

CCDP Weekly News Digest August 1, 2022

NC Voting Rights Expanded for Felons Not Currently Incarcerated

As of July 27, 2022, any felon not currently incarcerated for a felony is eligible to register to vote! Under an [April 26, 2022 North Carolina Court of Appeals decision](#), all previous restrictions related to parole, probation, post-release supervision or outstanding monetary obligations have been lifted. This court ruling is the largest expansion of voting rights in NC since the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

THIS MEANS: Voters who are not in jail or prison for a felony may register to vote today.

If you have any questions about your eligibility to vote, call the NCDP at **1-833-VOTE-4-NC** (863-3462). The NCDP Voter Protection team is here to help!

More info: <https://www.ncsbe.gov/registering/who-can-register/registering-person-criminal-justice-system>

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The Nov. 8 Election is Less Than 100 Days Away! Key Dates and Info

Deadline to Register to Vote

Voters may register to vote [online](#), [by mail](#), or [in person](#) at several public offices or during the early voting period.

If you are planning to vote in person on election day, be sure to register to vote by October 14, 2022.

Early Voting

For the general election, early voting will take place from October 20 through November 5, 2022. You may register to vote and cast your ballot at [any early voting location in your county](#) same day.

Vote By Mail

Any voter may vote absentee by mail. Be sure to request your ballot well before the deadline of November 1, 2022, and be sure to send it in before the deadline of election day November 8, 2022. You can return any absentee ballot in 2 ways:

In person to your County Board of Elections or to any early voting site in your County. If sending through the mail, be sure to request a postmark from your local post office.

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Events

Wednesdays, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Virtual Phone Bank for Robert Reives

Join us for a virtual phone bank to re-elect House Democratic Caucus Leader Robert Reives!

This phone bank will be conducted via Zoom, and training will be provided to new callers at the start of the shift. We can't wait to see you there!

Sign up at: <https://www.mobilize.us/ncdems/event/479210/>

Saturday, August 6, 9 – 11:30 a.m.

Hadley Cavass for Robert Reives

Come out and join us to talk to voters in Chatham County! We will first meet at a park to distribute literature and lists before breaking off into groups.

Don't forget to wear comfy shoes and bring lots of water! We are looking forward to seeing everyone!

Walk lists will be in MiniVAN for this shift, but paper lists will also be available for those who need them.

Sign up at: <https://www.mobilize.us/ncdems/event/481952/>

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News from the North Carolina Democratic Party

ICYMI: Budd "Off the Rails" With "Extreme Positions" That "North Carolinians Don't Like"

A new editorial highlights Congressman Budd's "off the rails" record of voting against North Carolinians' interests. Last week, Budd opposed bipartisan legislation to protect North Carolinians' freedom to marry and access contraception.

Triad City Beat: EDITORIAL: Ted Budd makes Thom Tillis looks like AOC

- Rep. [Ted Budd](#) is off the rails.
- I mean, the guy is looking to upgrade from his Congressional post to one of North Carolina's Senate seats. He's already won the primary — in no small part because of [Donald Trump's full-throated endorsement](#). But it's like he didn't read the playbook on how to win a statewide election: Use the primary to appeal to your base, and then tack towards center to win over voters in the general election.
- Remember, he's got to beat former NC Supreme Court Justice Cheri Beasley, who has [outraised him by almost \\$10 million](#) through June. And despite his most sincere hopes and wishes, this is a purple state where registered Democrats still outnumber registered Republicans by a few hundred thousand and independents [outnumber them both](#).
- But Budd, who rose to prominence in North Carolina by posting obnoxious billboards for his gun shop and then winning a crowded primary in a stacked district for his Congressional seat, has been leaning even harder into extreme positions that, simply put, North Carolinians do not like.
- More than half of us want to keep or expand current abortion access in the state, yet Budd supports a near-total abortion ban, aligning with about [10 percent of the county](#). On July 15, he [voted against a bill](#) that would protect the freedom to travel for an abortion, part of a run of recent votes that run to the extreme.
- The next day he [voted against marriage equality](#), which has never been more popular in this country — [71 percent approve](#).
- On July 21, he [voted against](#) Rep. Kathy Manning's [Right to Contraception Act](#), which ensures Americans' right to birth control, a position that [96 percent of us](#) sign with.
- Last year [Budd went against the infrastructure bill](#), which was supported by Tillis and also Sen. Richard Burr, for whose seat Budd is competing.
- This year, Tillis supported a bipartisan gun-safety compromise; Budd [went against](#) the House version of the bill, though [68 percent](#) of Americans supported it. Tillis has also [expressed support](#) for marriage equality.
- And let's not forget how he got that Trump endorsement: By [voting against](#) impeachment, [twice](#), and by voting to [overturn the results](#) of the 2020 presidential election.

Trump Calls Out Budd For Weak Campaign As His Lackluster Campaign "Borders On Silence"

Once again members of U.S. Senate candidate Ted Budd's own party are calling out his lackluster campaign. In a [statement](#) yesterday, former President Trump called out Budd's weak campaign and dismal poll numbers before Trump endorsed him.



Likewise, with my Endorsement, J.D. Vance came from low in the polls to the front of the pack in Ohio. Dr. Oz was also losing substantially, but went up like a rocketship once he was Endorsed by me. Ted Budd went from 31% to almost 60%, beating a former Governor by a record amount. Blake Masters in Arizona, was in third place, but because I Endorsed him, he is now leading by big numbers. Likewise, Karl

- When asked in a post-primary interview if he could've won without the millions of dollars in outside spending and Trump's endorsement, Budd himself even [refused to deny](#) that was the case. In recent weeks, political commentators are noting that he's running a "quiet" campaign that "[borders on silence](#)" and is not [looking for the middle ground](#)" even in a purple state like North Carolina. Instead relying on a "[big boost](#)" from out-of-state special interests and "[super PAC donations from groups such as Club for Growth](#)."
- "Trump is confirming what we've known all along — Congressman Budd is a weak candidate struggling to build a statewide coalition needed to inspire voters and win in North Carolina," said NCDP spokesperson Kate Frauenfelder. "His extreme positions and loyalty to the corporate interests that fund his campaign over doing what's best for North Carolina are disqualifying."

NEW REPORT: Biden Actions Helping to Lower Gas Prices

As President Biden took effective steps to help lower gas prices, North Carolina Republicans in the House voted against measures that would help lower costs at the pump

A [new analysis from the Department of Treasury](#) showed that gas prices across the country have been declining thanks in part to President Biden's actions. Specifically, the report's analysis suggests "that President Biden's historic [Strategic Petroleum Reserve] release, in coordination with [International Energy Administration] partners, lowered the price of gasoline by 17 cents to 42 cents per gallon, with an alternate approach suggesting a point estimate of 36 cents per gallon." As of July 26, gas prices have been declining for six straight weeks and the cost of gas has decreased by an average of about 70 cents from the most recent year, saving many families with two cars approximately \$75 a month.

The president's efforts stand in stark contrast with North Carolina Republicans who have repeatedly voted against measures that would help lower gas prices and help combat inflation. In just the past few months, North Carolina Republicans in the U.S. House of Representatives voted against the Lower Food & Fuel Costs Act and against a bill that would help prevent oil and gas companies from price gouging.

"This analysis illustrates how the decisive action President Biden has taken to help lower fuel costs is working — and North Carolinians are saving money in large part because of it — no thanks to North Carolina Republicans in Congress who have tried to block Democrats' attempts to help further cut costs at the pump," said NCDP spokesperson Ellie Dougherty.

President Biden and the Department of Energy also announced the sale of an additional 20 million barrels of oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to continue helping lower gas costs, building on his previous actions, which include:

- Releasing a million barrels of oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve each day for six months, a historic amount and;
- Directing the FTC to crack down on oil companies taking advantage of consumers through practices like price gouging.

Charlotte Observer Editorial Board: Budd in Denial on Jan. 6

Congressman Budd [voted to overturn](#) the election results, called insurrectionists "[just patriots standing up](#)," and consistently sided with former President Trump instead of the truth and the will of American voters. Now, the [Charlotte Observer editorial board](#) is slamming him for his "[barnacle](#)"-like loyalty to Trump, political "[deflections and distractions](#)" that have "[landed flat](#)," and continued "[struggle to acknowledge Joe Biden's victory](#)."

Read more:

The Charlotte Observer: Look! Ted Budd wants the 'full truth about what went wrong last year.' Oh, wait.

- Ted Budd has never really seemed to take the Jan. 6 insurrection seriously.
- He clings to Donald Trump like a barnacle, still struggles to acknowledge Joe Biden's victory and once said the attack at the U.S. Capitol was "just patriots standing up."
- Nor does Budd seem willing to take accountability for his own actions — which include echoing Trump's lies about the 2020 election and being one of 147 Republicans who voted against certifying the election results.
- As the case against Trump builds, his allies seem increasingly desperate to come up with deflections and distractions. This feels like just another example — and it landed flat.

ICYMI: NCDP Kicks Off "Too Extreme GOP" Tour in Greenville

- Today, the North Carolina Democratic Party kicked off its "Too Extreme GOP" Tour with State Senator and NC-01 congressional candidate Don Davis, Pitt County Democratic Party Chair Charles McLawhorn, Jr. and Commissioner Ann Floyd Huggins.
- The tour is part of a national "Too Extreme GOP" push by the Democratic National Committee (DNC) ahead of July 31st — which marks 100 days out from Election Day — to highlight the contrast between Republicans in North Carolina and across the country's extreme agenda of cutting Americans' Medicare and Social Security benefits and Democrats' agenda of lowering costs and protecting freedoms for hardworking people. Congressman Ted Budd has also said he "[agreed with the major points](#)" of Republicans' extreme agenda.
- The statewide tour will continue throughout August with stops in Asheville, Charlotte, Greensboro and Raleigh.

[Click here for a video of the event.](#)

- "We are now, as of Sunday, just 100 days away from a critical election. I'm going to ask those behind me who have come today as ordinary citizens — do you believe it's extreme to cut Social Security? Do you believe it's too extreme to cut Medicare? Do you believe it's too extreme to make it difficult to vote? Do you believe it's too extreme to become so involved in personal conversations between a woman, her doctor and whoever she seeks as a spiritual advisor? It's simple, we believe some are going entirely too far, including Sandy Smith. I was born and raised here, and I will fight day in and day out for Eastern North Carolina," said State Senator and NC-01 congressional candidate Don Davis.
- "In our state's U.S. Senate race, Congressman Ted Budd has not agreed with the major points of Republicans' extreme agenda, including raising taxes on nearly 40 percent of North Carolinians. In North Carolina's First Congressional District, running against Don Davis this November is MAGA Republican Sandy Smith, a far-right extremist who has been accused of a pattern of domestic violence toward her family. In November, it's more important than ever that we roll up our sleeves to elect leaders like Cheri Beasley to the U.S. Senate and Don Davis to Congress," said Pitt County Democratic Party Chair Charles McLawhorn, Jr.
- "In North Carolina, over two million seniors rely on the Medicare benefits that they spent their lives paying into and over 1.5 million seniors rely on Social Security. Despite these numbers, Republicans are pushing an extreme agenda that includes sunseting Medicare and Social Security if they gain back control of Congress in November. GOP U.S. Senate candidate Ted Budd has said he 'agreed with the major points' of his plan. Sandy Smith has embraced extremist views, including gambling with essential programs like Social Security. That's why it's so important that we do everything within our power to elect Cheri Beasley to the U.S. Senate and Don Davis to Congress this November," said Commissioner Ann Floyd Huggins.

KEY VOTE ALERT: Budd Opposes Bill to Strengthen the Economy & Hold China Accountable

- In response to Congressman Budd's vote today against a bipartisan bill to increase domestic semiconductor chip manufacturing, North Carolina Democratic Party spokesperson Kate Frauenfelder released the following statement:
- "Ted Budd picked China over lowering costs for North Carolina families, strengthening supply chains, creating good-paying jobs, and ensuring America can out-compete the global economy. It's clear North Carolinians can't trust Budd to put partisanship aside and do the right thing for his constituents, which is why voters will unite against him this November."
- Budd previously [voted against](#) the America COMPETES Act that would strengthen supply chains, hold China accountable, and ensure North Carolina workers, farmers, and manufacturers have the necessary tools to compete in the global economy.

In Greenville, NCDP Slams Budd, Smith as "Too Extreme"

- Yesterday, the North Carolina Democratic Party (NCDP) kicked off its "Too Extreme GOP" Tour in Greenville slamming Ted Budd, Sandy Smith and the North Carolina Republican Party for their extreme agenda.
- Under Republicans' extreme plan, over four million North Carolinians' [Social Security](#) and [Medicare](#) benefits could be put at risk. Tax hikes for [nearly 40 percent](#) of North Carolinians could be imposed.
- Throughout August, NCDP will continue to hit the road with statewide tour stops in Asheville, Charlotte, Greensboro and Raleigh.

What Eastern North Carolinians are saying about the event:

- [The Daily Reflector: U.S. House 4 candidate calls opponent "too extreme"](#)
A state senator and candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives said he believes some Republicans have "gone entirely too far" and that his opponent fits into that mold.
- [Sen. Don Davis, who represents Greene and Pitt counties in the state Senate District 5, spoke alongside Pitt County Democrats at the North Carolina Democratic Party's Too Extreme GOP Tour, which kicked off at Greenville's Town Common Thursday.](#)
- [... The state Democrats' "Too Extreme" tour is part of a nationwide move by Republicans as Sunday marks 100 days out from the general election. The tour will continue through August in Charlotte, Asheville, Greensboro and Raleigh.](#)
- [Ahead of the 100 days until Election Day mark, North Carolina Democrats are joining Democrats across the country to kick off a "Too Extreme GOP" statewide tour to call out Republicans for their dangerous agenda of cutting Social Security and Medicare for over four million North Carolinians, rolling back our fundamental freedoms, and opposing legislation that could cut costs for families," said Ellie Dougherty, North Carolina Democratic Party spokesperson.](#)
- ["While Democrats remain laser-focused on lowering costs and protecting freedoms for hardworking North Carolinians, Republicans like Ted Budd are too extreme for our state."](#)

- [WITN: State senator and District One candidate Don Davis in Greenville for NC Democratic Party tour](#)
- [WITN: Don Davis Speaking for "Too Extreme GOP" Tour](#)
- [WITN: NC Democratic Party to hold 'Too Extreme GOP' event in Greenville](#)

Basket Of Chips Delivered to Budd's District Office Following His Vote Against CHIPS Act

- This morning, local Democrats delivered a basket of potato chips to Congressman Budd's Advance district office after he voted against the Chips and Science Act the day prior, bipartisan legislation that would increase domestic manufacturing of semiconductor chips, lowering costs, creating jobs, and holding China accountable.
- "Congressman Budd's vote against the CHIPS Act is leaving North Carolinians feeling ruffled, and it's clearer than ever that he can't deliver for his constituents when it's crunch time," said NCDP spokesperson Kate Frauenfelder.

- The chips were delivered with a note that read: "Welcome back from Washington! No thanks to you, U.S. manufacturing will be stronger than ever. Hope you enjoy these chips while the rest of North Carolina gets to enjoy lower costs from increased microchip production."

Bad News Budd: Media Coverage Highlight "Silent," "Off the Rails" Budd Campaign

This week, Congressman Budd's U.S. Senate campaign garnered even more bad media coverage about his "silent" campaign, "[off the rails](#)" voting record, and political "[deflections and distractions](#)" around the Capitol insurrection.

Read more:

NC Policy Watch: Beasley vs. Budd: With 12 weeks to go, Democratic Senate candidate finds surprising momentum

- There's a noticeable difference, he added, in the way the two campaigns have been operating since the May 17 primary. "Ted Budd has run a quiet campaign. It's almost bordering on silence," he said.
- What Budd is not doing is looking for a middle ground on hard core GOP social issues. Earlier this month, he voted against the Right to Contraception Act, a bill that would protect same-sex and interracial marriages, and a bill to codify Roe v. Wade.

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- He clings to Donald Trump like a barnacle, still struggles to acknowledge Joe Biden's victory and once said the attack at the U.S. Capitol was "just patriots standing up."
- Nor does Budd seem willing to take accountability for his own actions — which include echoing Trump's lies about the 2020 election and being one of 147 Republicans who voted against certifying the election results.
- As the case against Trump builds, his allies seem increasingly desperate to come up with deflections and distractions. This feels like just another example — and it landed flat.

One Month After Dobbs Decision, Supreme Court Struck Down Roe v. Wade Rolling back women's constitutional freedom across the country. In North Carolina, Congressman Ted Budd's no exceptions stance has already mobilized voters across the state against him.

- "Congressman Budd will support a national abortion ban with no exceptions for rape, incest, or to save the mother's life, and voters are taking note," said NCDP spokesperson Kate Frauenfelder. "His and record attacking women's access to abortion and taking away our fundamental freedoms is so far out of the mainstream — and that is exactly why voters will come out in force to reject him this November."
- Read more about how the SCOTUS decision has raised the stakes in the 2022 midterm elections:
- [Charlotte Observer: Loudly and clearly: How Supreme Court's abortion ruling could affect NC Senate race](#) — "At a news conference Friday in Raleigh, Democratic nominee Cheri Beasley, the former N.C. Supreme Court chief justice, said the ruling has brought the country to a turning point. One that she hoped would energize Democratic voters. Her Republican competitor, U.S. Rep. Ted Budd, issued a statement of his own, calling the decision 'a victory for the millions of unborn children who may now realize the most fundamental of all human rights, the right to life.'"
- [The Hill: How the end of Roe v. Wade could impact North Carolina's Senate race](#) — "Rep. Ted Budd, the Republican nominee for Senate, praised the court's decision Friday as a 'historic victory.' He also signed the amicus brief urging the courts to review and overturn Roe v. Wade and has praised the 'creativity' of a Texas law that bans abortion at six weeks and empowers private citizens to enforce the law. Budd has called the Texas Heartbeat Act a 'monumental step forward in the movement to protect unborn life.' Higher Democratic turnout due to interest in abortion rights could help Senate Democratic candidate Cheri Beasley."
- [WRAL: NC Senate candidates emphasize abortion differences](#)
- [ABC11: North Carolina Democrats Say Reproductive Rights are on the Line](#)
- [Queen City News: North Carolina Democrats Are Pushing Voters to Cast Their Ballot as Reproductive Rights Are on the Line](#)
- [WXII 12: 'Defend Choice Week of Action' Stopped in Greensboro](#)

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News from Congressman David Price's Office

I am pleased to announce that I am now accepting applications for undergrads in my [Washington, D.C. office for the Fall 2022 semester](#), if you know an intergovernmental student who is interested in learning about government or the legislative process in our nation's capital, please encourage them to apply. The application deadline for the Fall 2022 Internship Program is Monday, August 19th.

This program will allow undergraduate students to learn first-hand about the workings of the House of Representatives and constituent services. Interns will have the opportunity to experience the legislative process, develop research skills, interact with constituents, and assist with administrative responsibilities.

Interested individuals can find the Internship Program description, eligibility requirements, and an application form, [on my website](#). Click [here](#) to download a PDF of the Internship Program description.

If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Aldridge, Operations Manager & Legislative Aide, at NC04Intern@mail.house.gov or by calling 202-225-1784.

Sincerely,
David Price

Sincerely


David Price
Member of Congress

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News from Neighbors on Call

Voting Rights

- On July 11 a federal judge blocked North Carolina laws that would have limited who can help request, fill out, and return absentee ballots for people with disabilities. U.S. District Judge Terrence Boyle said that the restrictions imposed by the law conflict with the Voting Rights Act, which allows people with disabilities to choose who assists them in voting. As a result of the ruling, people with disabilities in North Carolina may now choose anyone they like to assist them with their absentee ballots, not only a close relative or legal guardian.

Economic and Housing Policy

- This week the leaders of the NCGA established a Subcommittee on Hurricane Response and Recovery to investigate the response of the NC Office of Recovery and Resiliency (known as ReBuild NC) to Hurricane Matthew. ReBuild NC's slow response to the disaster has left many affected by the hurricane with inadequate housing, [as reported by NC Policy Watch](#). The committee's first meeting has not yet been announced.

Reproductive Rights

- The new NC state budget includes over \$3 billion for crisis pregnancy centers, places that counsel pregnant people against abortion and often provide misleading information about abortion. These funds are allocated to 11 crisis pregnancy centers across the state. Though he signed the budget, Governor Cooper said he was concerned about such funding.
- On Thursday NC Attorney General Josh Stein said he won't move to enforce North Carolina's 20-week abortion ban. The ban, passed by the NCGA decades ago, was previously not enforced due to a federal court injunction. Given the recent U.S. Supreme Court decision overturning Roe v. Wade, the law was expected to go into effect, but Stein said he would not follow the procedure that would likely remove the injunction. Republicans in the state legislature accused Stein of disregarding his oath of office and [pledged to do everything they could to make sure the law goes into effect](#).

Criminal Justice

- The NC Supreme Court recently decided a pair of cases governing de facto life sentences for juveniles, ruling that juveniles sentenced to consecutive life sentences with parole must be given the real possibility of parole. The decisions in State v. Kellihier and State v. Conner, which set a 40-year cap on the time a juvenile can be required to serve before the possibility of parole, align with a 2012 U.S. Supreme Court decision that mandatory life imprisonment for a juvenile is unconstitutional. Both cases were decided 4-3, with the 4 Democratic justices joining the majority opinion and the 3 Republican justices dissenting.

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News from the New North Carolina Project

Tuesday, August 9, 6 – 8 p.m.

#HousingUs - The State of Housing in NC Virtual Community Event

In partnership with the NC Housing Coalition, we will present an evening learning about the housing crisis in NC, how to take action and breaking out into groups to talk about what your communities need in regards to housing.

We will also be rolling out a housing platform that we've been working on for months with the NC Housing Coalition as well as input from state legislators, Ricky Hurtado and Terry Brown.

Please join us for an educational evening on August 9!

After you sign up, you'll receive an email with a link to get into the Zoom. Please check your spam box as well for this email!

Sign up here: https://www.mobilize.us/newncproject/event/485154/?followup_modal_context=newsletter×lot=3374965

Tuesday, August 23, 6:30 – 8 p.m.

Virtual Town Hall Judges! Judges! Judicial Forum

This event will be a panel discussing the importance of judicial races in North Carolina. We will take a deep dive into the impact of judges, their decisions and opinions, and the effect they have on our lives, rights, and freedoms.

After you sign up, you'll receive an email with a link to get into the Zoom. Please check your spam box as well for this email!

Sign up here: https://www.mobilize.us/newncproject/event/484847/?followup_modal_context=newsletter×lot=3373470

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Selected News and Opinion Stories of Note

[Chapelboro.com](#): NC Legislature Won't Hold Votes at Raleigh Return Next Week

[The Assembly NC.com](#): The Forest for the Trees

[BusinessNC.com](#): How \$3 Billion May Solve the State's Rural Broadband Dilemma

[NC Policywatch.com](#): NC Legislative Proposal Would Dramatically Overhaul How North Carolina Governs Its Public Schools

[NC Policywatch.com](#): Increased Algal Blooms in June Lead the State to Investigate Two Important NC Lakes

[Coastalreview.org](#): Supreme Court Ruling Will Not Stop NC's Required CO2 Cuts

[Coastalreview.org](#): NC, UK Sign Deal to Transition to Clean Energy Economy

[EENews.net](#): NC Pipeline Caused Largest U.S. Gasoline Spill, Records Say

[NCLCV.org](#): Alternative to Duke's Carbon Plan

[CNN.com](#): Fearing a Wipeout, Democrats Try to Unify Around a Simple Midterm Message: Republicans Are 'Extremists'

[Chapelboro.com](#): Chatham County Community Assessment Highlights Health Inequities, Priorities

[BusinessNC.com](#): NC Business Leaders Add Support for More School Spending

[Axios.com](#): NC Law At the Heart of Stein Lawsuit "May Be" Unconstitutional

[Twitter.com](#) (video): The Corporate Special Interests Sending Congressman Ted Budd on Life-Saving Trips Are Bankrolling His Campaign. It's Clear: This Budd's Not for You