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Whose Side is Brendan Doherty On?

Doherty calls for higher taxes on middle class, raising retirement age for Social Security

PROVIDENCE- Republican congressional candidate Brendan Doherty's first major interview since declaring for office almost a year ago is now available for viewing and is already turning heads.

We have all become increasingly used to Republicans in Washington promoting policies that would have a devastating impact on the middle class (the Ryan Plan, cutting funding for Pell Grants and Head Start to name a few), but this may be the first time we have heard a congressional hopeful actually call for immediate tax increases on middle-class families. That is exactly what Brendan Doherty argued for during his Newsmakers interview saying that starting in 2013 taxes should be raised even on families making less than \$250,000 a year.

At the same time Doherty called for corporate tax rates to be slashed from 35 percent to 22 percent. Further, he declined to support the Buffet Rule which, if passed, means billionaires like Warren Buffet no longer pay a lower tax rate than teachers, nurses and factory workers.

Doherty also advocated for raising the Social Security eligibility age for anyone born after 1960; a devastating policy for the thousands of Rhode Islanders working in physically demanding jobs like boat building and fishing.

"Let me get this straight," said RI Democratic Party Chairman Ed Pacheco. "Rhode Islanders are facing double-digit unemployment and high foreclosure rates and Brendan Doherty wants to raise taxes on middle class families? He thinks that corporations should be paying less while the middle class and older Americans sacrifice more? It's about time Rhode Islanders get to see exactly whose side Brendan Doherty is on."