

**2008 GENERAL ELECTION – Vote November 4**



**Wisconsin – U.S. House District 8**

**Democratic-Incumbent**

**Republican-Challenger**

**Steve Kagen**

**Political experience:** U.S. Representative, 2007-present

**Background:** Medical Doctor, Assistant Clinical Professor, Teamster

**Family:** Married (Gayle) and has four children

**Web:** www.kagen4congress.com (campaign) and kagen.house.gov (official)

**Campaign Office:** 1-800-255-9355

**E-mail:** steve@kagen4congress.com



**John Gard**

**Political experience:** State Assemblyman 1987-present (Speaker of the Assembly since 2003)

**Background:** Former Legislative Aide

**Family:** Married (Cate) and has two children

**Web:** www.gardforcongress.com (campaign)

**Campaign Office:** 920-857-3068

**E-mail:** john@gardforcongress.com



<p>"Kagen, Nussbaum, and Wall all agreed that abortion should be legal, safe, and limited." (<i>EagleHerald</i>, 8/10/2006)</p> <p>Voted for legislation to ensure access to and funding for contraception; Voted to expand federal research to more embryonic stem cell lines in 2007.</p>	<p><b>Abortion &amp; Stem Cell Research</b></p>	<p>"John Gard describes his record on research and the culture of life as responsible and balanced. Gard is ... strongly pro-life."</p> <p>"I support adult stem cell and umbilical cord blood research where over 70 disease cures and or preventions have been discovered. There is tremendous common ground on this area where we should work together to promote ethical disease research."</p>
<p>"A successful energy plan must include these three elements: 1. Drill for new oil in America, with any such oil obtained from within our territorial waters and national lands being sold to American citizens first. The Oil for America Act guarantees we do just that; 2. Invest in every form of renewable energy, and provide tax incentives for wind, solar, geo-thermal, biomass, cellulosic and any other form of clean, home-grown energy; 3. Prevent any price manipulation, or unfair practices in the world's oil marketplace." (Campaign website)</p>	<p><b>Energy</b></p>	<p>"John Gard has offered a plan that will remove barriers to domestic energy production, allow us to drill for oil here in the U.S., make us less reliant on foreign nations, and lower the price at the pump. John supports tapping into the vast reserves of oil off our coastal plain. Approximately 85% of the Outer Continental Shelf areas in the Pacific Ocean, Atlantic Ocean, and Gulf Coast are off-limits to oil exploration." "John supports drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Reserve (ANWR)" (campaign website)</p>
<p>Did not support the referendum to amend the Wisconsin Constitution to protect traditional marriage and opposes doing this on a federal level.</p>	<p><b>Marriage</b></p>	<p>Assisted in the legislature's passage of the state marriage amendment and supports the effort to pass a Federal Marriage Amendment.</p>
<p>"We all understand we can't get something for nothing. What we really want is fair taxation, for this is the real principle that should guide our tax policy. I am working to ensure tax fairness, and will represent the best interests of all people in the 8th District. We also need to simplify our tax code and make certain everyone - and every corporation - pays their fair share." (Congressional website)</p>	<p><b>Taxes &amp; Spending</b></p>	<p>"Wisconsin families work hard for a living. They deserve to have more money in their checkbook. Government needs to learn to do more with less. John has cut income, sales and property taxes. In fact, the overall tax burden in Wisconsin is lower because of John's efforts in the Assembly." (campaign website) Has pledged to never ask for an earmark.</p>
<p>"Let's agree we all have the same goal: to support our troops before, during, and after being in harms way as we build a safer and more secure nation. Let's also understand the importance of what our military leaders have taught us: there is no military solution in Iraq, only a political one. We must, therefore, move our troops away from Iraqi backstreets, and back towards Al-Qaeda. Our involvement in the Iraqi religious civil war was unnecessary, and prevents our nation from solving every other problem we face." (campaign website)</p>	<p><b>War in Iraq</b></p>	<p>"While the incumbent and I largely agree on the need to provide for our veterans when they return from service, I strongly disagree with Congressman Kagen's belief that our troops in Iraq aren't responsible for the progress that has been made in that country. In fact, I would argue that our men and women in uniform are not just one of the reasons for the improvements in Iraq, they are the main reason." (Press release on campaign website)</p>

**The 8th Congressional District includes 14 counties in northeastern Wisconsin including the Green Bay area**

**Sources:** Issue positions are from campaign websites of candidates except as noted above; Project Vote Smart