

Meet Tristram Howard

Carpenter, Sailor, Ocean Engineer

I grew up in South Portland, with two siblings and two parents and 1-2 cats depending on the year. I graduated from University of Rhode Island in 2020 with a degree in Ocean Engineering, and have since had a semi-career as a mariner on passenger and research ships, and as a home carpenter, which I am right now.

My experience with governments and organizations includes work with the URI Student Senate, including as its moderator and Vice President, and a prior candidacy for Maine's State Legislature in 2024. Most people know me as the guy who South Portland told to stop putting free benches at bus stops a couple of years ago.

Sign up to help at www.trisjhoward.com

Email to tristramforcongress@gmail.com

TRISTRAM FOR US CONGRESS

Platform for ME district 1 (abridged)

1: Pre Election

This campaign is about the places we live, the people we are, and the things we do and need. Expect events to be children-friendly, expect us to share and participate in volunteer opportunities in town, and be ready to bring and receive that Mainers-helping-Mainers attitude that makes this state so wonderful, because we make up for being poor by being here for each other. And for every dollar that I spend campaigning, a dollar will be donated to a nonprofit in Southern Maine.

2: Practical

Universal healthcare: Move the country away from private insurance and have doctors bill directly to the federal government. This would eliminate the cost of the entire private health insurance industry from our medical bills, as

well as the armies of extra clerks our doctors employ just to argue with them.

Automatic tax preparation: The IRS already has all the information they need to prepare most of our taxes because our employers and banks send it to them. As an added bonus, this will create jobs for the spreadsheet-lovers who would no longer have jobs in health insurance.

Balanced budget: Paying with debt is paying more. Financing our country with the servitude of our children (should we be lucky enough to afford them) is not just unreasonable but actively cruel. The trillions of dollars our government has borrowed are still in the economy; they're just not in our pockets, and taxing them back from the corporations and multimillionaires who cling to them will not hurt us.

Abolish gender: Remove gender and sex identifiers from federal IDs. If the government

isn't allowed to treat you differently based on your gender, they don't need to know what it is.

Dependent Tax Credit: Increase the Child Tax Credit to \$15,000 per dependent, make it fully refundable, and expand it to include all dependents. Whether it's your child or your parent or your partner or your friend, caring for another human being is the second most important thing a person can do with their life (second only to caring for oneself).

Term limits: Members of Congress (House and Senate) should have to go back and be normal people after two terms. I don't mind if they are able to run again after that, but I think a term off here and there would help them remember.

3: Pipe Dreams:

Abolish slavery: The 13th Amendment left slavery legal as punishment for crimes. Slavery should not be legal for any reason.