

Questions and Answers: Ben Frasier and Linda Ketner

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Question | What is the most pressing issue facing this district, and how will you address it?

Ben Frasier | Education and energy, about equal. I believe we can solve the energy crisis by seeking nuclear energy, moving to sugar cane ethanol and having more drilling offshore. As for education, the federal government could put in more funds, but most of the responsibility is the state's.

Linda Ketner | Our economy is in serious trouble. The federal government wastes over \$375 billion a year and will continue down the same road if we allow those in congress to take us deeper into short-term thinking, waste and debt. We must make government accountable again; invest in 21st century economies and jobs and increase policy and oversight for consumer financial products.

Q. | What is your position on offshore oil and gas drilling?

Frasier | It should be done. I think it can be done in a way that would not harm the tourism economy.

Ketner | Our current representative has consistently proposed drilling off the coast of South Carolina. This is unacceptable, and not the answer. Instead, we should be an incubator for renewable energy technologies. Now is the time for energy independence and freedom from the political, military and polluting consequences of it.

We have to do something.

Q. | What is your plan for funding for I-73?

Frasier | More federal money, that's all we can do, in addition to state funds.

Ketner | I-73 is critically important for the safety and economy of Horry County. It will be my priority in congress to eliminate current roadblocks and make this a reality.