

U.S. Senate Debate on October 4th, 2010

I'm Eric Deaton and I represent the Constitution Party in the U.S. Senate race. It is a shame that I've fully complied with federal and state election laws, yet was shut out of these debates by the parties that have a stranglehold on our nation. I personally do not look to the two parties that caused all of our problems over the past 100 years to fix them. It's time for Americans to wake up and see that our enemy is this two party system that is destroying the very fiber of our nation through their incremental socialism. We all deserve more choices on the ballot, but also the opportunity to get to know them before we vote. I have responded to the same questions asked in the debate so that you will know where I stand on these issues. Please investigate my positions and give me a fair chance to earn your votes.

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Q1 (Fisher) Free trade has increased Ohio exports. Wouldn't a protective trade policy reduce Ohio's dominance as an export state?

Deaton response: I only want a protective trade policy to the degree that it creates a level and fair playing field with each individual trading partner. This policy would have a sliding scale of tariffs to protect our native industries and the jobs they provide, as each trading partner works on their end to come up to the standard of living that we have. Trading at a one for one equal status with countries that are nowhere near our standard of living will drag us down to their level instead.

We are the most innovative country in the world and have provided the products to the world that allows old Mother Earth to be able to support almost 10 billion people. We have always been willing to share our innovative products with the world through trade and that is why they all want access to our markets. It is not just about selling to the largest economy in the world, for many countries it's about buying our exported technology and durable goods also.

Q2 (Portman) Certain sectors and communities have lost jobs due to free trade so what responsibility does the federal government have to assist those that have lost jobs due to free trade policies?

Deaton response: Portman claims he sued China over trade issues, which is exactly what a lawyer would be expected to say. Suing everybody won't fix the fact that these free trade agreements were not fair to begin with due to them not leveling the playing field. If we had constructed the trade agreements properly in the first place, there would be no need to sue. We would just adjust the tariff level to offset the rules breaking of the trading partner that isn't competing fairly to take away their unfair advantage.

We need to create a business environment in our country with less regulation and much lower taxes to motivate companies to bring their products to market here. We have the

natural resources, energy, water and skilled work force required to compete and need only a suitable business environment to create the jobs of the future. We should have an unemployment system that motivates people to work and get training for other fields after an extended period instead of just remaining out of the workforce.

Q3 (Fisher) Ohio lost 400,000 jobs so why should Ohioans send you to the U.S. Senate?

Deaton response: I will work in the senate to renegotiate the free trade agreements into fair trade agreements that force our trading companions to protect the environment, pay their employees above slave labor wages and stop subsidizing their own industries illegally. With a fair and level playing field, the nations we trade with can raise their standard of living to match ours instead of us lowering ours to meet theirs. Several past Ohio governors and state legislators have made our state a bad place to do business due to increase regulatory requirements and high taxes. Ohio has not only lost jobs due to these free trade agreements, but it also lost jobs to other states. This can be blamed on the republicans and the democrats of Ohio alike. It is certainly not the fault of the Constitution Party.

Q4 (Portman) Budgets when you were in congress gave us more spending before but now you want less spending. What will you cut and why should you have any credibility?

Deaton response: Mr. Portman mentions his balanced budget but not the fact that it used the social security surplus. He didn't put his foot down and scream loud enough about the deficit spending just like George Voinovich also didn't. If your claim to fame is that you are a debt hawk I would expect to see you complaining in the newspapers, on television and in congress a whole lot more about these ridiculous spending levels. Sticking to one's principles and convictions requires that you stand up and be heard loudly.

I am advocating the elimination of several programs that are expensive and not constitutionally authorized such as the Department of Education, Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Energy. I also see the need for less troops being deployed internationally and for across the board budget cuts to balance the budget. Mr. Fisher's response of wanting to raise taxes on the rich to offset the deficit will only hinder the economy.

Q5 (Fisher) – Why aren't the tax cuts good for all of us since you've said the rich should see their taxes go up?

Deaton response: Lee says the rich should pay more because they have more disposable income and aren't hurting like the middle class. These are the investors and growth drivers in any economy and when they are taxed more it hinders their desire to invest more. With so many risks of going into business now days, why would somebody take all those risk of losing their money if they are in such high tax brackets that they don't stand to gain anything?

The fact is that tax cuts put more money in the citizen's pockets and they know how to best spend this money. This increases economic activity to the point that the federal

revenues ultimately go up, even with the lower tax rates. These tax cuts or extension of existing cuts should be across the board.

If the republicans had passed these permanently in the first place we'd have one less thing for the two parties to be bickering about now and a much more stable business environment. They should have stuck to the principles of their own platform and cut taxes permanently.

Q6 (Portman) – If elected, will you try to repeal the health care reform law and start over?

Deaton response: I agree with Mr. Portman that we should repeal this government controlled health plan and not just tinker with it as Mr. Fisher wants to do.

The American way should be the solution to our healthcare dilemma. This means govt. deregulation of the healthcare and insurance industries to allow for competition and increased efficiency all taking place in a capitalistic free market system. We should buy our health insurance directly the same way we purchase our home, auto and life policies. In this way we could purchase the plan that best fits our needs or simply pay out of pocket directly. This method puts health care under the individuals control and will work in a good economy with a growing jobs base. You must realize that all the issues are linked to the economy because that is where the wealth is built to pay for things. Tort reform and freedom of choice will also drive more competition and lower prices for all of us.

Q7 (Fisher) – Do you think SS can have long term viability benefits by changing the program as Boehner has suggested?

Deaton response: Social Security is not what it was meant to be anymore and is dying under a collapsing jobs base and raiding of its funds by congress. Neither party has been willing to offer fixes for the system since all solutions affect three large classes of voters and inhibit incumbents from being re-elected. We must raise the taxes paid in, lower the money paid out or raise the age of eligibility for the participants. All three solutions affect large pools of working citizens who vote and that makes it politically expedient to do nothing at all. We need to stop raiding the surpluses, although they are now gone anyway in this lousy economy the two big parties have given us. I suggest adjusting all three areas to stabilize the program in an attempt to meet our commitments and then constructing a way to phase out the program in the long run.

Q8 (Portman) – Terrorism: Should we withdraw troops from Afghanistan as President Obama plans to?

I agree with Rob that we shouldn't set arbitrary deadlines and broadcast our moves to the terrorist enemies of the world. I do support withdrawing the troops from Afghanistan right now. I find that their country has no viable economy and will therefore never have a viable government. Our troops are now stationed there more as peace keepers and nation builders than as soldiers. The enemy is small in numbers and too well hidden to find and eradicate them all. Our continued presence only breeds more terrorism there and around

the globe, so I think our focus should be on protecting our own nation directly. I believe we should tighten our border security and use our troops as needed to keep undocumented aliens and terrorist from entering our country. I can envision no "victory" in Afghanistan and this is not the fault of our troops or their commanders. We are simply dealing with a nation of warring tribes, with a poor economy and a penchant for fighting. We should leave them to their own self determination that we had when we wrote the Declaration of Independence. Let the Afghan people determine their own outcome. It will be much more economical to protect our nation with troops stationed stateside than it is to keep our men and women overseas.

Q9 (Fisher) – Lake Erie: How would you advocate for swift action from congress to keep Asian carp out of the great lakes?

Deaton response: I agree with both other candidates that these carp will most likely be devastating to the Great Lakes and especially Lake Erie, which holds the largest commercial and sport fishery. The federal government which regulates these interstate waterways needs to be doing more to keep them out and planning for the event that they get into the Great Lakes system. As we've seen with most invasive species, we can't stop the spread forever and will have to learn to deal with the introduction to ecosystems they shouldn't be in. I believe the shipping channel should be shut down until more effective electronic barriers are in place. Shutting down these shipping channels permanently and installing a freight transfer system also is a viable solution that can keep the freight moving and keep the Asian carp out.

Q10 (Portman) – Partisanship: Sherrod Brown is critical of Rob so how will you work with him?

Deaton: Both Rob and Lee looks forward to working across the aisle with the other side. I refuse to compromise my principles that the voter's expect me to stick to and will only work with fellow congress members on constitutionally authorized legislation. I will work with all members where there is common ground to promote good domestic and foreign policy as well as common sense budgets. I fully realize that neither of the major parties has provided good leadership for the nation when they went it alone or when they just compromised and worked in a bipartisan way. We must be statesmen to our nation and stick to the principles the founding fathers instilled into our nation. If we do that then we will all find we are working on the same team and getting the business of America done correctly and as a team.

Q11 (Fisher) – Does Ohio's economy need more federal stimulus money and what will pass congress with more republicans elected?

Deaton response: The stimulus bill was a failure for the nation and for Ohio. We lost more jobs and the jobs created are temporary in nature. We are now left with an even more crippling debt to be dealt with in our future. We would have been better off taking the hit in the pocketbook on the earnings side and lowering taxes to stimulate the economy rather than trying to spend our way out of it. The housing market and wall-

street bailout crisis happened because of people overspending and borrowing beyond their ability to repay the loans. Our federal government is at the same point, but continues to try to spend their way out of debt. This needs to stop now and the budget needs to be brought into balance.

Q12 (Portman) – You oppose cap and trade: What will you do to reduce our dependence on foreign oil and to improve the environment?

Deaton Response: I oppose cap and trade because it creates a derivative based trading system for carbon credits that is nothing more than a tax designed to transfer wealth from our nation to other countries around the globe. It doesn't put the same limits on other countries that are considered developing nations even though they are huge polluters of the environment like China.

We must reduce our dependence upon foreign energy and we need to do it with a multi-pronged approach. First we should ensure that we develop a plan to use our native energy resources in the near future to reduce this dependence. We need to consider all sources as viable until the new green energy technology and initiatives catch up. That means using clean coal technology, deploying more nuclear plants, and burning more natural gas. Where there is wind add wind turbines and where there is lots of sun, use solar panels. Let's use what we have now and then get out of the way of American industry to be innovative and build the technology of the future.

Q13 (Fisher) – What criteria will you use to judge a nominee for the Supreme Court?

Deaton response: I agree a little with both other candidates and feel a judicial nominee should have a good temperament, lots of experience and as a whole add to the diverse experience of the court. I agree with Rob that we should not seat judges with a history of legislating from the bench. Our court should believe in and understand the constitution and respect it for its original intent.

I did not support Justice Kagan's nomination due to her lack of experience or Justice Sotomayor's appointment due to a record of legislating from the bench. I think Justice Roberts was an excellent pick and that he is doing a great job as Chief Justice.

Q14 (Portman) – What is your view on financial reform of wall-street and would you repeal any of it?

Deaton response: I feel that reform was required, but do not agree with all of the content of the bill passed. I want to make as open a free market as our nation can handle and the less government control the better. Passing laws to set ground rules to protect our financial system can be a good thing, but creating new government agencies has been historically almost always a bad thing. I agree with Mr. Portman that the housing market caused the crash, but the financial reform bill didn't address this at all. I also think the Glass-Steagall Act would be a helpful tool in ensuring stability in the investment and banking markets.

I ask that you give me that fair chance too earn your votes and then vote for the best person on November 2nd. Thank you for your time. May God bless you, your family and may God bless America.