

ROUND TWO

Incumbent Republican Keith Rothfus faces off for the second time against Democrat Erin McClelland. Rothfus has a fundraising edge, with nearly \$1.5 million compared to McClelland's \$196,739. Polling has McClelland as a long shot to win, and Rothfus calls her a "symbol of [the] failed liberal status quo." McClelland has criticized Rothfus for a number of votes, including voting against Hurricane Sandy relief and the Violence Against Women Act. (COMPILED BY STEPHEN CARUSO)



CANDIDATE

ERIN MCCLELLAND

KEITH ROTHFUS

BIOGRAPHY	<p>A lifelong resident of the Alle-Kiski Valley, McClelland has worked as a behavioral-health researcher, policy creator and entrepreneur in addiction treatment. Has never held elected office.</p>	<p>After practicing business law, Rothfus ran and lost a tight race challenging Jason Altmire in Pennsylvania's 4th District before the 2010 redistricting. Has focused on reforming government, pushing for pay-for-performance for members of Congress and for term limits.</p>
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ENERGY	<p>Supports the RECLAIM act, a bipartisan bill that funds clean-up and revitalization of former industrial sites, including \$340 million for Western Pennsylvania. Has said she would help out-of-work coal miners by getting them into new trades.</p>	<p>Introduced legislation to reduce environmental regulations on burning coal refuse, to produce cheap energy, more jobs and remove pollution. "The coal-refuse industry has produced incredible environmental and economic benefits in Pennsylvania," Rothfus says on his website. "Unfortunately, Washington's one-size-fits-all environmental policies endanger families and threaten Pennsylvania jobs."</p>
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INFRASTRUCTURE	<p>Wants to invest in expanding Beaver County's airport, as well as modernizing Westmoreland County's sewage system. "It's really hard to do economic development if you don't have a public sewage and water system," McClelland has said. Supports expanding public transportation and Amtrak service in Western Pennsylvania.</p>	<p>Worked to fund expansion of Route 219. Supported a bill to expand local government's access to private money for water projects. Voted against Energy and Water Infrastructure Funding Bill, after the attachment of amendment to prevent funding to contractors that discriminate against LGBT individuals.</p>
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HEALTH CARE	<p>Thinks health care should be expanded to cover mental health, addiction and disabilities, which she calls the "unwanted stepchild of health care." Believes current policies on the opioid crisis are only "band-aids" and don't address the complexity of the drug epidemic. Supports Affordable Care Act, but wants to use health resources more efficiently.</p>	<p>Supported the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act, which expands access by law enforcement to overdose-fighting drugs, increases preventive outreach to at-risk groups and provides addiction care to imprisoned individuals. Supports repealing the Affordable Care Act because he says it increased costs for citizens and businesses.</p>
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FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS	<p>Endorsements include Steel City Stonewall Democrats, Pittsburgh Building Trades & Construction Council, Beaver County Building Trades & Construction Council, Service Employees International Union State Council, Pennsylvania House Democratic Leader Frank Dermody and Braddock Mayor John Fetterman.</p>	<p>This year, Rothfus has been endorsed by the Eagle Forum, Firearms Owners Against Crime, the National Rifle Association, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the National Federation of Independent Business. Has long been supported by Tea Party Republicans.</p>
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