Generations.”** “Lake Erie and our Great Lakes notably provide pristine recreational opportunities, but they play a vital role in our economy. Kevin will work to protect our Great Lakes for future generations while strengthening both the ecology and the economy of these incredible resources.” [Kevin Coughlin, Issues, accessed [1/8/24](#)]

## **2005: Coughlin Introduced Legislation To Repeal Sections Of A Code Regarding Vehicle Emissions Inspections**

**2005: Coughlin Introduced Legislation To Repeal Sections Of A Code Regarding Vehicle Emissions Inspections.** “To amend sections 3704.035, 3704.05, 3704.141, 3704.143, 3704.16, 3704.99, 3706.01, 4503.03, 4503.10, 4503.102, 4503.103, 4503.51, 5552.01, and 5739.02, to enact sections 3704.20, 3704.21, 3704.22, 3704.23, and 4503.043, and to repeal sections 3704.14, 3704.142, and 3704.17 of the Revised Code regarding motor vehicle emissions inspections.” [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 120, accessed [1/10/24](#)]

## **2011: Regarding Global Warming, Coughlin Said, “I Don’t Really Think There’s Much Evidence To Suggest That People Have Or Can Do Very Much To Change Anything”**

**Regarding Global Warming, Coughlin Said, “I Don’t Really Think There’s Much Evidence To Suggest That People Have Or Can Do Very Much To Change Anything.”** “At an Aug. 18 stop in Strongsville, Coughlin told the Strong Ohio tea party group he believes the science behind global warming is ‘sketchy.’ ‘Scientists who consider themselves to be environmentalists disagree on the science and the impact,’ Coughlin said. ‘There is no question that the earth’s core is increasing slightly in temperature. But the real question and I think what’s pertinent to the debate in our country and in global politics is how much people really contributed to it and I don’t really think there’s much evidence to suggest that people have or can do very much to change anything.’” [Politifact, [8/31/11](#)]

- **VIDEO: Coughlin Said That “The Science Is Sketchy” On Global Warming.** “I had an interesting meeting, Vaclav Klaus is the President of the Czech Republic and had a meeting with him about a year and a half ago in Prague and he is a very outspoken -- on the international stage -- very very outspoken person and a scientist and skeptic on global warming. We had a very long discussion about it. I do think the science is sketchy. Even, even I guess scientists who consider themselves to be environmentalists disagree on the science and the impact. There is no question that the earth's core is increasing slightly in temperature but the real question and I think what's pertinent to the debate in our country and in global politics is how much have people really contributed to it and I don't really think there's much evidence to suggest that people have or can do very much to change anything.” [American Bridge, YouTube, [8/19/11](#)] (VIDEO)
- **VIDEO: Coughlin Said He Would “Ask The People In Pompeii Who Are Frozen Like This If An Act Of Congress Could Change Their Situation” Regarding Environmental Legislation.** “PALMER: ‘You mean you don't think we can pass legislation to lower our temperature?’ COUGHLIN: ‘I would ask the people in Pompeii who are frozen like this if an act of Congress could change their situation. No.’” [American Bridge, YouTube, [8/19/11](#)] (VIDEO)

## **Ethics**

### **Coughlin Had His Ethics Questioned By A Fellow Senator For Writing Fundraising Letters On Official Letterhead**

**Coughlin Had His Ethics Questioned By Fellow Senator Marc Dann For Writing Fundraising Letters To Time Warner Cable On Ohio First Letterhead**

**Coughlin Had His Ethics Questioned By Fellow Senator Marc Dann For Writing Fundraising Letters To Time Warner Cable On Ohio First Letterhead.** “Dann also questioned the ethics of a colleague, Sen. Kevin Coughlin, a Cuyahoga Falls Republican, who sits on Ohio First’s steering committee. Coughlin wrote fund-raising letters on Ohio First letterhead that was sent to executives of companies, including Time Warner Cable, which must abide by regulatory policy shaped by a Senate committee that Coughlin sits on. Coughlin made no apologies for his involvement. He fought

back, saying Dann's September letter on Senate stationery to lobbyists, warning that supporting Ohio First in return for governmental favors would be exposed, was 'intimidating.'" [Plain Dealer, 11/3/05]

- **Ohio First Was A Group Of Republican Opponents To Issues 2 Through 5, Amendments Which Would Reform Election Processes.** "Meanwhile, those giving to Ohio First, the Republican-led opponents of Issues 2-5, read like a who's-who of GOP campaign all-stars. [...] If approved, state Issues 2-5 would allow for early voting without an excuse, lower campaign-contribution limits, force the drawing of competitive legislative and congressional districts, and take election systems oversight away from the secretary of state." [Columbus Dispatch, 9/5/05]

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### Coughlin Questioned Dann's Ethics In Retaliation For Dann Questioning Coughlin's Ethics

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**Coughlin Questioned Dann's Ethics In Retaliation For Dann Questioning Coughlin's Ethics.** "Sen. Marc Dann, a Youngstown-area Democrat, pointed to a fund-raising letter from state Sen. Kevin Coughlin (R., Cuyahoga Falls) as an example of a 'play to pay' atmosphere the proposed constitutional amendments are supposedly designed to correct. [...] Mr. Coughlin, Summit County's GOP chairman, fired back, saying he's considering a possible ethics complaint against Mr. Dann. He accused him of using a letter with Senate letterhead more than a month ago to try to intimidate lobbyists into not giving to the opposition. 'I don't see how a letter soliciting money is any different from a letter from Marc Dan warning PACs not to give money to the opposition to Issues 2-5,' he said. 'The hypocrisy is crazy. He sends a letter that is meant to intimidate, saying it would be better not to give and, if you do, I'll be watching and there will be hell to pay.'" [Toledo Blade, 11/3/05]

### Coughlin Sponsored And Fast-Tracked A Bill Related To Physical Therapy That Would Benefit His Wife, Who Was A Physical Therapist

**Coughlin Sponsored H.B. 305, Which Would Allow Physical Therapists To Treat Patients Without A Doctor's Referral.** In April 1999, Coughlin sponsored a bill that stated, "except as provided in division (f)(2) of this section, a physical therapist may render physical therapy evaluations, treatments, and services with or without a referral or prescription from a physician, podiatrist, dentist, or chiropractor." This bill died in committee. [Ohio General Assembly Archives, [H.B. 305](#), Sponsored, [4/20/99](#)]

**Coughlin Sponsored And Fast-Tracked A Bill Related To Physical Therapy That Would Benefit His Wife, Who Was A Physical Therapist.** "Known as the physical therapy 'direct access' bill, it was sponsored in April 1999 by State Rep. Kevin J. Coughlin, a Cuyahoga Falls Republican whose wife manages a physical therapy clinic. The bill is the most important piece of legislation to physical therapists in Ohio - both financially and in terms of prestige - because it would allow them to diagnose and treat patients without a doctor's referral. Although the bill would have been expected to begin its maiden voyage through the legislature in the House Health, Retirement and Aging Committee, where health care bills normally originate, it was assigned instead to the Commerce and Labor Committee. How did that happen? House committee assignments are made by the Rules and Reference Committee, on which Coughlin sits. He also sits on the commerce committee, but not the health committee." [Plain Dealer, 7/2/00]

- **Coughlin Responded Defensively When Asked About This Bill And Said He "Cannot Definitely Say" If He Affected Its Committee Outcome.** "Asked whether he steered the bill to the commerce committee, Coughlin snapped: 'Look, one of the privileges of being on Rules and Reference is you have the ability to affect the outcome of where a bill is referred to. ... I frequently weigh in with the speaker about where a bill should be referred, especially if I introduce it ... and I probably did on this one, although I cannot definitely say.'" [Plain Dealer, 7/2/00]
- **Coughlin Said The Bill Did Not Constitute A Conflict Of Interest, While Other Committee Members Argued That It Did.** "Unknown to some committee members when Coughlin introduced the bill was the fact that his wife, Anne, is a physical therapist and manages a physical therapy clinic in Cuyahoga Falls. Although Coughlin says that fact does not constitute a conflict of interest, opponents of the bill - principally chiropractors, family physicians and osteopaths - say it clearly does. So does a fellow Republican member of the committee that passed the bill. 'On the

face of it, it sure does,' said Rep. James P. Trakas, an Independence Republican. 'In retrospect, while I voted for it, I think when you have ideas like that that could pose a potential conflict of interest, I think the appropriate thing to do is to go to another member and say, I have this idea and I think it's a good idea, but because of my relationship, why don't you sponsor the bill?'" [Plain Dealer, 7/2/00]

- **If Coughlin Had A Personal Interest In This Bill, It Would Be Against State Ethics Laws For Him To Vote On It.** "State ethics laws prevent members of the General Assembly from voting on legislation that has 'a definite and particular effect on the member's personal pecuniary interests.'" [Plain Dealer, 7/2/00]

**Following Coughlin Sponsoring A Bill That Would Benefit His Wife, There Was Speculation That He Would Be Investigated By The Franklin County Prosecutor.** "After a recent Plain Dealer story questioned Coughlin's sponsorship of a bill that would benefit physical therapists because his wife manages a physical therapy clinic, Franklin County Prosecutor Ron O'Brien called Legislative Inspector General James E. Rogers and Ethics Commission Executive Director David E. Freel to ask whether they intended to investigate. Over the years, Franklin County's Republican prosecutors, including O'Brien and his predecessor, Michael Miller, have shown little appetite for prosecuting politicians for ethics violations. But O'Brien said his interest was piqued by critical comments Rep. James P. Trakas, an Independence Republican, made of Coughlin. 'You know how these things go, but it wasn't (House Democratic leader) Jack Ford saying that there was a problem,' said O'Brien, 'it was a member of the same caucus.' [...] Rogers and Freel aren't saying whether they intend to investigate Coughlin." [Plain Dealer, 7/23/00]

### **Coughlin Refused To Sign An Ethics Pledge With Provisions About Sharing Campaign Finance Statements Online**

**Coughlin Refused To Sign An Ethics Pledge With Provisions About Sharing Campaign Finance Statements Online.** "Democratic challenger S. David Worhatch and Natural Law Party candidate Carol Ann McCoy say the incumbent, Republican Kevin Coughlin, refused to sign an ethics pledge they sent to him last month. Coughlin responded by signing his own version of the ethics pledge. Worhatch and McCoy held a news conference at Worhatch's law office in Stow to criticize Coughlin for not signing their pledge, which they said is modeled after one written by the Maine-based Institute for Global Ethics. The statement signed by Coughlin does not include a provision for placing campaign finance statements on the Internet and including independent candidates such as McCoy in debates. [...] Coughlin said his pledge was written by the Project on Campaign Conduct, a Massachusetts group that is running a pilot program in Ohio. He said he would be more than happy to include McCoy in debates and as part of candidate forums. And his campaign finance statements would be posted on the Internet, he said." [Plain Dealer, 9/10/98]

## **Healthcare**

### **Coughlin Said He Supported Turning Medicare Into A Voucher Program, Which Was Said To Have Cost 159,400 Ohio Seniors \$6,698 For Healthcare**

#### **Coughlin Supported Turning Medicare Into A Voucher Program**

**Coughlin Said He Supported Turning Medicare Into A Voucher Program.** "The U.S. House of Representatives budget would turn Medicare into a voucher program for anyone now under age 55. On retirement, they would get a federal voucher to use for health insurance in the private market. [...] The GOP House proposal, which is considered dead on arrival in the Democratic Senate, is a responsible approach that starts getting the country's spending under control, Coughlin says. 'I support it,' he said in a telephone interview. 'I think it's encouraging that for the first time in a long time we recognize that you cannot address the budget issues by just looking at the 18 percent that is discretionary.' (The 18 percent figure excludes military spending.) The only way to attack the broader problem of excessive spending is to include entitlements like Medicare, Coughlin said." [Cleveland.com, [5/6/11](#)]

- **The Plan Discussed Here Would Partially Privatize Social Security.** “Let’s first explore what Rep. Ryan definitely doesn’t want to talk about. According to the Congressional Budget Office, Ryan’s Social Security plan presented last year would cut benefits and partially privatize the intergenerational retirement program by diverting money intended to pay for benefits into private accounts. As CBO wrote in a 2010 analysis: ‘Traditional retirement benefits would be reduced below those scheduled under current law for many workers who are age 55 or younger in 2011.... A system of individual accounts would be established in 2012.’” [American Progress, [4/5/11](#)]

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## **Voucher Programs Shifted Costs Onto Beneficiaries, Requiring Them To Pay Higher Premiums**

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**Voucher Programs Were Called Premium Support Systems.** “In a premium support system, the federal government would provide a payment on behalf of each Medicare beneficiary toward the purchase of a health insurance plan – either a private plan, similar a Medicare Advantage plan, or traditional Medicare. This approach is sometimes called a defined contribution or voucher approach.” [KFF, [7/19/16](#)]

**Premium Support Models Would Require Beneficiaries To Pay Higher Premiums Or Face Fewer Benefits.** “In areas where Medicare incurs relatively high costs, the amount of the premium-support payment would equal the cost of a relatively inexpensive private plan, and beneficiaries would have to pay higher premiums to participate in traditional Medicare. In areas with relatively low Medicare spending, beneficiaries who wanted to enroll in a private plan would face higher premiums or fewer benefits, or might find that no private plan was available. [...] The vouchers would purchase less coverage with each passing year, pushing more costs on to beneficiaries. Over time, seniors would have to pay more to keep the health plans and the doctors they like, or they would get fewer benefits.” [Center On Budget and Policy Priorities, [3/28/12](#)]

**Premium Support Models Shifted Costs Onto Beneficiaries.** “In areas where Medicare incurs relatively high costs, the amount of the premium-support payment would equal the cost of a relatively inexpensive private plan, and beneficiaries would have to pay higher premiums to participate in traditional Medicare. In areas with relatively low Medicare spending, beneficiaries who wanted to enroll in a private plan would face higher premiums or fewer benefits, or might find that no private plan was available. [...] The vouchers would purchase less coverage with each passing year, pushing more costs on to beneficiaries. Over time, seniors would have to pay more to keep the health plans and the doctors they like, or they would get fewer benefits.” [Center On Budget and Policy Priorities, [3/28/12](#)]

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## **Converting Medicare To A Voucher Program In 2011 Would Have Cost 159,400 Ohio Seniors \$6,698 More For Healthcare, According To Democrats**

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**Democrats: Converting Medicare To A Voucher Program In 2011 Would Have Cost 159,400 Ohio Seniors \$6,698 More For Healthcare.** “There are features of the GOP Medicare plan ripe for debate. As Democrats see it, it’ll mean seniors get stuck with thousands of dollars of medical and insurance costs because insurers will pass those high fees on. The costs will come to \$6,698 more for 159,400 seniors in Ohio, say the Democrats.” [Cleveland.com, [6/8/11](#)]

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## **Coughlin Voted Against An Amendment That Would Have Provided Equal Insurance Coverage To Those With Mental Illnesses**

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**Coughlin Voted Against An Amendment That Would Have Provided Equal Insurance Coverage To Those With Mental Illnesses.** “Mental health parity: Senators tabled an amendment, 16-12, which would have provided equal insurance coverage to those with mental illness, effectively killing a proposal that had already cleared the House. Senate members voting to table: Amstutz, Coughlin, Gardner. Senate members voting not to table: Brady, Spada, Fingerhut, Prentiss, Zurz.” [Plain Dealer, 12/13/04]

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## **Coughlin Stopped Consideration Of A Bill After Democrats Wanted Some Proceeds To Pay For**

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## Prescription Drug For Low-Income Seniors

**Coughlin Stopped Consideration Of A Bill After Democrats Wanted Some Proceeds To Pay For Prescription Drug For Low-Income Seniors.** “A Senate committee stopped hearings Tuesday on a resolution that would have asked voters to decide whether to put video slot machines in Ohio racetracks, a move that likely ends the chance of it appearing on the Nov. 4 ballot. Sen. Kevin Coughlin, a Cuyahoga Falls Republican who is chairman of the Senate State and Local Government Committee, said he halted the hearings because needed Democratic votes never were offered. [...] They sought the support of the Democrats by endorsing a plan by Sen. Eric Fingerhut, a Cleveland Democrat, to use up to 40 percent of the state's take from the slots to pay for scholarships for Ohio's brightest high school seniors. However, Democrats also wanted some of the proceeds to pay for prescription drugs for low-income seniors. Republicans would not go along with that plan, saying the rest of the money must go toward primary-secondary school construction.” [Associated Press State & Local Wire, 6/24/03]

## Coughlin Supported Cutting Medicaid

**Coughlin Supported Cutting Medicaid.** “Coughlin and Amstutz support examining Ohio's Medicaid budget for places to reduce spending. The current two-year budget spends about \$7.1 billion this year on Medicaid, a 9.3 percent increase, and \$7.6 billion in the next fiscal year, which begins July 1, a 6.9 percent increase. Coughlin said that during the 1990s, when tax revenues were high, Ohio and many other states increased social service spending in areas not required by the federal government. ‘It's nice to do if you can,’ Coughlin said. ‘When you can't, do you try to sustain that or do you make some modifications?’” [Associated Press State & Local Wire, 4/30/02]

## Coughlin Supported The Paul Ryan Plan, Which Advocated For Repealing The Affordable Care Act

### 2011: Coughlin Supported The Paul Ryan Plan

**Coughlin Supported The Paul Ryan Plan.** “Former state Sen. Kevin Coughlin, another potential Republican candidate who backs the Ryan plan, told POLITICO he's prepared to highlight Mandel's evasiveness.” [Politico, [6/23/11](#)]

### The Paul Ryan Plan Advocated For Repealing And Defunding The Affordable Care Act As One Of Its “Key Objectives”

**Paul Ryan Budget: “This Budget Starts By Repealing The Costly New Government-Run Health Care Law, Saving Roughly \$725 Billion Over Ten Years.”** “The new health-care law, rammed through Congress last year on a partisan vote, has taken the nation one step closer to this fully government-run system. The problems with this approach are already popping up all over the country. Health care costs continue to escalate relentlessly. The new law has aggravated the worst aspects of the U.S. health care system, without fixing what was broken. The country needs to move away from this centralized system, not towards it. This budget starts by repealing the costly new government-run health care law, saving roughly \$725 billion over ten years by repealing the new exchange subsidies and making sure that not a penny goes toward implementing the new law. Then, this budget goes further with reforms that make government health-care programs more responsive to consumer choice.” [Fiscal Year 2012 Budget Resolution, [4/5/11](#)]

**Paul Ryan Budget Key Objectives: “Repeals And Defunds The President's Health Care Law.”** “PATIENT-CENTERED HEALTH CARE: Repeals and defunds the President's health care law, advancing instead common-sense solutions focused on lowering costs, expanding access and protecting the doctor-patient relationship.” [Fiscal Year 2012 Budget Resolution, [4/5/11](#)]

NOTE: “Health care law” refers to the *Affordable Care Act*, which was [signed](#) into law on March 23, 2010.

## Jobs

### 2011: Coughlin Supported The Cut, Cap, And Balance Act, Which Would Cost 700,000 American Jobs

#### Coughlin Signed The Cut, Cap, And Balance Act Pledge

**2011: Coughlin Signed The Cut, Cap, And Balance Act Pledge.** [Cut Cap Balance Act via Internet Archive, Pledge Signers, archived [12/25/11](#)]

#### The Cut, Cap, And Balance Act Would Cost 700,000 American Jobs

**The Cut, Cap, And Balance Act Would Cost 700,000 American Jobs.** “The ‘Cut, Cap, and Balance Act’ would require cuts totaling \$111 billion immediately, in the fiscal year that starts 75 days from now, despite a 9.2 percent unemployment rate. These cuts would equal 0.7 percent of the projected Gross Domestic Product in fiscal year 2012 and would thus cause the loss of roughly 700,000 jobs in the current weak economy, relative to what the number of jobs otherwise would be.” [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [7/16/11](#)]

## Labor

### Coughlin Said He Would Have Voted For A Bill That Restricted The Collective Bargaining Rights Of Public Workers

**Coughlin Said He Would Have Voted For A Bill That Restricted The Collective Bargaining Rights Of Public Workers.** “The state law, passed by Republican lawmakers and signed by Gov. John Kasich, restricts the collective bargaining rights of public workers. It bans them from striking and will require many of them to pay a greater share of their health care and pension premiums. [...] He was no longer in the state Senate when the bill came up, but Coughlin says he would have voted for it had he been there. ‘Everyone agrees,’ he said, that public employees need to pay more toward their health care and pensions, and that there was a need for greater checks and balances on the rights of public employees.” [Cleveland.com, [5/6/11](#)]

### 2007: Coughlin Spoke Out Against Expanding Collective Bargaining Rights For Nurses

**2007: The Ohio Governor Extended Collective Bargaining Rights To Home Healthcare Nurses And Independent Contractors.** “With a stroke of his pen yesterday, Gov. Ted Strickland extended collective-bargaining rights to about 7,000 nurses and other independent contractors working in Ohio's growing in-home health-care sector. He promised to do the same in the near future for independent child-care workers contracted by the state. ‘By supporting the providers of care, we are promoting a higher quality of care for consumers,’ said Mr. Strickland, a Democrat. ‘It's not only the right thing to do, but it may be more cost-effective in the long run because consumers of home health care spend more time in their own homes and less time in nursing homes.’” [Toledo Blade, 7/18/07]

- **Coughlin Criticized The Governor’s Move, Calling It “Concessions To Organized Labor That Will Increase The Cost Of Care.”** “‘While Republicans in the House and Senate are working to make health care accessible and affordable, the governor is making concessions to organized labor that will increase the cost of care,’ said Sen. Kevin Coughlin (R., Cuyahoga Falls), chairman of the Senate Health, Human Services, and Aging Committee.” [Toledo Blade, 7/18/07]

**Coughlin Implied The Law “Was Made To Help The Governor’s Union Pals.”** “As Strickland cracked open the door for those workers to get organized, Republican lawmakers pounced on the decision, saying it will drive up costs for taxpayers and was made to help the governor's union pals. ‘This is the first action that the governor has taken that has kind

of shown his colors by giving this nod - and what some would call a payback - to the SEIU,' said State Sen. Kevin Coughlin, a Cuyahoga Falls Republican who heads the Senate's Health, Human Services and Aging Committee." [Plain Dealer, 7/19/07]

### **2007: Coughlin Criticized Organized Labor And Said It Did Not Benefit Ohio Jobs**

**2007: Coughlin Criticized Organized Labor, Saying It Was “Not Going To Create Jobs In This State [...] Modernize Our State [...] Or] Make Ohio Competitive On A Global Stage.”** ““Organized labor is not going to create jobs in this state,’ said Coughlin. ‘It's not going to modernize our state and not going to make Ohio competitive on a global stage.’” [Plain Dealer, 7/19/07]

### **1998: Coughlin Sponsored A Bill That Would Allow Employers Not To Pay Employees Extra For Overtime Work**

**Coughlin Sponsored A Bill That Would Allow Employers Not To Pay Employees Extra For Overtime Work.** “The third time through the Legislature could be the charm for a measure aimed at giving small businesses relief from overtime pay and work scheduling restrictions. Supporters of the bill say it has a better chance of passing than two similar measures proposed in 1997 because it is limited to companies with gross annual sales of between \$150,000 and \$500,000. Such companies would be able to offer their workers compensatory time off in lieu of time-and-a-half pay. The previous bills sought to grant the time-off options to all companies not governed by collective bargaining agreements with their employees. “It is a win-win situation for employers and employees alike,’ said state Rep. Kevin Coughlin, R-Cuyahoga Falls, sponsor of the bill. ‘It would give smaller companies, which make up about 70% of all the employers in the state and are not as highly unionized, a lot more flexibility, save them money, and make their employees happy.’” [Crain’s Cleveland Business, 3/2/98]

- **The Executive Secretary Of The Cleveland AFL-CIO Opposed The Bill.** “In contrast, John Ryan, executive secretary of the Cleveland AFL-CIO, sees a number of reasons not to support the measure. “The whole concept of comp time takes away from the standard of the guaranteed 40-hour week, and overtime rules are based on the idea that the employer has to pay more for taking a worker away from his family,’ Mr. Ryan said. ‘We are concerned about who keeps track of time taken off the job, and how it is controlled.’ Mr. Ryan said despite supporters' claims, the measure does little to allow workers more time with their families, because time off could be granted when workers did not want it. He said the measure also could allow employers to hire more temporary workers and to cut back on full-time employees' hours.” [Crain’s Cleveland Business, 3/2/98]

## **LGBTQ+ Rights**

### **2004: Coughlin Voted For A Same-Sex Marriage Ban**

**2004: Coughlin Voted To Prevent Ohio From Recognizing Same-Sex Marriages.** “Gay marriage: The Ohio Senate passed a bill last week preventing the state from recognizing same-sex marriages, or from extending legal benefits of marriage to any unmarried couple, including gay partners or straight couples who share a household. Changes the Senate made to the bill are expected to be taken up by the Ohio House this week. Senate members voting yes: Ron Amstutz, R-Wooster; Kevin Coughlin, R-Cuyahoga Falls; Bob Spada, R-North Royalton.” [Plain Dealer, 1/26/04]

- **The Bill Said Same-Sex Marriages And State Benefits To Unmarried, Domestic Partners Are “Against The Strong Public Policy” Of Ohio And “Shall Have No Legal Force Or Effect.”** “The bill, as passed by the House, specifically declares that same-sex marriages and the extensions of state benefits to any unmarried, domestic partners are ‘against the strong public policy of the state.’ It also says that any marriage between people of the same sex ‘shall have no legal force or effect’ in Ohio.” [New York Times, [1/21/04](#)]

- **The Bill Prohibited Ohio From Recognizing Same-Sex Marriages Granted By Other States Or Jurisdictions.** “It also prohibits the state from recognizing any "public act, record or judicial proceeding" from any jurisdiction that extends the benefits of marriage to nonmarital unions. The bill's sponsors say the provision is needed to ensure that courts cannot require Ohio to recognize same-sex unions of any type granted by other states, cities or countries.” [New York Times, [2/4/04](#)]

**2023: Coughlin Posted A Photo On Instagram With Anti-LGBTQ Ohio State Senators Jay Hottinger And Randy Gardner**

**Coughlin Posted A Photo On Instagram With Ohio State Senators Jay Hottinger And Randy Gardner Calling Them “Great Friends.”** “History, inspiration, and laughs this week with great friends @rg315914 and @sen.jayhottinger at @rbhayespres @fordlibrarymuseum @mistatecapitol @fortmeigs @whitehouse\_inn” [Kevin Coughlin, Instagram, [8/25/23](#)]



[Kevin Coughlin, Instagram, [8/25/23](#)]

- **Jay Hottinger Posted A Photo With Randy Gardner And Coughlin For Reagan’s 107<sup>th</sup> Birthday.** “3 public officials who were inspired by The Gipper gathering for lunch on what would of been Reagan’s 107th birthday With Randy Gardner and Kevin Coughlin.” [Jay Hottinger, Instagram, [2/6/18](#)]



[Jay Hottinger, Instagram, [2/6/18](#)]

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### Jay Hottinger Was An Ohio State Senator, Representative, And Anti-LGBTQ Legislator

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**Hottinger Co-Sponsored H.B. 272, Which Stated That Recognizing Same-Sex Marriage Was Against The Public Policy Of Ohio.** In September 2003, Hottinger co-sponsored a bill “to specifically declare that same-sex marriages are against the strong public policy of the state, to declare that the recognition or extension by the state of the specific statutory benefits of legal marriage to nonmarital relationships is against the public policy of the state, and to make other declarations regarding same-sex marriages.” The bill passed the House and Senate and was signed into law. [Ohio General Assembly Archives, [H.B. 272](#), Co-sponsored, [9/9/03](#)]

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### Randy Gardner Was An Ohio State Senator, Representative, And Anti-LGBTQ Legislator

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**Gardner Voted Against H.B. 176, Which Would Have Made It Illegal To Discriminate On The Basis Of Sexual Orientation.** In September 2009, Gardner voted against a bill that stated, “All persons or organizations shall be treated on a like or similar basis, and no differentiation shall be made on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity as those terms are defined in section 4112.01 of the Revised Code, race, color, religion, national origin, sex, or political affiliation.” The bill passed the Senate 56-39. [Ohio General Assembly Archives, [H.B. 176](#), [9/15/09](#)]


## Police

### Coughlin Campaign Platform: “Kevin Supports Our Police [...] He Will Fight For Border Patrol Agents, First Responders, And Law Enforcement Officers”

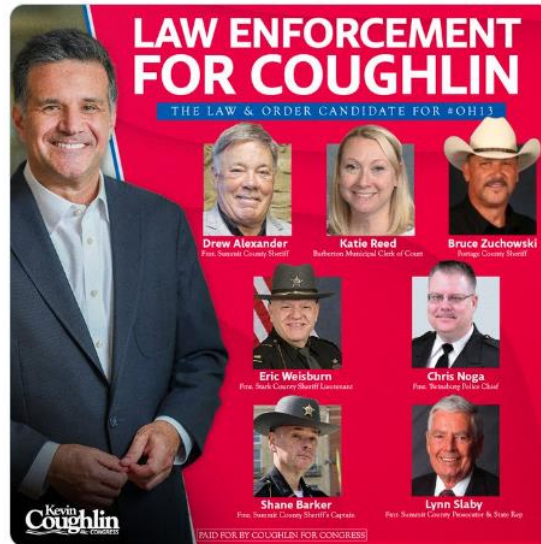
**Coughlin Campaign Platform: “Kevin Supports Our Police [...] He Will Fight For Border Patrol Agents, First Responders, And Law Enforcement Officers.”** “The mission is simple. Keep the people who are committing crimes away from law-abiding citizens. It’s time to throw out the politicians whose soft-on-crime policies have helped create this deadly and dangerous crime surge. Kevin supports our police and worked tirelessly in the Ohio legislature protect children and the victims of domestic abuse by giving law enforcement, prosecutors, and judges the tools they need to keep our communities safe. He will fight for border patrol agents, first responders, and law enforcement officers. Kevin will work to coordinate federal, state, and local efforts to combat drug and human trafficking, homelessness, and addiction.” [Kevin Coughlin, Issues, accessed [1/8/24](#)]

### Coughlin Launched A Law Enforcement Coalition For His Campaign

**January 8, 2024: Coughlin Launched A Law Enforcement Coalition For His Campaign.** “#OH13 doesn’t need to be represented by someone who voted to defund the police. That’s why I’m proud to unveil the first round of the #TeamCoughlin law enforcement coalition! I have ALWAYS stood with our law enforcement officials and will do the same in Congress!” [Kevin Coughlin, Twitter, [1/8/24](#)]

Kevin Coughlin  @KevinCoughlin

#OH13 doesn't need to be represented by someone who voted to defund the police. That's why I'm proud to unveil the first round of the #TeamCoughlin law enforcement coalition! I have ALWAYS stood with our law enforcement officials and will do the same in Congress!



8:30 AM · Jan 8, 2024 · 194 Views

[Kevin Coughlin, Twitter, [1/8/24](#)]

### **Coughlin Sponsored A Bill That Would Allow Police Officers To Use Drunk-Driving Tests As Evidence In Arrests Even If The Tests Were Not Performed Correctly**

**Coughlin Sponsored A Bill That Would Allow Police Officers To Use Drunk-Driving Tests As Evidence In Arrests Even If The Tests Were Not Performed Correctly.** “Drunken-driving tests could be used as evidence in arrests, even if officers don't follow all the rules while giving them, under a bill that tries to override an Ohio Supreme Court ruling. The Senate Criminal Justice Committee was scheduled to vote on the bill Wednesday. Opponents say the bill is unconstitutional. [...] The bill's sponsor, Sen. Kevin Coughlin, said the court's decision was a case of hairsplitting that hurts police officers' abilities to do their jobs. [...] The Supreme Court's ruling ‘created a situation that basically tied the hands of law enforcement in terms of establishing a cause for arrest,’ Coughlin, a Cuyahoga Falls Republican, said on Tuesday. Coughlin's bill requires the test to be used as evidence if it was conducted in ‘substantial compliance’ with standards set by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.” [Associated Press State & Local Wire, 2/12/02]

### **2011: Coughlin Supported Legislation That Would Have Restricted The Collective Bargaining Rights Of Police Officers**

**Coughlin Said He Would Have Voted For A Bill That Restricted The Collective Bargaining Rights Of Public Workers.** “The state law, passed by Republican lawmakers and signed by Gov, John Kasich, restricts the collective bargaining rights of public workers. It bans them from striking and will require many of them to pay a greater share of their health care and pension premiums. [...] He was no longer in the state Senate when the bill came up, but Coughlin says he would have voted for it had he been there. ‘Everyone agrees,’ he said, that public employees need to pay more toward their health care and pensions, and that there was a need for greater checks and balances on the rights of public employees.” [Cleveland.com, [5/6/11](#)]

- **The Akron Police Union President “Strongly Oppose[d]” The Bill, Especially In Light Of “Bitter Negotiations With Akron Mayor [...] Trying To Prevent The Layoffs Of Police Officers.”** “Akron Police Union President Paul Hlynsly was also at the Statehouse to testify before the state senate at Tuesday's hearing. Hlynsky has been through

several bitter negotiations with Akron Mayor Don Plusquellic trying to prevent the layoffs of police officers and strongly opposes the complete elimination of their right to bargain in good faith. ‘Basically O.R.C. 4117, the collective bargaining law as written right now, keeps all sides in check not just the mayor,’ Hlynsly told Fox 8 News shortly before offering his testimony. ‘It keeps all of us in check and is fair to both sides,’ Hlynsky continued. ‘No one would be happier than the city of the law is changed because basically all the marbles will be theirs.’” [Fox 8, 2/22/11]

## **Coughlin Called For More Police Oversight And Student Boycotts After Police Raided Off-Campus Parties**

**Bowling Green State University Students Said Police Violated Their Rights By Raiding Off-Campus Parties Without Search Warrants.** “Bowling Green State University students planned to demonstrate last night to call attention to complaints of police mistreatment of students. Organizers of the demonstration said Bowling Green police violated students' rights three weeks ago during raids at off-campus parties. Police arrested 104 people Sept. 7, charging most with disorderly conduct and underage drinking. Student leaders said the raids were illegal because police entered apartments without obtaining search warrants.” [Plain Dealer, 10/4/90]

- **In Response To The Off-Campus Party Raids, Coughlin Called For A Civilian Review Board To Oversee Police.** “Kevin Coughlin, student senate president, has called for the city to establish a civilian review board to oversee police. The faculty senate has expressed its support for a similar measure. ‘You need to have some kind of community input into the way police are going to handle certain situations, particularly in a college town,’ he said.” [Plain Dealer, 10/4/90]
- **In Response To The Off-Campus Party Raids, Coughlin Led A Student Boycott To “Draw Attention To The Problem.”** “Coughlin said students would boycott stores in the city on Oct. 18 to draw attention to the problem.” [Plain Dealer, 10/4/90]

## **Coughlin Introduced A Bill He Claimed Would Help Law Enforcement Officials Recognize Sexual Predators, Even Though Law Enforcement Officials Opposed The Bill**

**Coughlin Introduced A Bill Requiring Sex Offenders To Have Fluorescent Green License Plates.** “Senate Bill 56, referred to as ‘Kristen's Law,’ was officially presented to the Judiciary and Criminal Justice Committee on Wednesday by state Sen. Kevin Coughlin, R-Cuyahoga Falls. If passed, it will require fluorescent green license plates on vehicles driven by sex offenders.” [Daily Record, 3/11/07]

- **The Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association, Buckeye Sheriffs Association, And Ohio Association Of Chiefs Of Police Opposed The Idea.** “Ohio isn't likely to become the first state in the union to require sex offenders to have special, fluorescent green license plates on their cars or trucks. The Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association, Buckeye Sheriffs Association and Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police all announced their opposition to the idea, citing concerns about vigilantism, road rage and giving children a false sense of security. Each group testified this week against a bill sponsored by Sen. Kevin Coughlin, R-Cuyahoga Falls, that would mandate the green plate for rapists and pedophiles on the sexual offender registry.” [Dayton Daily News, 11/9/07]
- **Law Enforcement Organizations Opposed The Bill.** “Law enforcement organizations opposed the bill, saying it would invite vigilantism and could lead people to believe - often falsely - that anyone driving without a neon plate is not a sexual predator. Sen. Kevin Coughlin (R., Cuyahoga Falls) said yesterday he hasn't decided whether to reintroduce the bill. He said the bill targeted adults who committed sex crimes against children, used violence, and were habitual offenders. ‘Many of these offenders use their cars as weapons, and specially marked license plates would give the public another tool to know how to react when they come in contact with these people,’ Mr. Coughlin said.” [Toledo Blade, 4/8/09]

**Coughlin Justified The Bill As Helping Law Enforcement Officials Recognize Sexual Predators.** “‘We are dealing with a unique and highly repetitive criminal base, and we need to make it as easy as possible for our children -- and law enforcement -- to be able to recognize when known sexual predators are lurking near our schools and parks or other places (where young people gather),’ according to Coughlin's testimony. ‘By making these vehicles easily identifiable to our children, parent and law enforcement officials, we are taking the power out of the hands of these repeat offenders and putting it back into the hands of the community.’” [Daily Record, 3/8/07]

## Seniors

### **2011: Coughlin Supported The Cut, Cap, And Balance Act, Which Would Subject Medicare And Social Security To Deep Reductions**

#### **Coughlin Signed The Cut, Cap, And Balance Act Pledge**

**2011: Coughlin Signed The Cut, Cap, And Balance Act Pledge.** [Cut Cap Balance Act via Internet Archive, Pledge Signers, archived [12/25/11](#)]

#### **The Cut, Cap, And Balance Act Would “Inexorably Subject Social Security And Medicare To Deep Reductions”**

**The Cut, Cap, And Balance Act Would Write A Paul Ryan Budget Year-By -Year Expenditure Levels As A Share Of GDP Into Law.** “The ‘Cut, Cap, and Balance Act’ that House Republican leaders are circulating achieves these results through a multi-faceted attack on the federal government. It would require that total federal spending shrink to about 20 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) starting in 2015 (by writing the Ryan budget’s year-by-year expenditure levels as a share of GDP into law, as caps to be enforced through automatic across-the-board budget cuts if the caps otherwise wouldn’t be met). The Ryan budget would slash non-security discretionary programs by 33 percent by 2021 (relative to CBO’s January baseline), cut Medicaid by \$1.4 trillion over the decade, and cut an array of other programs from Medicare to Pell Grants, while shielding the defense budget and further cutting taxes for the wealthiest Americans.” [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [7/16/11](#)]

- **The Paul Ryan Budget Would Cut Medicaid By \$1.4 Trillion In Addition To Cutting Medicare And Pell Grants.** “The ‘Cut, Cap, and Balance Act’ that House Republican leaders are circulating achieves these results through a multi-faceted attack on the federal government. It would require that total federal spending shrink to about 20 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) starting in 2015 (by writing the Ryan budget’s year-by-year expenditure levels as a share of GDP into law, as caps to be enforced through automatic across-the-board budget cuts if the caps otherwise wouldn’t be met). The Ryan budget would slash non-security discretionary programs by 33 percent by 2021 (relative to CBO’s January baseline), cut Medicaid by \$1.4 trillion over the decade, and cut an array of other programs from Medicare to Pell Grants, while shielding the defense budget and further cutting taxes for the wealthiest Americans.” [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [7/16/11](#)]

**The Cut, Cap, And Balance Act Would “Inexorably Subject Social Security And Medicare To Deep Reductions.”** “The legislation would inexorably subject Social Security and Medicare to deep reductions. [...] Policymakers would have little alternative but to institute deep cuts in specific programs. And as noted elsewhere in this statement, before the debt limit could be raised, Congress would have to approve a constitutional balanced budget amendment that essentially requires cuts even deeper than those in the Ryan budget. Reaching and maintaining a balanced budget in the decade ahead while barring any tax increases would necessitate deep cuts in Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid. After all, by 2021, total expenditures for these three programs will be nearly 45 percent greater than expenditures for all other programs (except interest payments) combined. Big cuts in these programs would be inevitable.” [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [7/16/11](#)]

### **2011: Coughlin Said He Supported Turning Medicare Into A Voucher Program, Which Would Shift**

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## Costs Onto Beneficiaries

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### Coughlin Supported Turning Medicare Into A Voucher Program

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**Coughlin Said He Supported Turning Medicare Into A Voucher Program.** “The U.S. House of Representatives budget would turn Medicare into a voucher program for anyone now under age 55. On retirement, they would get a federal voucher to use for health insurance in the private market. [...] The GOP House proposal, which is considered dead on arrival in the Democratic Senate, is a responsible approach that starts getting the country's spending under control, Coughlin says. ‘I support it,’ he said in a telephone interview. ‘I think it's encouraging that for the first time in a long time we recognize that you cannot address the budget issues by just looking at the 18 percent that is discretionary.’ (The 18 percent figure excludes military spending.) The only way to attack the broader problem of excessive spending is to include entitlements like Medicare, Coughlin said.” [Cleveland.com, [5/6/11](#)]

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### Voucher Programs Shifted Costs Onto Beneficiaries, Requiring Them To Pay Higher Premiums

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**Voucher Programs Were Called Premium Support Systems.** “In a premium support system, the federal government would provide a payment on behalf of each Medicare beneficiary toward the purchase of a health insurance plan – either a private plan, similar a Medicare Advantage plan, or traditional Medicare. This approach is sometimes called a defined contribution or voucher approach.” [KFF, [7/19/16](#)]

**Premium Support Models Would Require Beneficiaries To Pay Higher Premiums Or Face Fewer Benefits.** “In areas where Medicare incurs relatively high costs, the amount of the premium-support payment would equal the cost of a relatively inexpensive private plan, and beneficiaries would have to pay higher premiums to participate in traditional Medicare. In areas with relatively low Medicare spending, beneficiaries who wanted to enroll in a private plan would face higher premiums or fewer benefits, or might find that no private plan was available. [...] The vouchers would purchase less coverage with each passing year, pushing more costs on to beneficiaries. Over time, seniors would have to pay more to keep the health plans and the doctors they like, or they would get fewer benefits.” [Center On Budget and Policy Priorities, [3/28/12](#)]

**Premium Support Models Shifted Costs Onto Beneficiaries.** “In areas where Medicare incurs relatively high costs, the amount of the premium-support payment would equal the cost of a relatively inexpensive private plan, and beneficiaries would have to pay higher premiums to participate in traditional Medicare. In areas with relatively low Medicare spending, beneficiaries who wanted to enroll in a private plan would face higher premiums or fewer benefits, or might find that no private plan was available. [...] The vouchers would purchase less coverage with each passing year, pushing more costs on to beneficiaries. Over time, seniors would have to pay more to keep the health plans and the doctors they like, or they would get fewer benefits.” [Center On Budget and Policy Priorities, [3/28/12](#)]

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### Converting Medicare To A Voucher Program In 2011 Would Have Cost 159,400 Ohio Seniors \$6,698 More For Healthcare

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**Converting Medicare To A Voucher Program In 2011 Would Have Cost 159,400 Ohio Seniors \$6,698 More For Healthcare.** “There are features of the GOP Medicare plan ripe for debate. As Democrats see it, it'll mean seniors get stuck with thousands of dollars of medical and insurance costs because insurers will pass those high fees on. The costs will come to \$6,698 more for 159,400 seniors in Ohio, say the Democrats.” [Cleveland.com, [6/8/11](#)]

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## 2011: Coughlin Supported The Paul Ryan Plan, Which Advocated For Reforming Medicare And Social Security

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### 2011: Coughlin Supported The Paul Ryan Plan

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**Coughlin Supported The Paul Ryan Plan.** “Former state Sen. Kevin Coughlin, another potential Republican candidate who backs the Ryan plan, told POLITICO he’s prepared to highlight Mandel’s evasiveness.” [Politico, [6/23/11](#)]

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### **The Paul Ryan Plan Supported Moving Medicare To A Premium Support System, Which Would Transfer Costs Onto Beneficiaries**

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**The Paul Ryan Plan Supported Moving Medicare To A Premium Support System.** “Premium support – a better way to deliver secure benefits Starting in 2022, new Medicare beneficiaries will be enrolled in the same kind of health care program that members of Congress enjoy. Future Medicare recipients will be able to choose from a list of guaranteed coverage options, and they will be given the ability to choose a plan that works best for them. This is not a voucher program, but rather a premium-support model. A Medicare premium-support payment would be paid, by Medicare, to the plan chosen by the beneficiary, subsidizing its cost.” [Fiscal Year 2012 Budget Resolution, [4/5/11](#)]

**Premium Support Models Would Require Beneficiaries To Pay Higher Premiums Or Face Fewer Benefits.** “In areas where Medicare incurs relatively high costs, the amount of the premium-support payment would equal the cost of a relatively inexpensive private plan, and beneficiaries would have to pay higher premiums to participate in traditional Medicare. In areas with relatively low Medicare spending, beneficiaries who wanted to enroll in a private plan would face higher premiums or fewer benefits, or might find that no private plan was available. [...] The vouchers would purchase less coverage with each passing year, pushing more costs on to beneficiaries. Over time, seniors would have to pay more to keep the health plans and the doctors they like, or they would get fewer benefits.” [Center On Budget and Policy Priorities, [3/28/12](#)]

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### **The Paul Ryan Plan Advocated For Raising The Medicare Eligibility Age From 65 To 67**

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**The Paul Ryan Plan Advocated For Raising The Medicare Eligibility Age From 65 To 67.** “Starting in 2023, the Ryan budget would raise the eligibility age for Medicare — now 65 — by two months per year until it reaches age 67 in 2034.” [Center On Budget and Policy Priorities, [3/28/12](#)]

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### **The Paul Ryan Plan Advocated For Reforms To Social Security**

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**The Paul Ryan Plan Advocated For Social Security Reforms.** “Force policymakers to come to the table and enact common-sense reforms to keep the program solvent for current beneficiaries and make it stronger for future generations. Social Security must be reformed to prevent severe cuts in future benefits.” [Fiscal Year 2012 Budget Resolution, [4/5/11](#)]

## **Taxes**

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### **2023: Coughlin Pledged To Oppose Any Attempts To Raise Taxes On Americans**

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**Coughlin Emphasized His Work Cutting Income And Estate Taxes In Ohio While Pledging “To Oppose Any Attempts To Raise Taxes On Americans.”** “As a small business owner, Kevin understands what we need: a more competitive tax rate and less unnecessary red tape. Kevin is a five-time Watchdog of the Treasury Award winner. He has signed the pledge to oppose any attempts to raise taxes on Americans. In Ohio, he led efforts to cut the income tax,

eliminate the estate tax, and he held the line against tax hikes. Letting Ohioans keep more of their hard-earned money allows them to save, invest, and spend to meet their needs, and start to grow a business.” [Kevin Coughlin, Issues, accessed [1/8/24](#)]

**2023: Coughlin Signed Americans For Tax Reform’s Taxpayer Protection Pledge**

**Coughlin Signed Americans For Tax Reform’s Taxpayer Protection Pledge.** “By signing the #TaxpayerProtectionPledge, taxpayers can trust that @KevinCoughlin will champion pro-growth policies, protect our economic freedom, and resist any attempts to burden Americans with even higher taxes.” [ATR, Twitter, [11/2/23](#)]

Kevin Coughlin reposted

 **ATR** @taxreformer

By signing the #TaxpayerProtectionPledge, taxpayers can trust that @KevinCoughlin will champion pro-growth policies, protect our economic freedom, and resist any attempts to burden Americans with even higher taxes. [bit.ly/46dhh6x](https://bit.ly/46dhh6x)



4:41 PM · Nov 2, 2023 · 431 Views

[ATR, Twitter, [11/2/23](#)]

**2011: Coughlin Signed Americans For Tax Reform’s Taxpayer Protection Pledge**

**Coughlin Signed Americans For Tax Reform’s Taxpayer Protection Pledge.** “Former Ohio State Senator Kevin Coughlin has signed the Americans for Tax Reform's Taxpayer Protection Pledge. [...] In making the pledge, Coughlin promises to: 1) oppose any and all efforts to increase the marginal income tax rates for individuals and/or businesses; and 2) oppose any net reduction or elimination of deductions and credits, unless matched dollar for dollar by further reducing tax rates.” [Weapons of Mass Discussion, Blog, [4/19/11](#)]

**2011: Coughlin Supported The Cut, Cap, And Balance Act, Which Would Protect Tax Breaks For The Wealthy At The Cost Of The Poorest Americans**

**Coughlin Signed The Cut, Cap, And Balance Act Pledge**

**2011: Coughlin Signed The Cut, Cap, And Balance Act Pledge.** [Cut Cap Balance Act via Internet Archive, Pledge Signers, archived [12/25/11](#)]

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## The Cut, Cap, And Balance Act Would Protect Tax Breaks For The Wealthy At The Cost Of The Poorest Americans

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**The Cut, Cap, And Balance Act Would Protect Tax Breaks For The Rich While Cutting Programs That Benefit The Poorest Americans.** “The bill overturns a feature of various bipartisan budget laws over the past quarter century, by subjecting programs for the poorest Americans to the specter of meat-axe across-the-board cuts. It does so even as it protects tax breaks and tax subsidies for the wealthy and powerful by erecting a constitutional barrier to any measure that would raise any revenue.” [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [7/16/11](#)]

### Professional History

#### November 2010-October 2023: Coughlin Was The President Of Lexington Companies, Which Provided Lobbying And Republican Political Consulting Services

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#### Coughlin Was The President Of Lexington Companies

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**Coughlin Was The President Of Lexington Companies.** According to Coughlin’s LinkedIn, he was the President of Lexington Companies from 2010 to present. [Kevin Coughlin, LinkedIn, accessed [10/10/23](#)]



Kevin Coughlin  
President, Lexington Companies



**President**  
Lexington Companies  
Nov 2010 - Present · 13 yrs  
Cleveland/Akron, Ohio Area

Chief executive of a family of businesses providing multi-state public affairs, communications, continuing education, and real estate investment.

[Kevin Coughlin, LinkedIn, accessed [10/10/23](#)]

**Lexington Companies’ Website Listed Kevin Coughlin As President.** “As President of Lexington Companies Kevin Coughlin provides strategic counsel and expertise in management, communications and public policy to our corporate and nonprofit clients.” [Lexington Companies, Kevin Coughlin, accessed [10/10/23](#)]

Home »

## Kevin Coughlin

As President of Lexington Companies Kevin Coughlin provides strategic counsel and expertise in management, communications and public policy to our corporate and nonprofit clients.

Kevin has a public service career spanning over 25 years, first elected to the Ohio House of Representatives in 1996 where he served until 2001. He became a member of the Ohio Senate in 2001 and served until his term was limited in 2011.

For six years Kevin was chairman of the Senate Health, Human Services & Aging Committee. He also served stints as chairman of the House Finance & Appropriations Higher Education Subcommittee and the Senate State & Local Governments & Veterans Affairs Committee.

Kevin Coughlin served on the Council of State Governments Executive Committee and Governing Board and as Co-Chair of CSG's International Committee. He was the 2005 Chair of CSG's Midwestern Legislative Conference. For five years, he co-chaired the Bowhay Institute for Legislative Leadership Development which trains Midwestern legislators to be strong leaders.

Kevin was elected Clerk of the Stow Municipal Court in 2013 and led it through a period of transition through 2015, computerizing records and upgrading technology in the courthouse.

Kevin serves on the boards of the Capitol Square Foundation and the Western Reserve Hospital Community Business Leaders Council. He is a member of the Summit County Republican Party Executive Committee and has served on the boards of Blossom Music Center, the Ohio Arts Council, Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens, Flying Horse Farms, and as Board President of Ballet Excel Ohio. He was a 1999 Marshall Fellow at the German Marshall Fund of the United States, and is a commissioned member of the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels.

Kevin graduated from Woodridge High School and holds a BA and a Master of Public Administration from Bowling Green State University. He resides in Bath Township, Ohio with his wife, Anne, and their daughters Kathryn and Elizabeth.



[Lexington Companies, Kevin Coughlin, accessed [10/10/23](#)]

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### Lexington Companies Was A Political Consulting Firm For Ohio Republicans

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**Lexington Companies Provided Counsel On Policy, Communications, And Management.** “Lexington Companies works with businesses and nonprofits to provide strategic policy, communications, and management counsel.” [Lexington Companies, Our Work & Brands: Lexington Companies, accessed [10/10/23](#)]



[Lexington Companies, Our Work & Brands: Lexington Companies, accessed [10/10/23](#)]

**Coughlin: “For The Last Several Years, My Business Has Provided Direct Mail Services To Candidates.”** “For the last several years, my business has provided direct mail services to candidates. It's a very small part of what we do but helping great people serve is fun. Congrats to our clients who were elected yesterday: • @VikramSandhu77 handily defeating an incumbent for Richfield Twp Fiscal Officer • @JudgeMcKenney re-elected with 78% of the vote! • Judge Diana Stevenson elected with 68% of the vote! • Clark Anthony DeVitis re-elected to Green City Council • Jeremy McIntire re-elected to Stow City Council • Mario Fiocca re-elected to Stow City Council • Mike Sheehan elected to Stow-Munroe Falls School Board • @tylerjherrmann elected to Powell City Council • Bryan Newell re-elected Liberty Township Trustee Two tough losses for great candidates who ran fantastic races: @EberhartMegann for Barberton Mayor and @tinaoh1114 for Barberton City Council Ward 4. No question the state issue turnout impacted these races. I'll work to elect Republicans every day and twice on Sundays if I can have candidates as great as this group. Proud to help them.” [Kevin Coughlin, Twitter, [11/8/23](#)]


**Kevin Coughlin**    
 @KevinCoughlin

For the last several years, my business has provided direct mail services to candidates. It's a very small part of what we do but helping great people serve is fun. Congrats to our clients who were elected yesterday:

- [@VikramSandhu77](#) handily defeating an incumbent for Richfield Twp Fiscal Officer
- [@JudgeMcKenney](#) re-elected with 78% of the vote!
- Judge Diana Stevenson elected with 68% of the vote!
- Clark Anthony DeVitis re-elected to Green City Council
- Jeremy McIntire re-elected to Stow City Council
- Mario Fiocca re-elected to Stow City Council
- Mike Sheehan elected to Stow-Munroe Falls School Board
- [@tylerjhermann](#) elected to Powell City Council
- Bryan Newell re-elected Liberty Township Trustee

Two tough losses for great candidates who ran fantastic races: [@EberhartMegann](#) for Barberton Mayor and [@tinaoh1114](#) for Barberton City Council Ward 4. No question the state issue turnout impacted these races.

I'll work to elect Republicans every day and twice on Sundays if I can have candidates as great as this group. Proud to help them.

 Last edited 11:09 AM · Nov 8, 2023 · 221 Views

[Kevin Coughlin, Twitter, [11/8/23](#)]

**2022: Ohio Republican State Central & Executive Committee Paid Lexington Companies \$93,636.66 For “Mailing.”** [Ohio Secretary of State, accessed [1/3/24](#)]

Date	Payee	Amount	Purpose	Committee
10/14/22	Lexington Companies	\$12,400.00	Mailing	Ohio State Central & Executive Committee State Account
10/14/22	Lexington Companies	\$12,400.00	Mailing	Ohio State Central & Executive Committee State Candidate Fund
10/18/22	Lexington Companies	\$34,418.33	Mailing	Ohio State Central & Executive Committee State Account
10/18/22	Lexington Companies	\$34,418.33	Mailing	Ohio State Central & Executive Committee State Candidate Fund

[Ohio Secretary of State, accessed [1/3/24](#)]

**2022: Claggett For Ohio Paid Lexington Companies \$12,521.10 For “Advertising.”** [Ohio Secretary of State, accessed [1/3/24](#)]

Date	Payee	Amount	Purpose	Committee
5/25/22	Lexington Companies	\$1,581.41	Advertising	Claggett for Ohio
6/30/22	Lexington Companies	\$4,950.00	Advertising	Claggett for Ohio



7/15/22	Lexington Companies	\$987.50	Advertising	Claggett for Ohio
7/28/22	Lexington Companies	\$5,002.19	Advertising	Claggett for Ohio

[Ohio Secretary of State, accessed [1/3/24](#)]

- **Claggett Was A Republican.** “State Rep. Thad Claggett (R-Newark) yesterday took the oath of office for his first term as a member of the Ohio House of Representatives. He represents the 68th House district, which consists of the central and western region of Licking County.” [Ohio House of Representatives, Thaddeus J. Claggett News, [1/4/23](#)]

**2022: Elect Bob Young Paid Lexington Companies \$4,500 For Campaign Literature And Design.** [Ohio Secretary of State, accessed [1/3/24](#)]

Date	Payee	Amount	Purpose	Committee
6/30/22	Lexington Companies	\$4,200.00	Campaign Literature	Elect Bob Young
10/14/22	Lexington Companies	\$300.00	Literature Design	Elect Bob Young

[Ohio Secretary of State, accessed [1/3/24](#)]

- **Bob Young Was A Republican.** “Former Ohio state Rep. Bob Young was found guilty of domestic violence in court Thursday. Visiting retired Tuscarawas County Common Pleas Judge Edward O’Farrell found Young guilty of intentionally harming his wife, Tina. This is a first-degree misdemeanor. However, the North Canton Republican was acquitted of the assault charge against his brother Michael.” [Ohio Capital Journal, [10/26/23](#)]

**2022: Committee To Elect Bill Roemer Paid Lexington Companies \$3,500 For “Mailing.”** [Ohio Secretary of State, accessed [1/3/24](#)]

Date	Payee	Amount	Purpose	Committee
11/4/22	Lexington Companies	\$3,500.00	Mailing	Committee to Elect Bill Roemer

[Ohio Secretary of State, accessed [1/3/24](#)]

- **Bill Roemer Was A Republican.** “State Rep. Bill Roemer (R-Richfield) gave his tenth gallon of blood (80th pint) at a Red Cross blood drive at the Bath United Church of Christ last week.” [Ohio House of Representatives, Bill Roemer News, [11/16/23](#)]

**2022: Kristina Daley Roegner For Ohio Paid Lexington Companies \$3,500 For “Printing.”** [Ohio Secretary of State, accessed [1/3/24](#)]

Date	Payee	Amount	Purpose	Committee
10/20/22	Lexington Companies	\$3,500.00	Printing	Kristina Daley Roegner for Ohio

[Ohio Secretary of State, accessed [1/3/24](#)]

- **Kristina Daley Roegner Was A Republican.** “The Senate approved Senate Resolution 215, sponsored by State Senator Kristina Roegner (R-Hudson) and State Senator Michelle Reynolds (R-Canal Winchester) which expresses the chamber’s opposition to Issue 1, a proposed constitutional amendment on the ballot this November that: removes the current laws protecting children, women, and families; and permanently enshrines in our state’s constitution abortion-on-demand through all nine months.” [Ohio Senate, Kristina D. Roegner News, [10/11/23](#)]



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**Lexington Companies Donated \$4,650 To Ohio Republican Candidates And Parties**

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**Lexington Companies Donated \$4,650 To Ohio Republican Candidates And Local Parties.** [Kevin Coughlin, Illumis, accessed [1/3/24](#); Ohio Secretary of State, accessed [1/3/24](#); Follow the Money, accessed [1/3/24](#)]

<b>Lexington Companies Political Giving History – Ohio</b>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>Lexington Companies Political Giving History</b>	<b>Party</b>	<b>Amount</b>
2022	KRISTINA ROEGNER	R	3,500
2022	BOB YOUNG	R	\$300
9/8/21	SUMMIT COUNTRY REPUBLICAN PARTY RESRICTED FUND	R	\$500
8/11/15	SEITZ FOR OHIO/WILLIAM SEITZ	R	\$350
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,650</b>

[Kevin Coughlin, Illumis, accessed [1/3/24](#); Ohio Secretary of State, accessed [1/3/24](#); Follow the Money, accessed [1/3/24](#)]

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**2013-2014: Coughlin Was The Sole Registered Lobbyist For Lexington Companies**

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**January-April 2013: Coughlin Was The Only Registered Agent For Lexington Companies, Ltd.** [Ohio Joint Legislative Ethics Committee, [5/7/13](#)]

**May-August 2013: Coughlin Was The Only Registered Agent For Lexington Companies, Ltd.** [Ohio Joint Legislative Ethics Committee, [9/27/13](#)]

**September-December 2013: Coughlin Was The Only Registered Agent For Lexington Companies, Ltd.** [Ohio Joint Legislative Ethics Committee, [1/28/14](#)]

**January-April 2014: Coughlin Was The Only Registered Agent For Lexington Companies, Ltd.** [Ohio Joint Legislative Ethics Committee, [6/6/14](#)]

**May-August 2014: Coughlin Was The Only Registered Agent For Lexington Companies, Ltd.** [Ohio Joint Legislative Ethics Committee, [9/29/14](#)]

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**Lexington Companies Was Valued At \$500,001-\$1,000,000**

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**Lexington Companies Was Valued At \$500,001-\$1,000,000.** [U.S. House Clerk, Kevin Coughlin, 2023 Candidate Report, filed [11/16/23](#)]

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**Coughlin Made Over \$350,000 Per Year From Lexington Companies**

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**2022: Coughlin Made \$378,628 From Lexington Companies.** [U.S. House Clerk, Kevin Coughlin, 2023 Candidate Report, filed [11/16/23](#)]

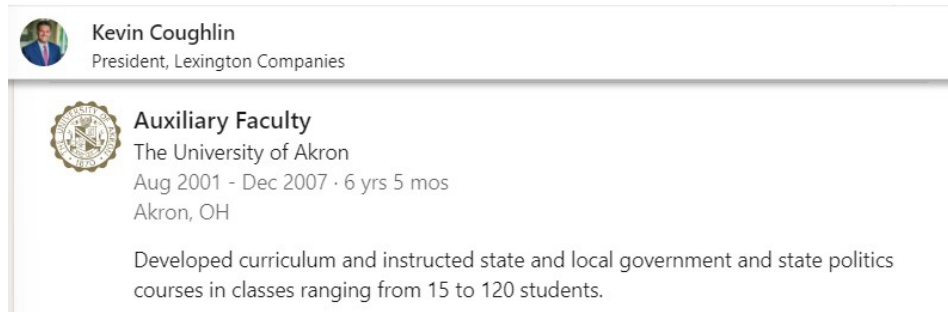
**SCHEDULE C: EARNED INCOME**

<b>Source</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Amount Current Year to Filing</b>	<b>Amount Preceding Year</b>
Lexington Companies Ltd	Salary & Owner Income	\$166,578.00	\$378,628.00


[U.S. House Clerk, Kevin Coughlin, 2023 Candidate Report, filed [11/16/23](#)]

## 2001-2007: Coughlin Was An Auxiliary Faculty Member At The University Of Akron

**Coughlin Was An Auxiliary Faculty Member At The University Of Akron.** According to Coughlin’s LinkedIn, he was an auxiliary faculty member at the University of Akron from 2001 to 2007. [Kevin Coughlin, LinkedIn, accessed [10/10/23](#)]



Kevin Coughlin  
President, Lexington Companies

 **Auxiliary Faculty**  
The University of Akron  
Aug 2001 - Dec 2007 · 6 yrs 5 mos  
Akron, OH

Developed curriculum and instructed state and local government and state politics courses in classes ranging from 15 to 120 students.

[Kevin Coughlin, LinkedIn, accessed [10/10/23](#)]

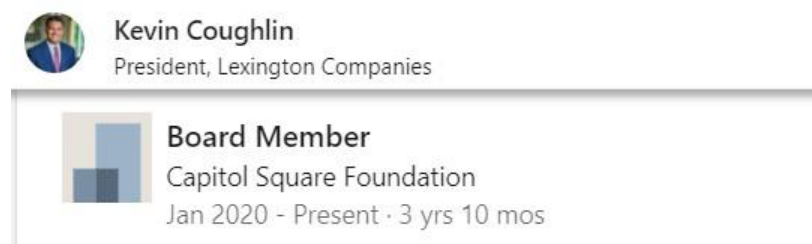
## 1996: Coughlin Was A Self-Employed Media Consultant

**1996: Coughlin Was A Self-Employed Media Consultant.** “Coughlin, 26, is a self-employed media consultant who is making his first run at elective office. In no way does his lack of political experience hinder an impressive grasp of issues and impressive insights1999 on the problems facing state government.” [Plain Dealer, 10/19/96]


## Board And Non-Profit History

### January 2020-October 2023: Coughlin Was A Board Member For Capitol Square Foundation

**Coughlin Was A Board Member For Capitol Square Foundation.** According to Coughlin’s LinkedIn, he was a board member of Capitol Square Foundation from 2020 to present. [Kevin Coughlin, LinkedIn, accessed [10/10/23](#)]



Kevin Coughlin  
President, Lexington Companies

 **Board Member**  
Capitol Square Foundation  
Jan 2020 - Present · 3 yrs 10 mos


[Kevin Coughlin, LinkedIn, accessed [10/10/23](#)]

- **Coughlin Reported Himself As The Capitol Square Foundation “Director” On His Personal Financial Disclosure.** [U.S. House Clerk, Kevin Coughlin 2023 Candidate Report, filed [11/16/23](#)]

**Capitol Square Foundation Was A Nonprofit Organization “Established To Increase Public Awareness Of And To Involve Citizens In The History Of The Ohio Statehouse.”** “The Capitol Square Foundation was established to increase public awareness of and to involve citizens in the history of the Ohio Statehouse.” [Capitol Square Foundation, Facebook, accessed [1/10/24](#)]

## Intro

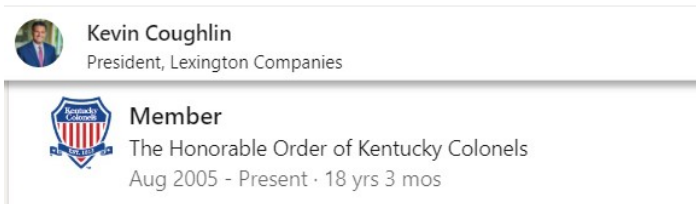
The Capitol Square Foundation was established to increase public awareness of and to involve citizens in the history of the Ohio Statehouse.

 Page · Nonprofit organization

[Capitol Square Foundation, Facebook, accessed [1/10/24](#)]

### 2005-October 2023: Coughlin Was A Member Of The Honorable Order Of Kentucky Colonels

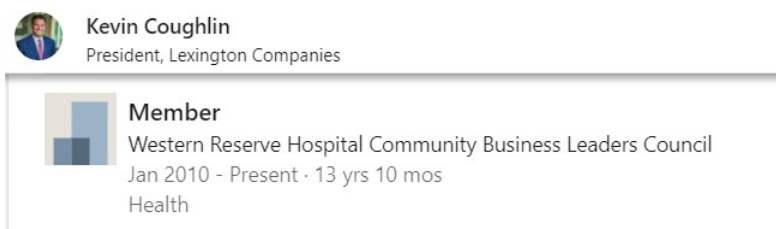
**Coughlin Was A Member Of The Honorable Order Of Kentucky Colonels.** According to Coughlin's LinkedIn, he was a member of The Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels from 2005 to present. [Kevin Coughlin, LinkedIn, accessed [10/10/23](#)]



[Kevin Coughlin, LinkedIn, accessed [10/10/23](#)]

### 2010-October 2023: Coughlin Was A Member Of The Western Reserve Hospital Community Business Leaders Council


**Coughlin Was A Member Of The Western Reserve Hospital Community Business Leaders Council.** According to Coughlin's LinkedIn, he was a member of the Western Reserve Hospital Community Business Leaders Council from 2010 to present. [Kevin Coughlin, LinkedIn, accessed [10/10/23](#)]



[Kevin Coughlin, LinkedIn, accessed [10/10/23](#)]


### 2018-2020: Coughlin Was The President Of The Board Of Reach Out And Dance, Ballet Excel Ohio's Outreach Program

**Coughlin Was The Board President Of Ballet Excel Ohio.** According to Coughlin's LinkedIn, he was the board president of Ballet Excel Ohio from 2018 to 2020. [Kevin Coughlin, LinkedIn, accessed [10/10/23](#)]



Kevin Coughlin  
President, Lexington Companies

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**Board President**  
Ballet Excel Ohio  
Jan 2018 - Jan 2020 · 2 yrs  
Arts and Culture

[Kevin Coughlin, LinkedIn, accessed [10/10/23](#)]

**Coughlin Was The President Of The Board Of Reach Out And Dance, Ballet Excel Ohio’s Outreach Program.** “The event celebrated the 20th anniversary of Ballet Excel Ohio’s outreach program — Reach Out and Dance, or ROAD. [...] Following dinner and the ‘dessert dash,’ board president Kevin Coughlin welcomed guests. DJ Adrian Mars-Jones of Beach Boyz Entertainment provided music for dancing. The event was expected to raise more than \$25,000 for the ROAD program.” [Akron Beacon Journal, [10/14/18](#)]

**2004-2011: Coughlin Was An Executive Committee And Governing Board Member For The Council Of State Governments**

**Coughlin Was An Executive Committee And Governing Board Member For The Council Of State Governments.** According to Coughlin’s LinkedIn, he was an executive committee and governing board member for the Council of State Governments from 2004 to 2011. [Kevin Coughlin, LinkedIn, accessed [10/10/23](#)]



Kevin Coughlin  
President, Lexington Companies

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**Executive Committee & Governing Board Member**  
The Council of State Governments  
Jan 2004 - Jan 2011 · 7 yrs

[Kevin Coughlin, LinkedIn, accessed [10/10/23](#)]

- **Coughlin Was Elected To Lead The Council Of State Governments Midwestern Legislative Conference As Vice Chair.** “Sen. Kevin Coughlin, R-Cuyahoga Falls, has been elected to lead the Council of State Governments Midwestern Legislative Conference, according to a press release from Coughlin's office. Coughlin will be the group's First Vice Chair in 2004 and then take over as Chair in 2005. The group includes legislators and staffers from Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin.” [Dayton Daily News, 9/1/03]


**1999-2008: Coughlin Was A Board Member For The Ohio Arts Council**

**Coughlin Was A Board Member For The Ohio Arts Council.** According to Coughlin’s LinkedIn, he was a board member for the Ohio Arts Council from 1999 to 2008. [Kevin Coughlin, LinkedIn, accessed [10/10/23](#)]



Kevin Coughlin  
President, Lexington Companies

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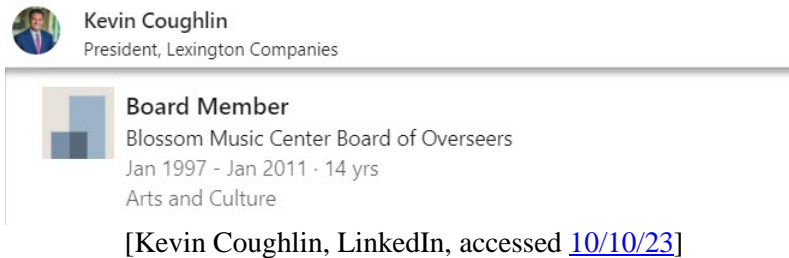


**Board Member**  
Ohio Arts Council  
Jan 1999 - Jan 2008 · 9 yrs  
Arts and Culture

[Kevin Coughlin, LinkedIn, accessed [10/10/23](#)]

**1997-2011: Coughlin Was A Board Member For The Blossom Music Center Board Of Overseers**

**Coughlin Was A Board Member For The Blossom Music Center Board Of Overseers.** According to Coughlin’s LinkedIn, he was a board member for the Blossom Music Center Board of Overseers from 1997 to 2011. [Kevin Coughlin, LinkedIn, accessed [10/10/23](#)]



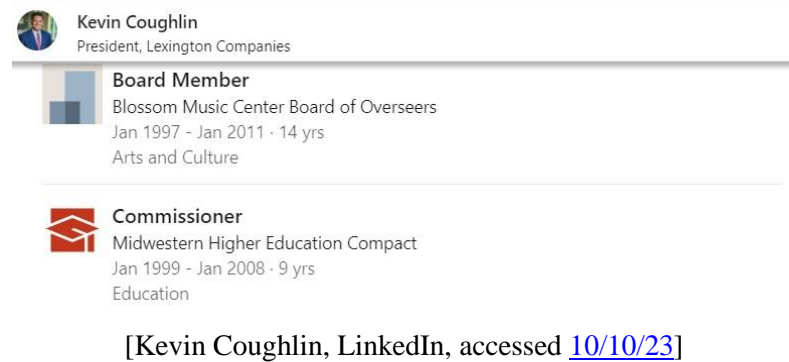
Kevin Coughlin  
President, Lexington Companies

**Board Member**  
Blossom Music Center Board of Overseers  
Jan 1997 - Jan 2011 · 14 yrs  
Arts and Culture

[Kevin Coughlin, LinkedIn, accessed [10/10/23](#)]

**1999-2008: Coughlin Was A Commissioner In The Midwestern Higher Education Compact**

**Coughlin Was A Commissioner In The Midwestern Higher Education Compact.** According to Coughlin’s LinkedIn, he was a commissioner in the Midwestern Higher Education Compact from 1999 to 2008. [Kevin Coughlin, LinkedIn, accessed [10/10/23](#)]



Kevin Coughlin  
President, Lexington Companies

**Board Member**  
Blossom Music Center Board of Overseers  
Jan 1997 - Jan 2011 · 14 yrs  
Arts and Culture

**Commissioner**  
Midwestern Higher Education Compact  
Jan 1999 - Jan 2008 · 9 yrs  
Education

[Kevin Coughlin, LinkedIn, accessed [10/10/23](#)]

**Political Career**

**Election Results**

2015 Stow Municipal Court Clerk General Election Results		
Candidate	Vote Total	Vote Percentage
Diana Colavecchio	21,095	39.85%
Kevin Coughlin	20,504	38.73%
Don Robart	11,337	21.42%

[Summit County Board of Elections, Election Results, [11/3/15](#)]

2013 Stow Municipal Court Clerk General Election Results		
Candidate	Vote Total	Vote Percentage
Kevin Coughlin	16,299	43.82%
Diana Colavecchio	15,620	41.99%
Frank Larson	5,277	14.19%



[Summit County Board of Elections, Election Results, [11/5/13](#)]

2006 Ohio State Senate General Election Results		
Candidate	Vote Total	Vote Percentage
Kevin Coughlin (R)	68,381	52.28%
Judy A. Hanna (D)	62,409	47.72%

[Ohio Secretary of State, Election Results, [11/7/06](#)]

2002 Ohio State Senate General Election Results		
Candidate	Vote Total	Vote Percentage
Tom Bevan (D)	50,180	N/A
Kevin Coughlin (R)	56,467	N/A

[Ohio Secretary of State, Election Results, [11/5/02](#)]

*NOTE: There are no total vote counts or vote percentages available for the [2002 Ohio State Senate General Election results](#).*

2000 Ohio House of Representatives General Election Results		
Candidate	Vote Total	Vote Percentage
Kevin Coughlin (R)	34,480	63.9%
Bob Hart (L)	1,951	3.6%
S. David Worhatch (D)	17,539	32.5%

[Ohio Secretary of State, Election Results, [11/7/00](#)]

1998 Ohio House of Representatives General Election Results		
Candidate	Vote Total	Vote Percentage
Kevin Coughlin (R)	24,778	63.64%
Carol Ann McCoy	2,981	7.66%
S. David Worhatch (D)	11,174	28.70%

[Ohio Secretary of State, Election Results, [11/3/98](#)]

1996 Ohio House of Representatives General Election Results		
Candidate	Vote Total	Vote Percentage
Kevin J. Coughlin (R)	28,462	55.01%
Carol Ann McCoy (N)	2,609	5.04%
John N. Schmidt (D)	20,667	39.95%

[Ohio Secretary of State, Election Results, [11/5/96](#)]

1996 Republican Ohio House of Representatives Primary Election Results		
Candidate	Vote Total	Vote Percentage
Kevin J. Coughlin	3,718	41.89%
Kenneth M. Lahn	956	10.77%
Gloria Rodgers	3,529	39.75%
Todd Rufe	674	7.59%

[Ohio Secretary of State, Election Results, [3/19/96](#)]

*NOTE: Coughlin ran uncontested in the 1998 Republican Ohio House of Representatives [primary election](#), the 2000 Republican Ohio House of Representatives [primary election](#), the 2002 Republican Ohio State Senate [primary election](#), and the 2006 Republican Ohio State Senate [primary election](#).*

## Campaign Finance

### Coughlin Raised A Total Of \$64,615 And Spent A Total Of \$64,444 In His Runs For Federal Office

According to the Federal Election Commission, Coughlin raised \$64,615 and spent \$64,444 in his runs for federal elected office.

Kevin Coughlin Federal Campaign Finance History			
Year	Candidate (Office Sought) or Committee	Raised	Spent
2024	Kevin Coughlin for House	\$0	\$0
2012	Kevin Coughlin for Senate	\$64,615	\$64,444
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$64,615</b>	<b>\$64,444</b>

[FEC.gov, accessed [11/6/23](#)]

### Coughlin Raised A Total Of \$4,232,620 And Spent A Total Of \$1,267,132 In His Runs For State-Level Office

According to the Ohio Secretary of State and Ohio Board of Elections, Coughlin raised \$4,232,620 and spent \$1,267,132 in their runs for governor, state senate, state house, and Stow court clerk.

Kevin Coughlin State Campaign Finance History			
Year	Candidate (Office Sought) or Committee	Raised	Spent
2015	Team Coughlin (court clerk)	\$47,530.00	\$51,017.45
2010	Team Coughlin (governor)	\$174,994.20	\$170,495.29
2006	Team Coughlin (state senate)	\$1,859,247.40	\$430,100.25
2002	Team Coughlin (state senate)	\$1,422,548.00	\$349,011.17
2000	Team Coughlin (state house)	\$187,524.35	\$138,294.02
1998	Team Coughlin (state house)	\$134,765.46	\$117,246.92
1996	Team Coughlin (state house)	\$453,540.81	\$61,984.70
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$4,232,620.20</b>	<b>\$1,267,132.40</b>

[Ohio Secretary Of State, accessed [1/10/24](#); Ohio Board of Elections, accessed [1/10/24](#)]

### 2023: Coughlin Announced That He Was Running For The U.S. House Of Representatives

**Coughlin Said He Was Debating Running For Ohio’s 13<sup>th</sup> Congressional District.** “Former GOP state legislator and Stow municipal court clerk Kevin Coughlin, of Bath Township, on Monday confirmed that he’s weighing a run for the 13th district congressional seat currently held by Democratic U.S. Rep. Emilia Sykes of Akron. “I am talking with all the folks you are supposed to be talking to and putting together a potential team,” said Coughlin, who is currently president of Lexington Companies, a management, communications and public policy firm. Coughlin explored seeking the U.S. Senate seat held by Sherrod Brown in 2012, but withdrew before the primary. Former Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel ended up getting 45% of the vote against Brown in the general election.” [Cleveland.com, [9/19/23](#)]

**Coughlin Announced That He Was Running For The U.S. House Of Representatives.** “Former state Sen. Kevin Coughlin is joining the March Republican primary race for the U.S. House of Representatives. Coughlin, of Bath Township, will face off against fellow Republican and Hudson City Councilman Chris Banweg in the race for Ohio’s 13th District. The winner would face Democratic incumbent Rep. Emilia Sykes of Akron.” [Akron Beacon Journal, [10/2/23](#)]

- **OHIO DEMOCRATS: “State Senator Kevin Coughlin Has A Long Record Of Wanting To End Medicare As We Know It, Hack Up Social Security, And Launching Attacks On Workers’ Rights.”** “Today, the Ohio Democratic Party released the following statement after former State Senator Kevin Coughlin announced he’s running in the Republican primary for Ohio’s 13th Congressional District. ‘State Senator Kevin Coughlin has a long record of

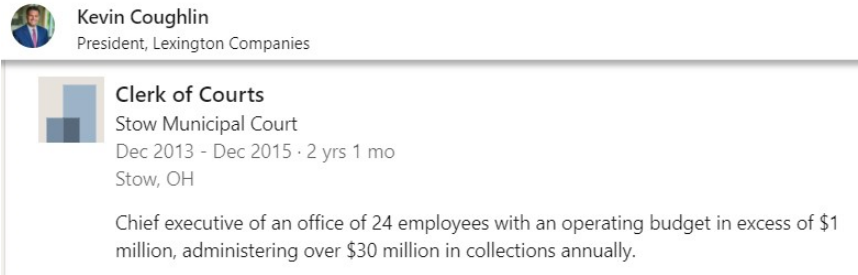
wanting to end Medicare as we know it, hack up Social Security, and launching attacks on workers' rights. Coughlin's out-of-touch agenda would increase costs for middle class families and gut the retirement programs millions of seniors rely on. Unfortunately for him, it will cost him this race in 2024,' said Matt Keyes, spokesperson for the Ohio Democratic Party.'" [Ohio Democrats, [10/2/23](#)]

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### 2013-2015: Coughlin Was A Clerk Of Courts In The Stow Municipal Court

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**Coughlin Was A Clerk Of Courts In The Stow Municipal Court.** According to Coughlin's LinkedIn, he was a Clerk of Courts in Stow Municipal Court from 2013-2015. [Kevin Coughlin, LinkedIn, accessed [10/10/23](#)]



[Kevin Coughlin, LinkedIn, accessed [10/10/23](#)]

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### 2015: Coughlin Ran For Re-Election For Clerk Of Stow Municipal Court And Lost

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**Coughlin Announced That He Would Run For Re-Election As A Nonpartisan Candidate.** "Stow Municipal Clerk of Court Kevin Coughlin has announced that he will seek re-election to the office this November. 'I need a little more time to implement my reforms, so I'll be asking voters in northern Summit County for their support once again this November,' Coughlin stated in a YouTube video announcement. 'We need professional leadership in the courthouse,' he said in the video, 'And I'm proud of the improvements we've been making.' He will run as a non-partisian candidate. The deadline for non-partisian candidates to file is May 4." [Record-Courier, [4/30/15](#)]

- **Coughlin Ran Against Two Other Candidates.** "On the November ballot, voters in northern Summit County will choose among incumbent Kevin Coughlin, who is running as a nonpartisan, Democratic challenger Diana Colavecchio, who lost to Coughlin in the last election, and Republican Don Robart, the former mayor of Cuyahoga Falls." [Akron Beacon Journal, [10/20/15](#)]

**In The Stow Municipal Court Clerk Race, Coughlin Was Questioned About His Record As A Clerk.** "Now Colavecchio and the Democratic Party say it's time for Coughlin to answer some questions, including whether he illegally awarded a contract to a business friend, created a new courthouse position for a campaign supporter, and had an unusually long absence from his office. [...] But as Coughlin, Colavecchio and Robart spar for a six-year term that will pay \$101,872.50 a year, Colavecchio insisted: 'There's enough here to at least ask him for an explanation.'" [Akron Beacon Journal, 9/14/15]

**Coughlin Lost The Race For Stow Municipal Court Clerk To Diana Colavecchio.** "For several months, the three candidates for Stow Municipal Court clerk of courts have had their say, exchanging accusations bordering on the criminal, trading ugly barbs on social media and campaign fliers, and filing complaints with state agencies. Tuesday night, northern Summit County voters got to talk — and they gave the job to challenger Diana Colavecchio. Colavecchio eked out a slim victory with 40 percent of the vote. Trailing her were incumbent Kevin Coughlin with 39 percent, and former Cuyahoga Falls mayor Don Robart with 21 percent." [Akron Beacon Journal, [11/4/15](#)]

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### 2013: Coughlin Ran For Clerk Of Stow Municipal Court, And Won

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**Coughlin Ran For Clerk Of Stow Municipal Court In Order To Modernize Its Processes.** “Kevin Coughlin, a former state lawmaker who represented the Cuyahoga Falls area in Columbus for 14 years, said Monday he is running for clerk of Stow Municipal Court. The nonpartisan race will be contested on the Nov. 5 ballot. ‘Today I am answering a call to serve our communities by modernizing the operation of the court. We have a new courthouse, and our judges are doing a great job,’ Coughlin said in a news release announcing his candidacy. ‘But the Stow Municipal Court’s operation is one of Ohio’s most antiquated. For over a decade, clerks have promised to computerize records and modernize but have failed to show any results. Case files are still on paper, creating security issues and slowing the judicial system. Citizens can’t even pay traffic tickets online.’” [Akron Beacon Journal, [5/6/13](#)]

**Coughlin Won The Race For Clerk Of Stow Municipal Court.** “Two Republican mavericks who have been opposed by their own county party for years will rule the roost at Stow Municipal Court. Judge Kim Hoover, an 18-year incumbent, will stay on the bench for another six-year term in spite of his party’s attempt to get rid of him. And his ally, former state Sen. Kevin Coughlin, will take over as clerk of courts after defeating Democrat incumbent Diana Colavecchio.” [Akron Beacon Journal, [11/6/13](#)]

**Coughlin Filed To Run As A Nonpartisan, And Faced Pushback.** “Coughlin filed last week to run nonpartisan in the Stow Municipal Court clerk’s race, a move he says is permitted by a law he co-sponsored during his time in the state legislature. But both Republican and Democratic members of the Summit County elections board are questioning whether Coughlin can run nonpartisan, given his strong ties to the Republican party and the fact that a partisan primary was held for the office last Tuesday.” [Akron Beacon Journal, [5/12/13](#)]

- **Coughlin Said He Could Run As A Nonpartisan Because Of A Bill He Co-Sponsored When He Was A State Legislator, And If Not Allowed To Run, He Would Go To The Ohio Supreme Court.** “As evidence, [Coughlin] points to a bill he co-sponsored with former state Sen. Kim Zurz, now the Democratic deputy director of the Summit County elections board, in December 2006 that moved the Cuyahoga Falls Municipal Court to Stow. He said the bill also changed how the Stow Municipal Court clerk was elected, providing that the clerk be elected ‘in the same manner’ as Stow judges, which means ‘candidates for clerk may be nominated by petition or by partisan primary.’ He said this provision became effective Jan. 1, 2009, and hasn’t been changed. [...] If the board refuses to certify his candidacy, Coughlin said he will challenge the decision in the Ohio Supreme Court.” [Akron Beacon Journal, [5/12/13](#)]
- **Alex Arshinkoff, The Republican Party Chairman, Said That Coughlin Running As A Nonpartisan Would Set A Dangerous Precedent.** “Alex Arshinkoff, a Republican member of the elections board and the county GOP chairman [...] agrees that neither party wants Coughlin on the ballot because of the precedent this would set and how an unfettered ability to run nonpartisan could weaken the two-party system. ‘If we start this thing, pretty soon we are back to independents running for everything,’ he said. ‘Why have a primary when you can go right around it? Partisan people can hide and get on the ballot. That doesn’t make any sense.’” [Akron Beacon Journal, [5/12/13](#)]

## **2012: Coughlin Ran For U.S. Senate In Ohio And Later Dropped Out Of The Race**

**Coughlin Debated Running For Senate Against Sherrod Brown.** “Former state Sen. Kevin Coughlin of Cuyahoga Falls said that he filed paperwork this week with the Federal Elections Commission for the Senate seat now held by Democratic U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown. Last week, Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel, also a Republican, formed a campaign committee with the FEC to launch his candidacy for the Senate. Neither one has formally declared his candidacy, but both are raising money. ‘Establishing Team Coughlin allows me to give the race careful consideration and to raise money. While I have no formal announcement planned at this time, I am getting a very positive response,’ Mr. Coughlin told The Blade.” [Toledo Blade, [4/15/11](#)]

**2011: Coughlin Was Last In The Polls.** “Blackwell trails Brown 44-35 percent, compared with State Treasurer Josh Mandel, running 45-31 percent behind, and former State Sen. Kevin Coughlin, 44-28 percent. Among Republican voters, Blackwell gets 33 percent in the Senate primary, with Mandel at 17 percent and Coughlin at 5 percent. Another 43 percent

are undecided.” [Newsmax, [5/19/11](#)]

**Coughlin Said He Was The “Proven Conservative” In The Race.** “‘I am the proven conservative in this race,’ Coughlin said. ‘I have a record of getting things done and the courage to change Washington. To reclaim America, our party must capture 12 seats in the United States Senate. But it is not enough for us to just elect 12 Republicans. We must elect the right Republicans.’” [Deseret News, [6/24/11](#)]

- **A Spokesman Of The Ohio Democratic Party Called Coughlin “An Extreme Right-Wing Candidate.”** “‘Elections are about choices. Whether the Republicans nominate an extreme right-wing candidate like Kevin Coughlin, George Bush’s best friend Ken Blackwell, or Josh Mandel, whose political ambition is more important to him than his promise to serve a full term, the choice in this race will be clear,’ Ohio Democratic Party spokesman Justin Barasky said.” [Roll Call, [4/18/11](#)]

**Coughlin Dropped Out Of The Race For The U.S. Senate.** “Kevin Coughlin has quietly withdrawn from next year’s U.S. Senate race, giving Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel an even clearer path to the Republican nomination. Coughlin, a former Ohio state senator from Cuyahoga Falls, filed a termination notice with the Federal Election Commission. The commission received it Oct. 19, although Coughlin’s campaign mailed it on Oct. 14.” [Plain Dealer, 10/25/11]

- **Coughlin Only Had \$170 In His Campaign Account When He Dropped Out.** “[Coughlin] ended with only \$170 in his campaign account, the filing shows. That compares with \$3.25 million in the account of Mandel, long considered the front runner in the GOP bid to challenge incumbent Democratic U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown in November 2012.” [Plain Dealer, 10/25/11]

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### **While Running For Senate In The 2012 Election Cycle, Coughlin Associated With The Tea Party**

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**Coughlin Spoke At A Mansfield Tea Party Event.** “Kevin Coughlin, a candidate for U.S. Senate, will speak at 6 p.m. Monday at the Waterford, 1296 Trimble Road, as part of the Mansfield Tea Party’s Meet the Candidate series. Coughlin represented Summit County in the Ohio Senate from 2001 to 2011, and served in the Ohio House of Representatives from 1997 to 2001. Coughlin thrice was voted Watchdog of the Treasury by the United Conservatives of Ohio and received a Guardian of Small Business award from the NFIB/Ohio.” [Mansfield News Journal, 7/6/11]

**Coughlin Met With Members Of The Tea Party.** “When not in Washington, Coughlin these days is meeting with Tea Party members and elected officials across Ohio, touting his qualifications and not shying from criticism of Mandel.” [Cleveland.com, [6/21/11](#)]

### **2010: Coughlin Ran For Governor Of Ohio And Later Dropped Out Of The Race**

**2009: Coughlin Said He Wanted To Run For Governor In 2010.** “Republican State Sen. Kevin Coughlin of Cuyahoga Falls said he wants to run for governor in 2010 and plans to ‘explore’ the possibility in earnest this year. But he couldn’t say for sure that he will be a candidate in 2010, remarking that his desire may ‘turn out or it may not.’ ‘There is nothing left in politics that I want to do other than lead this state,’ he said. [...] Coughlin, who is prevented from seeking re-election because of term limits, has talked openly about the top job but is jockeying for attention as the party begins to build its 2010 ticket.” [Plain Dealer, 1/13/09]

**Coughlin Shared That He Was Planning To Run For Governor.** “State Sen. Kevin Coughlin, a Cuyahoga Falls Republican, said today that he has shared his plans with the Ohio Republican Party and will begin organizing and raising money for a run against incumbent Democratic Gov. Ted Strickland in 2010. The announcement sets up a possible showdown with former Congressman John Kasich, also exploring a run, for the Republican nomination.” [Columbus Dispatch, [1/12/09](#)]

**Coughlin Officially Filed To Run For Governor Of Ohio.** “Coughlin announced Tuesday in a video posted on his

campaign Web site that he'll be a candidate in 2010. His candidacy papers were filed Monday at the Secretary of State's office." [Lantern, [2/4/09](#)]

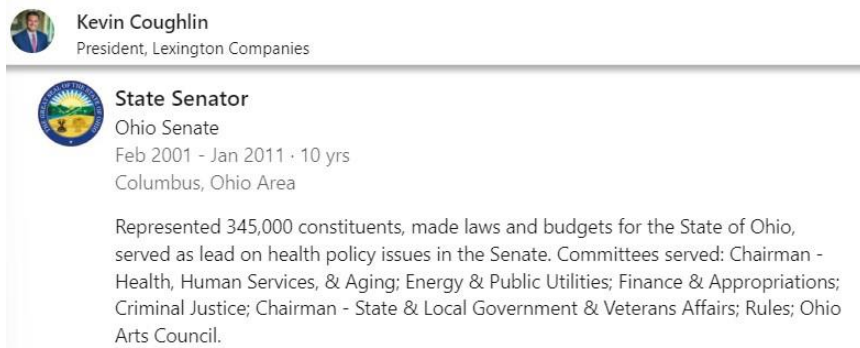
### **Coughlin Dropped Out Of The Ohio Gubernatorial Race Following John Kasich Announcing He Was Running.**

"One of the early Republican candidates for Governor has dropped out of the race. Akron area State Sen. Kevin Coughlin told supporters this week that he has ended his campaign. [...] Coughlin's departure from the race followed the announcement from former Republican Congressman John Kasich in June that he would seek the nomination." [Dayton Daily News, [7/15/09](#)]


- **Coughlin Said He Dropped Out Of The Gubernatorial Race Because He Did Not Have The "Motivation To Raise The Financial Resources."** "State Sen. Kevin Coughlin, the first Republican to jump into Ohio's 2010 gubernatorial race, has dropped out. In a July 13 statement posted on the social networking site Twitter, the Republican from Cuyahoga Falls said he didn't 'have the motivation to raise the financial resources to wage a successful campaign.' [...] 'It's going to take \$15 [million] to \$20 million to compete for governor next year,' Coughlin said, adding, '[My wife] Anne and I are sitting here looking at a stack of invitations to county fairs and picnics and ... [from] people that I would have to go meet with and ask for money and ... I don't want to spend the rest of this year glad-handing for votes and begging for dollars. It's just not something I'm interested in doing right now.'" [Akron Beacon Journal, [7/19/09](#)]

## **2001-2011: Coughlin Was A State Senator In The Ohio Senate**

**Coughlin Was A State Senator In The Ohio Senate.** According to Coughlin's LinkedIn, he was a State Senator in the Ohio Senate from 2001 to 2011. [Kevin Coughlin, LinkedIn, accessed [10/10/23](#)]



Kevin Coughlin  
President, Lexington Companies

 **State Senator**  
Ohio Senate  
Feb 2001 - Jan 2011 · 10 yrs  
Columbus, Ohio Area

Represented 345,000 constituents, made laws and budgets for the State of Ohio, served as lead on health policy issues in the Senate. Committees served: Chairman - Health, Human Services, & Aging; Energy & Public Utilities; Finance & Appropriations; Criminal Justice; Chairman - State & Local Government & Veterans Affairs; Rules; Ohio Arts Council.

[Kevin Coughlin, LinkedIn, accessed [10/10/23](#)]

## **2006: Coughlin Ran For The Ohio State Senate In District 27, And Called His Opponent, Judy Hanna, A "Lunatic" Regarding An Essay She Wrote**

**Coughlin Called His Opponent, Judy Hanna, A "Lunatic" Regarding An Essay She Wrote.** "State Sen. Kevin Coughlin has been having a rollicking good time ripping on his Democratic opponent, Judy Hanna. In a news release the Cuyahoga Falls Republican sent on Thursday titled 'Lunatic Rantings of Judy Hanna,' Coughlin hot-linked to a virtually unintelligible essay that Hanna wrote for 'Democracy Week' on Jan. 20, 2005 - the day President Bush was inaugurated. The essay - a word salad of errors in syntax, awkward phraseology and bizarre statements - is particularly remarkable because Hanna has a master's degree and is an associate lecturer in humanities and history at the University of Akron." [Plain Dealer, [5/19/06](#)]

## **2002: Coughlin Ran For The Ohio State Senate In District 27, And Won After Running Negative Ads**

**Coughlin Won The Race For The Ohio State Senate's 27<sup>th</sup> District After Running Negative Ads.** "Republican State

Sens. Kevin Coughlin in the 27th District and Jeff Armbruster in the 13th pulled out victories after see-saw battles against upset-minded Democrats, climaxing campaigns that experts said sank to low-water marks in negative advertising. [...] Green said the Coughlin-Bevan and Armbruster-Morano shoot-outs take the top prizes for being the nastiest. 'Each side accused the other of lying, then accused each other of lying about the lying,' Green mused. While candidates from both parties engaged in finger-pointing about who went negative first, the GOP's Trakas said both sides are at fault. 'It was the ugliest I've seen in years,' he said." [Plain Dealer, 11/6/02]

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### **2001: Coughlin Was Named As A Replacement For Senator Roy Ray In The 27<sup>th</sup> District Of The Ohio State Senate**

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**A Committee Recommended That Coughlin Finish The Term Of A Senator Leaving The Ohio State Senate.** "An Ohio Senate screening committee recommended Tuesday that state Rep. Kevin Coughlin serve the final two years of Sen. Roy Ray's term. The recommendation of Coughlin, R-Cuyahoga Falls, virtually assures his election by the 20-member Senate GOP caucus on Feb. 6. Ray, also a Republican, quit the Senate Jan. 3 after 14 years representing the Akron area. He joined Cleveland State University as a vice president." [Associated Press State & Local Wire, 1/23/01]

**Coughlin Was Appointed To Finish The Term Of A Senator Who Left The Ohio State Senate.** "Two weeks ago, Kevin Coughlin started his day as a House lawmaker and ended it as an Ohio senator. The Cuyahoga Falls Republican, elected to his third House term last year, was appointed to fill the seat of Sen. Roy Ray, a fellow Republican who joined Cleveland State University as a vice president. Ray had two years remaining before he would have been forced out by term limits. If Coughlin wins re-election to two additional four-year terms in the Senate, he is guaranteed at least 10 additional years in the Legislature." [Associated Press State & Local Wire, 2/16/01]

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### **1997-2001: Coughlin Was A State Representative In The Ohio House Of Representatives**

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**Coughlin Was A State Representative In The Ohio House Of Representatives.** According to Coughlin's LinkedIn, he was a State Representative in the Ohio House of Representatives from 1997 to 2001. [Kevin Coughlin, LinkedIn, accessed [10/10/23](#)]



Kevin Coughlin  
President, Lexington Companies

**State Representative**  
Ohio House of Representatives  
Jan 1997 - Feb 2001 · 4 yrs 2 mos  
Columbus, Ohio Area

Represented 115,000 constituents, made laws and created budget for the State of Ohio.

Committees served: Finance and Appropriations; Chairman - Higher Education Subcommittee; Public Utilities; Commerce and Labor; Chairman - Economic Development & Small Business; Rules & Reference; Ohio Arts Council.

[Kevin Coughlin, LinkedIn, accessed [10/10/23](#)]

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### **2000: Coughlin Ran For Reelection For The Ohio House Of Representatives In District 46**

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**Coughlin Ran For Reelection For The Ohio House Of Representatives In District 46.** "The two major-party candidates present a clear contrast to voters in Ohio's 46th House District, which covers northeastern Summit County. Republican incumbent Kevin Coughlin, 30, of Cuyahoga Falls, can point to considerable success in passing legislation during his four years at the Statehouse. He has good ideas on using Ohio's institutions of higher education to attract and grow high-tech businesses." [Plain Dealer, 10/14/00]

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### **1998: Coughlin Ran For Reelection For The Ohio House Of Representatives In District 46**

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**Coughlin Ran For Reelection For The Ohio House Of Representatives In District 46.** “S. David Worhatch has notified the Summit County Democratic Party that he is interested in replacing Meghan L. Coughlin on the Nov. 3 ballot. Coughlin, the daughter of Stow Mayor Donald Coughlin, dropped out of the race because she said she wanted to return to college. Meghan Coughlin's replacement will be chosen by the county party's Central Committee by Aug. 19. The new candidate will face incumbent Kevin Coughlin, a Republican, in the general election. The 46th District includes Hudson, Cuyahoga Falls, Stow and Silver Lake.” [Plain Dealer, 7/21/98]

**1996: Coughlin Ran For The Ohio House Of Representatives In District 46, And Won**

**Coughlin Ran For The Ohio House Of Representatives In District 46.** “The three other candidates in the GOP race are Kevin Coughlin, Ken Lahn and Todd D. Rufe. [...] Coughlin is a first-time candidate for public office, calling himself a ‘mainstream Republican.’ As such, he said, ‘I’m very concerned about single-issue candidates. I want to talk about a variety of issues facing us today.’ Among other things, he says, he and others in a new wave of politicians will reject business-as-usual politics in which lawmakers are ‘beholden to the bosses in Columbus.’” [Plain Dealer, 3/13/96]

**Coughlin Won The Republican Primary.** “When longtime Democratic State Rep. Wayne Jones of Cuyahoga Falls decided not to seek re-election this year, it set off a scramble in the Republican primary to gain the 46th District House seat. The winner in the four-way GOP contest was the youngest candidate, Kevin Coughlin. Coughlin, 26, an aggressive campaigner who refers to himself as a ‘mainstream Republican,’ faces John Schmidt, a Democrat who has built strong name recognition during his years on the Cuyahoga Falls City Council, where he once served as council president.” [Plain Dealer, 10/18/96]

**Coughlin Was Student Body President At Bowling Green State University**

**Coughlin Was Student Body President At Bowling Green State University.** “Although he is venturing into state politics for the first time, Coughlin boasts of a singular political honor as a Bowling Green State University student: He was elected student body president as a freshman – ‘the only person ever to do that.’ He also was a student representative on the Bowling Green board of trustees.” [Plain Dealer, 3/13/96]

**Personal Political History**

**Personal Political Donations**

**Coughlin Has Given \$4,700 To Federal Political Candidates**

According to the Federal Election Commission, Coughlin has given \$4,700 to federal political candidates.

Kevin Coughlin Political Giving History - Federal			
Date	Candidate (Office Sought) or Committee	Party	Amount
10/31/22	MADISON FOR CONGRESS	R	\$1,000
10/31/22	JD VANCE FOR SENATE INC.	R	\$1,000
8/8/15	JEB 2016, INC.	R	\$2,700
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,700</b>

[FEC, Individual Contribution Search, accessed [11/7/23](#)]

**2017-2023: Coughlin Gave \$3,550 To State-Level Political Candidates**

According to the Ohio Secretary of State, Coughlin has given \$3,550 to state-level candidates from January 2017 to



November 2023.

<b>Kevin Coughlin Political Giving History – Ohio</b>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>Kevin Coughlin Political Giving History</b>	<b>Party</b>	<b>Amount</b>
10/20/22	SUMMIT COUNTY REPUBLICAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE STATE CANDIDATE FUND	R	\$3,000
10/13/22	CIERRA LYNCH SHEHORN FOR OHIO	Nonpartisan	\$250
9/18/21	COMMITTEE TO ELECT BILL ROEMER	R	\$50
9/12/18	FRIENDS OF JONATHAN DEVER	R	\$250
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,550</b>

[Secretary of State, accessed [11/7/23](#)]

*NOTE: The Ohio Secretary of State only has searchable campaign finance data beginning in 2017. In order to access data prior to 2017, the [File Transfer Page](#) needs to be used.*