



To: Arts Action Fund Members

From: Americans for the Arts Action Fund

Date: August 2, 2018

Re: Mike Braun and the Arts, 2018 Candidate for Indiana U.S. Senate



Name: Mike Braun

Party: Republican

State: Indiana

Occupation: Member of the Indiana House of Representatives from the 63rd district (2014-2017).

Incumbent: No. Challenger to incumbent Sen. Joe Donnelly (D).

Born: March 24, 1954 (age 64) in Jasper, Indiana.

Previous Public Offices Held: N/A

Other Positions: Braun is the Founder and CEO of Meyer Distributing and owner of Meyer Logistics with the corporate headquarters located in Jasper, Indiana. Braun managed the companies for 20+ years.

Educational Background: Received his Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Wabash College and his Master of Business Administration from Harvard University.

Contact Information:

- Website: <https://www.mikebraunforindiana.com/>
- Campaign Email: info@mikebraunforindiana.com
- Headquarters Address: 505 Main Street Jasper, IN 47546
- Headquarters Phone: N/A

Social Media Platforms:

- Facebook: @mikebraunforindiana 25.2k followers
- Twitter: @braun4indiana 4.8k followers
- Instagram: N/A

2018 General Campaign Prediction:

- Toss Up (Source: [Cook Political Report](#))
- Mike Braun won the republican primary by 41.2% of the vote with 208,505 total votes (Source: [Politico](#))

Personal Arts Background: N/A

Notable Arts Quotes: N/A

Examples of Actions on the Arts: N/A

Arts Membership: N/A

Stance on Issues:

- **Creating Jobs for All Hoosiers:**
 - Government is not the driver of new job creation or economic prosperity. And too often it gets in the way with onerous regulations and sky-high taxes. President Trump's work to remove burdensome red tape and lower taxes for families and businesses are a start, but now is the time to double down on empowering the private sector and job creators. We need a tax code that is simple and fair (Source: [Mike Braun for Indiana](#)).

Information on Arts and the Economy in Indiana:

- In Indiana, arts and culture was a \$8.0 billion industry—equivalent to 2.4 percent of the state economy—in 2015. There were a total of 96,070 arts and culture industry jobs.¹
- A 2017 analysis of Dun & Bradstreet data found 9,647 businesses employed 51,084 people in Indiana involved in the creation or distribution of the arts—3.12 percent of all businesses and 1.50 percent of all employees.²

Sample Advocacy Questions on the Arts:

- Mr. Braun, what is your personal background and experience in the arts?
- What arts activities have you attended, participated in, or supported in the last year?
- Currently, the creative economy is an impressive \$730 billion industry, representing 4.2% of the nation's Gross Domestic Product. Would you support federal legislation to strengthen opportunities for artists, nonprofit arts organizations, and small businesses in the creative sector to fully access economic development programs?

¹Arts and cultural production are defined as those industries that produce arts and culture related commodities and generally follow the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS). Employment estimates for ACP-related industries are for "direct" employment. [Arts and Culture Production Satellite Account](#) (ACPSA), 2015; U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and National Endowment for the Arts, 2018.

²Findings count active U.S. businesses registered with Duns & Bradstreet in the following categories: museums and collections; performing arts; visual art/photography; film, radio, and television; design and publishing; schools and services. [Creative Industries: Business & Employment in the Arts](#), Americans for the Arts, 2017.

About ArtsVote2018:

- The mission of ArtsVote2018 is to advance the role of arts in the 2018 midterm elections by providing arts advocates, arts leaders, elected officials, and media with needed information to effectively advocate for the arts.