

INVEST *to* ELECT

ILLINOIS

ITE RESEARCH REPORT

SUBJECT:

Bill Foster

REPORT CURRENT AS OF: 2/4/2022

AUTHOR: Gerri Kahnweiler

- INCUMBENT
- CHALLENGER
- OPEN SEAT

PRIMARY DATE: 6/28/2022

STATE OR DISTRICT: IL 11

CANDIDATE(S) BACKGROUND:

Bill Foster is a Ph.D scientist (the only Ph.D physicist in Congress!) and busissman. Prior to serving in Congress, Bill was a high-energy physicist and designer at FermiLab. He was a member of the team that discovered the Top Quark, the heaviest known form of matter. Bill entered politics in 2007 by winning the seat of the Former Speaker of the House Dennis Hastert. He was the first Democrat to win this seat in 60 years. Bill lost the seat in the 2010 Tea Party wave and retook the seat 2 years later. He has held the seat since 2013. Bill serves on the House Financial Services Committee, the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee and as the chairman of the Science Committee's Investigations and Oversight Subcommittee. In the wake of the pandemic, Bill was named to House Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus.

CANDIDATE CAMPAIGN FINANCES:

\$4.3 M as of 12/31/2022

OPPONENT(S) BACKGROUND:

R: Jerry Evans, Andrea Heeg, Catalina Lauf, Cassandra Miller, Dean Seppelfrick

Only Jerry Evans has a real campaign website. He is a graduate of Wheaton College and runs a large music school in the suburbs.

Catalina Lauf is 28, worked for Uber, the Bruce Rauner campaign and was appointed as an advisor to the US Dept of Commerce by President Trump. She ran in 2020 and came in 3rd in the IL-14 primary. She was chosen by Axiom Strategies, a now defunct group which tried to recruit young minority women for high profile elections.

OPPONENT CAMPAIGN FINANCES:

Catalina Lauf \$256,000 as of 12/21/2021 (she had \$1.1M starting the quarter and spent \$826,000)

I looked at her website and there is a landing page, but no content. She does have an Instagram campaign account.

STATE POLITICAL CLIMATE:

In the 2020 redistricting, Bill has lost 55% of his residents. The district is more rural and is a target for Republicans.

BIDEN +/- 2020

+23.5% (15 points)

POLITICAL REPORTS AND POLLS (e.g., Cook Political Report, FiveThirtyEight, Sabato's Crystal Ball)

Cook Political Report Likely Democratic

Larry J. Sabato's Crystal Ball Solid Democratic

Inside Elections Solid Democratic

SUPPORT:

YES

NO

TBD

NEWSLINKS:

<https://www.dailyherald.com/news/20220203/1-gop-challenger-outraising-foster-in-11th-district-race>

<https://mchenrycountyblog.com/2022/02/04/lauf020422/>

<https://mchenrycountyblog.com/2021/11/02/fosterpierce110221/>

<https://suburbanchicagoland.com/2021/09/27/foster-announces-federal-funding-for-programs-to-combat-youth-substance-use-in-naperville-and-aurora/>