



Juliana's Blueprint

Making Life More Affordable

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***Right now,
life is way
too
expensive.***

Donald Trump's tariffs and rampant corporate greed are skyrocketing prices on everything from food to health care to utilities, and our families are suffering as a result. Middle class Illinoisans shouldn't be forced to go without so that elected officials can line the pockets of their wealthy friends and corporate overlords.

But rising prices are just *one symptom of a broken system*. For too long, big corporations across every sector have operated virtually unchecked by Washington. And too often, the very politicians failing to hold corporate interests accountable are actually being rewarded by them. This system is failing Illinoisans. *Juliana is the only candidate in this race who is rejecting corporate PAC money*, because she believes that middle class Illinoisans should come before corporate special interests.

Illinoisans work hard, and Juliana believes they deserve a comfortable, dignified life where they can put food on the table without having to worry about making rent or skipping a dose of medication to afford it.

That's why as Lieutenant Governor, she's helped bring down costs and ensure workers are paid fairly for their work. Together with Governor Pritzker, Juliana helped eliminate the grocery tax, raise the minimum wage, relieve medical debt, and lower prescription drug prices.

***Putting
money back
in the
pockets of
hardworking
Illinoisans.***

That's the kind of work Juliana plans to bring to the federal level too. Making life more affordable is *one of Juliana's top priorities*, and her blueprint includes pathways to lowering costs on *housing, healthcare, and everyday prices*.

HOUSING

Corporations are buying up property, raising rents, driving up home prices, and creating a market where middle class Illinoisans are forced to compete with Wall Street to put a roof over their heads.

At the same time, Trump's tariffs are jacking up the cost of raw materials like lumber, tile, and copper as well as appliances and lighting fixtures. His administration is also rolling back fair housing rules and proposing massive cuts to housing assistance and infrastructure grant programs.

Illinoisans are already facing rising rents, fewer options, and weaker safeguards. Young people in Illinois don't know if home ownership will ever be within reach.. These moves could force families already living paycheck to paycheck to shoulder higher costs or risk losing their homes altogether. As a Senator, Juliana would fight to:

- Cut red tape and eliminate barriers to building and accessing affordable housing.
- Condition federal grants on increasing affordable housing.
- Create tax incentives to encourage the construction of starter homes below the median price point.
- Hold big banks and corporate entities that are displacing middle class families from the housing market accountable.
- Establish a tax penalty and roll back incentives for hedge funds purchasing single-family homes, funding downpayment assistance for first-time home buyers with the revenue.
- Bring a restorative justice lens to housing assistance by advocating for direct support to those impacted by redlining.
- Restrict the use of AI in rent setting and application screening.
- Crack down on banks, credit unions, and mortgage lenders that engage in discriminatory lending based on protected characteristics.

HEALTHCARE

Our healthcare system has been broken for decades. From access to a doctor to sky high insurance premiums, unpredictable costs and crippling medical debt – too many Illinoisans are facing barriers to the care they need. While Big Pharma and insurers profit, thousands of families are just one medical emergency away from bankruptcy.

10 years ago, Juliana saw this broken system up close 10 years ago, when she was serving as her mother's primary caretaker. Her own State Representative sided with Republicans to gut health care from seniors like her mom, and she decided to do something about it. She took on a well-funded incumbent, and she won.

With Trump in power, the system is only getting worse. Millions of vulnerable Americans will be stripped of their Medicaid coverage, vaccines are harder to get, funding for cancer research has been gutted; the list goes on. These attacks don't just impact the most vulnerable in our communities – they hurt everyone by undermining public health, overloading our emergency rooms, and raising premiums and wait times for everyone. As a Senator, Juliana would:

- Make healthcare available to all Americans via Medicare for All.
- Take on Health and Human Services Secretary RFK Jr. and other anti-sciences voices in the Trump Administration.
- Protect Medicare and Medicaid from Trump's funding cuts.
- Expand Medicare to cover long-term homecare services, vision, and hearing to help seniors and people with disabilities live independently.
- Expand Medicare negotiations with drug companies to lower the cost of prescription drugs.
- Expand parity laws to cover mental and behavioral health treatments the same way as other physical health services.
- Bring Illinois' Birth Equity Initiative to the federal level to reduce maternal mortality and enhance birth equity nationwide.
- Codify access to the full scope of reproductive health care into federal law, including abortion, IVF, contraception, and medication abortion.
- Restore funding to Alzheimer's Disease and Cancer Research Centers cut by the Trump Administration.

FAMILIES' EXPENSES

Donald Trump told the American people he would bring down prices “on day one,” but his reckless tariffs are raising prices on consumer goods and making it harder for families at a time when so many are already struggling to afford groceries, pay for childcare, and keep the lights on.

As Lieutenant Governor, Juliana has prioritized bringing down costs on everyday purchases and passing policies to help put more money back in the pockets of hardworking Illinoisans.

As Senator, she would work to build on that work at the federal level by:

- Ending Trump’s trade war and tax on the middle class.
- Expanding nutrition assistance in schools and supporting the agriculture industry by reinstating and increasing funding for a federal Farms to School Meals Program that supports partnerships between local farmers and school districts.
- Helping families and farmers by supporting reimbursements for farmers and food banks for the harvesting, packaging, and transportation of surplus crops to ensure fresh, local food reaches families in need.
- Creating a permanent grant program for state and tribal governments to source foods for food banks and hunger relief programs from local producers.
- Reducing transportation costs by funding universal low-cost fare cards for students, seniors, people with disabilities, and low-income workers.
- Expanding Child Care and Development Block Grant to subsidize child care costs for additional families.
- Expanding the Child Tax Credit.

AN ECONOMY FOR WORKING PEOPLE

The Trump administration has rigged the economy to work for the wealthiest – handing out tax cuts to corporations and the ultra-wealthy on the backs of everyday people.

Juliana believes in building an economy that puts people first – one that works for working and middle class Illinoisans. That starts with making sure corporations and the ultra-wealthy pay their fair share and putting money back in the pockets of the Illinoisans by making sure workers are paid a livable wage.

As Senator, Juliana would support:

- Raising the federal minimum wage to \$25 an hour.
- Passing a tax cut for the middle class, paid for with a tax increase on those making more than a million dollars a year.
- Ensuring corporations are paying their fair share in taxes.
- Capping credit card interest rates to stop credit card companies and big banks from trapping Americans in a never-ending cycle of debt.
- Expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit to help combat poverty, especially child poverty.

Learn more about Juliana's campaign at julianastratton.com

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