

HEATHER GUSTAFSON
JULY 1, 2022 RESEARCH REPORT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS	2
MAIN ISSUES.....	3
TIMELINE	5
PUBLIC RECORDS.....	7
PROPERTY RECORDS	7
COURT RECORDS.....	8
VOTER REGISTRATION.....	8
PERSONAL FINANCES.....	9
PERSONAL POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS.....	10
BUSINESS AND PERSONAL.....	14
VADNAIS HEIGHTS FOR CHANGE	14
CAMPAIGN VULNERABILITIES	19
KEY ISSUES AND VOTES.....	21
ECONOMIC ISSUES.....	21
JOBS ISSUES	21
HEALTH CARE.....	22
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT	22
SOCIAL ISSUES.....	23
EDUCATION.....	30
MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES	30
APPENDIX A	31

MAIN ISSUES

Campaign And Political

- Gustafson did not appear to have shown interest in politics until the 2016 election of Donald Trump. Her first political contribution was made to the DCCC in November 2016, after the election. (Heather Gustafson, [FEC](#), Accessed 5/11/22)
 - Gustafson made small, sometimes repeated \$5 contributions to a large swathe of the 2020 Democratic presidential candidates, beginning with Beto O'Rourke in July 2019, then contributing to Pete Buttigieg, Amy Klobuchar, Elizabeth Warren, and Tom Steyer. Gustafson did not contribute to Joe Biden until March 2020 and, in October, he became the only candidate she made a direct, non-ActBlue contribution to - \$70 to Biden For President. (Heather Gustafson, [FEC](#), Accessed 5/11/22)
- Gustafson purports to be a moderate – she promotes her husband's hunting and fishing hobbies and has bragged about their hunting cabin in Wisconsin – but has also advocated for liberal and progressive causes and has changed her opinion to fit popular perspectives. ([Interview With AM950](#), 5/16/22) 1:40-1:51; 2:56-3:12
- Between July 14th and July 29th, 2022, Gustafson's website was relaunched; her "Issues" section was reformatted as a "Priorities" page and she de-emphasized every one of her initial platforms, including removing her positions to "Legalize Marijuana" and provide "Reproductive Justice." ("Issues," Gustafson for Senate, Cached Version Accessed 6/30/22, Originally Accessed 6/14/22; Priorities, [Heather Gustafson for State Senate](#), Accessed 6/30/22)
 - Gustafson pulled back on her call to "replac[e] our current [healthcare] system." ("Issues," Gustafson for Senate, Accessed 6/14/22)
- Instead of providing solutions, Gustafson has concentrated on painting the actions of her opponent as mercenary. She accused Roger Chamberlain of pushing "opposition research against the DFL" without raising the attacks Chamberlain had purportedly engaged in and insisted he "wants to... defund public schools." (Heather Gustafson, [Interview With AM950](#), 5/16/22, 8:45-9:31; [YouTube](#), 4/27/22m 1:57-2:03)

Abortion

- Gustafson is pro-choice, has called abortion "healthcare," and signaled she opposes any restrictions on abortion, pledging to end "bills and laws... stripping women of their right to choose." ("Issues," [Gustafson for Senate](#), Accessed 6/14/22; [Twitter](#), 5/2/22; [Twitter](#), 6/24/22)
 - Gustafson pledged to "protect reproductive freedom and choice for Minnesotans" in her original campaign website and signaled she opposes any restriction on abortion, claiming such bills "are stripping women of their right to choose." ("Issues," Gustafson for Senate, Accessed 6/14/22)
 - In March 2022, Gustafson alleged that "anti-abortion and pro-life are not the same thing." ([Twitter Feed](#), 3/12/22)
 - In May 2022, Gustafson encouraged voters to take their fear and volunteer or donate to pro-choice candidates. In June 2022, Gustafson criticized the SCOTUS decision to overturn Roe v. Wade, saying "protecting our healthcare rights is one of the reasons I'm running for office." ([Twitter](#), 5/2/22; [Twitter](#), 6/24/22)
 - In June 2022, Gustafson vowed to protect reproductive freedom and choice for Minnesotans with the belief that "Minnesotans should be able to make their own reproductive decisions." ("Issues," [Gustafson for Senate](#), Accessed 6/14/22)

Progressive Talking Points

- VIDEO: Gustafson has promoted progressive talking points, calling CRT and socialism “fake problems meant to divide us.” ([YouTube](#), 4/27/22) Minute: 1:45- 1:56

Recreational Marijuana

- Gustafson supports legalizing recreational marijuana in Minnesota, saying it would generate more tax revenue for the state. ([Gustafson for Senate](#), Accessed 6/14/22; [Twitter Feed](#), 3/3/22)

Protecting Native Land

- Gustafson launched an informal group of community members called Vadnais Heights for Change in 2020; the group’s website’s footer highlights, “Vadnais Heights occupies the lands of Wahpekute, Anishinabewaki ᐱᐱᐸᐱᐸᐱᐸᐱᐸᐱᐸ, and Očeti Šakówiŋ (Sioux).” ([Vadnais Heights for Change](#), Accessed 6/30/22)

TIMELINE

April 29, 1977 – Born Heather Alicia Henry And Grew Up In Sartell, Minnesota To A Preschool Teacher And A Sales Manager. (“Heather’s Story,” [Gustafson for Senate](#), Accessed 6/1/22; Heather Alicia Henry, Ancestry, Accessed 5/11/22)

1995 – Graduated From Sartell Senior High School In Sartell, Minnesota. (“Heather G.,” [LinkedIn](#), Accessed 6/1/22)

1995-2000 – Graduated From Minnesota State Moorhead With A Bachelor’s Of Science In Mass Communication, Public Relations, And Advertising. (“Heather’s Story,” [Gustafson for Senate](#), Accessed 6/1/22; “Heather G.,” [LinkedIn](#), Accessed 6/1/22)

1997-2010 – Worked As On-Air Talent For A Range Of Radio Stations. (“Heather G.,” [LinkedIn](#), Accessed 6/1/22; “Clear Channel Becomes iHeart Media,” [iHeart Media](#), 9/16/14)

- **1997-2000 – Worked For Go Radio As A Promotions Director And On Air Talent.** (“Heather G.,” [LinkedIn](#), Accessed 6/1/22)
- **February 2000-June 2003 – Worked As On Air-Talent At Clear Channel Radio, Now iHeart Media.** (“Heather G.,” [LinkedIn](#), Accessed 6/1/22; “Clear Channel Becomes iHeart Media,” [iHeart Media](#), 9/16/14)
- **July 2003-March 2004 – Worked For Hubbard Broadcasting As On Air-Personality At KS95.** (Heather G., [LinkedIn](#), Accessed 6/1/22)
- **2007-2010 – Hosted Radio Shows On Lite 99.9 FM And Wild County 99 For Leighton Broadcasting.** (“Heather G.,” [LinkedIn](#), Accessed 6/1/22)

January 24, 2004 – Married Nicholas Brian Kraabel In Anoka County, Minnesota. (“Certificate Search,” Minnesota Official Marriage System, Accessed 5/11/22)

2011-2014 – Graduated From The College Of St. Scholastica With A Master’s Degree In Education And Obtained Her Teaching License. (“Heather’s Story,” [Gustafson for Senate](#), Accessed 6/1/22; “Heather G.,” [LinkedIn](#), Accessed 6/1/22)

- **March 27, 2014 – Issued Educator License By The State Of Minnesota.** (“License Lookup,” [Minnesota Department of Education](#), Accessed 6/1/22)
- **June 2020 – Renewed Educator License By The State Of Minnesota That Is Set To Expire On 6/30/25.** (“Educator License,” [Minnesota Department of Education](#), Accessed 6/1/22)

August 2011-August 2013 – Taught Radio Broadcasting Courses As An Adjunct Instructor At Sanford Brown College. (“Heather G.,” [LinkedIn](#), Accessed 6/1/22)

August 2012-June 2013 – Worked As 9th Grade Teacher At North Community High School Academy Of Arts And Communication For Radio Broadcasting Class. (“Heather G.,” [LinkedIn](#), Accessed 6/1/22)

February 2014-May 2014 – Worked As An Avid Tutor For South Washington County Schools. (“Heather G.,” [LinkedIn](#), Accessed 6/1/22)

July 2014-June 2019 – Worked As A Social Studies Teacher At Centennial High School. (“Heather G.,” [LinkedIn](#), Accessed 6/1/22; “School Board Honors Employees of the Year,” [Centennial School District 12](#), 5/23/19)

July 11, 2018 – Married Chad Matthew Gustafson In Anoka County, Minnesota. (“Certificate Search,” Minnesota Official Marriage System, Accessed 5/11/22)

2019-Unknown – Works At Minnesota Transitions Charter School In Minneapolis As A History Teacher. (“Heather G.,” [LinkedIn](#), Accessed 6/1/22; “Heather Alicia Henry Gustafson 2020,” [Gov Salaries](#), Accessed 6/1/22; “Heather Alicia Henry Gustafson 2021,” [Gov Salaries](#), Accessed 6/1/22)

November 2020-Present – Serves As A Member Of The Community Engagement

Committee In Vadnais Heights. (“Community Engagement Committee,” [Vadnais Heights](#), Accessed 6/1/22; “Meeting Of The Community Engagement Committee,” [Vadnais Heights](#), 2/24/21; “Heather’s Story,” [Gustafson for Senate](#), Accessed 6/1/22)

November 2021-Present – Founded Vadnais Heights For Change, Where She Works As An Organizer. (“Heather G.,” [LinkedIn](#), Accessed 6/1/22; “Meet Heather,” [Gustafson 4 Senate](#), Accessed 6/23/22)

2022-Present – Works At Minnesota Connections Academy. (“Original Statement Of Economic Interest For Candidate: Gustafson, Heather,” [Minnesota Campaign Finance Board](#), Accessed 6/7/22)

PUBLIC RECORDS

PROPERTY RECORDS

99 Southwood Dr, Vadnais Heights, MN 55127

Heather And Chad Gustafson Own The Home At 99 Southwood Drive, Vadnais Heights, Minnesota

In June 2011, Heather And Chad Gustafson Bought The Home At 99 Southwood Dr In Vadnais Heights, Minnesota for \$198,000. (Property Record, [Ramsey County Property Search](#), Accessed 5/11/22)

▢ Sales

Date	eCRV #	Sale Price	State Study Recommendation	State Study Reject Reason	Cnty Stdy Rec
8/9/2007		\$244,000	Y		Y
6/27/2011		\$198,000	Y		Y

(Property Record, [Ramsey County Property Search](#), Accessed 5/11/22)

Property Tax Records

Between Spring 2020 And Fall 2021, Heather And Chad Gustafson Paid The Property Taxes On 99 Southwood Dr. On Time And Without Penalties. (Property Record, [Ramsey County Property Search](#), Accessed 5/12/22)

NOTE: Taxes records prior to 2020 for this property are not available on the county website.

Year	Season	Total Amount	Total Paid	Last Paid	Total Due
2022	Spring	\$2,538.00	\$0.00		\$2,538.00
2021	Fall	\$1,876.00	\$1,876.00	10/4/21	\$0.00
2021	Spring	\$1,876.00	\$1,876.00	4/23/21	\$0.00
2020	Fall	\$1,936.00	\$1,936.00	9/23/20	\$0.00
2020	Spring	\$1,936.00	\$1,936.00	4/24/20	\$0.00

(Property Record, [Ramsey County Property Search](#), Accessed 5/12/22)

As Of June 2022, The Gustafsons Are Up To Date With Their Property Taxes. (Property Record, [Ramsey County Property Search](#), Accessed 6/23/22)

▢ Current Tax Year

*Information listed is as of yesterday. For specific payoff information contact [Property Tax Info](#) at 651-266-2000
See Tax Transaction History for payment and/or adjustment information.

First Half Due 05-16-2022		Second Half Due 10-17-2022	
Amount Due	\$0.00	Amount Due	\$2,538.00
Penalty & Fees Due (thru current month)	\$0.00	Penalty & Fees Due (thru current month)	\$0.00
Balance Due	\$0.00	Balance Due	\$2,538.00
Total Due	\$2,538.00		

(Property Record, [Ramsey County Property Search](#), Accessed 5/12/22)

COURT RECORDS

Marriage & Divorce Records

In January 2004, Heather Alicia Henry Married Nicholas Brian Kraabel

On January 27, 2004, Heather Alicia Henry Married Nicholas Brian Kraabel In Anoka County, MN. (Search, [Minnesota Official Marriage System](#), Accessed 6/30/22)

County	Certificate Number	Marriage Date	Applicant 1	Applicant 2	
ANOKA	M040062	01/27/2004	KRAABEL, NICHOLAS BRIAN	HENRY, HEATHER ALICIA	Request Copy

(Search, [Minnesota Official Marriage System](#), Accessed 6/30/22)

NOTE: *No divorce records were found for Henry and Kraabel.*

In July 2018, Heather Alicia Henry Kraabel Married Chad Matthew Gustafson

On July 11, 2018, Heather Alicia Henry Kraabel Married Chad Matthew Gustafson In Anoka County. (Search, [Minnesota Official Marriage System](#), Accessed 6/30/22)

ANOKA	M20180699	07/11/2018	KRAABEL, HEATHER ALICIA HENRY	GUSTAFSON, CHAD MATTHEW	Request Copy
-------	-----------	------------	----------------------------------	-------------------------	------------------------------

(Search, [Minnesota Official Marriage System](#), Accessed 6/30/22)

Court And Law Enforcement Checks

NOTE: *A search was conducted for court records connected to Gustafson. No results were produced from this search.*

VOTER REGISTRATION

Gustafson Is An Active Registered Voter In Minnesota

As Of June 2022, Gustafson Is Registered To Vote In Vadnais Heights, MN. (Registration Search, Elections & Voting, [Office of the MN Secretary of State Steve Simon](#), Accessed 6/22/22)

 You are registered to vote.

You vote here:

VADNAIS HEIGHTS P-1
VADNAIS HEIGHTS COMMONS (P-1)
655 COUNTY ROAD F E
VADNAIS HEIGHTS, MN 55127

(Registration Search, Elections & Voting, [Office of the MN Secretary of State Steve Simon](#), Accessed 6/22/22)

NOTE: *The state of Minnesota does not provide any additional information, such as party affiliation, the last time a person voted, registration date, etc.*

Public Records Indicate That Gustafson Registered To Vote Absentee In 2018. (Voter Registration, Nexis Public Record Search, Accessed 5/11/22)

1: Minnesota Voter Registration	
Registrant Information	
Name:	GUSTAFSON, HEATHER ALICIA HENRY
Residential Address:	99 SOUTHWOOD DR VADNAIS HEIGHTS, MN 55127-4123 RAMSEY COUNTY
Home Phone:	(763) 535-7070
SSN:	474-08-XXXX
Date of Birth:	1977
Age:	35-44
Voter Information	
Registration Date:	8/14/2018
Last Vote Date:	3/3/2020
Status:	ABSENTEE

(Office Of The Minnesota Secretary Of State, Accessed 5/26/22)

PERSONAL FINANCES

2022 PFD

On June 2022, Gustafson Reported Her Sole Income As Her Teacher's Salary From Minnesota Connections Academy

On June 2nd, 2022, Gustafson Reported Her Sole Income As Her Teacher's Salary From Minnesota Connections Academy. ("Original Statement Of Economic Interest For Candidate: Gustafson, Heather," [Minnesota Campaign Finance Board](#), Accessed 6/7/22)

Candidate: Gustafson, Heather

Period covered: This statement covers April 1, 2022 through May 20, 2022

Statement filed: 6/2/2022

Occupation: Teacher

Employer: Minnesota Connections Academy
1350 Energy Ln #230
St Paul, MN 55108

Sources of income

Name of source	Relationship to source							
	Director	Officer	Owner	Member	Partner	Employer	Employee	Honorarium
Minnesota Connections Academy						✓		

("Original Statement Of Economic Interest For Candidate: Gustafson, Heather," [Minnesota Campaign Finance Board](#), Accessed 6/7/22)

Gustafson Reported No Other Securities, Real Property, Or Other Income. ("Original Statement Of Economic Interest For Candidate: Gustafson, Heather," [Minnesota Campaign Finance Board](#), Accessed 6/7/22)

Business or professional activity categories

None reported

Securities

None reported

Real property

None reported

Pari-mutuel horse racing interests

None reported

("Original Statement Of Economic Interest For Candidate: Gustafson, Heather," [Minnesota Campaign Finance Board](#), Accessed 6/7/22)

PERSONAL POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Federal Contributions

Since 2016, Gustafson Has Contributed Over \$600 In Small-Dollar Donations To Federal Democratic Candidates

Between 2016 And 2021, Gustafson Contributed At Least \$606.80 In Small-Dollar Donations– To Democrat And Liberal Candidates And Committees. (Heather Gustafson, [FEC](#), Accessed 5/11/22)

Beginning In July 2019, Gustafson Contributed To Several Democrat Presidential Candidates, Including Beto O'Rourke, Pete Buttigieg, Amy Klobuchar, Elizabeth Warren, Tom Steyer, And – In March 2020 Until October 2020 – Joe Biden. (Heather Gustafson, [FEC](#), Accessed 5/11/22)

In October 2020, Gustafson Contributed \$70 To Biden For President, Noteworthy For Both Its Size And That She Contributed Directly To The Committee; Every Other Contribution Has Been Made Through ActBlue. (Heather Gustafson, [FEC](#), Accessed 5/11/22)

Receipt Date	Recipient	Contributor Name	Amount
12/31/21	ActBlue (Earmarked For Mandela Barnes For Wisconsin)	Gustafson, Heather	\$3.00
12/29/21	ActBlue (Earmarked For Democratic Party Of Wisconsin)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
12/26/21	ActBlue (Earmarked For Democratic National Committee)	Gustafson, Heather	\$3.00
12/21/21	ActBlue (Earmarked For Matt Putorti For Congress)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
11/8/21	ActBlue (Earmarked For Minnesota Democratic Farmer Labor Party)	Gustafson, Heather	\$10.00
5/24/21	ActBlue (Earmarked For Schatz For Senate)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
4/24/21	ActBlue (Earmarked For Schatz For Senate)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
4/15/21	ActBlue (Earmarked For Marcus Flowers Exploratory Committee)	Gustafson, Heather	\$3.00
3/24/21	ActBlue (Earmarked For Schatz For Senate)	Gustafson, Heather	\$3.00
2/24/21	ActBlue (Earmarked For Schatz For Senate)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
1/24/21	ActBlue (Earmarked For Schatz For Senate)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
11/11/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Warnock For Georgia)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
11/06/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Fair Fight, Inc. Pac)	Gustafson, Heather	\$1.66
11/06/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Jon Ossoff For Senate)	Gustafson, Heather	\$1.67
11/06/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Warnock For Georgia)	Gustafson, Heather	\$1.67
10/31/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For DCCC)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
10/28/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For DCCC)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
10/25/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Jon Ossoff For Senate)	Gustafson, Heather	\$3.00
10/24/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For DCCC)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
10/22/20	Biden For President	Gustafson, Heather	\$20.00
10/22/20	Biden For President	Gustafson, Heather	\$50.00
10/22/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Powered By People)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
10/21/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For DCCC)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00

10/19/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Doug Jones For US Senate)	Gustafson, Heather	\$3.00
10/18/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Jon Ossoff For Senate)	Gustafson, Heather	\$10.00
10/17/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For DCCC)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
10/15/20	Biden For President	Gustafson, Heather	\$15.00
10/14/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For DCCC)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
10/13/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Biden For President)	Gustafson, Heather	\$15.00
10/13/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Biden For President)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
10/11/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Peters For Michigan)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
10/11/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For No Dem Left Behind Pac)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
10/10/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For DCCC)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
10/7/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Biden For President)	Gustafson, Heather	\$15.00
10/7/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For DCCC)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
10/5/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Bollier For Kansas)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
10/4/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Mike Espy For Senate)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
10/3/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For DCCC)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
9/30/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Friends Of Dan Feehan)	Gustafson, Heather	\$10.00
9/30/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Biden For President)	Gustafson, Heather	\$12.00
9/30/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For DCCC)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
9/26/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For DCCC)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
9/25/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Doug Jones For Us Senate)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
9/19/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Jaime Harrison For Us Senate)	Gustafson, Heather	\$1.92
9/19/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Jon Ossoff For Senate)	Gustafson, Heather	\$1.92
9/19/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Warnock For Georgia)	Gustafson, Heather	\$1.92
9/19/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Doug Jones For Us Senate)	Gustafson, Heather	\$1.92
9/19/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Montanans For Bullock)	Gustafson, Heather	\$1.92
9/19/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Sara Gideon For Maine)	Gustafson, Heather	\$1.92
9/19/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Peters For Michigan)	Gustafson, Heather	\$1.92
9/19/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Dr. Alan Gross For U.S. Senate)	Gustafson, Heather	\$1.92
9/19/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Hickenlooper For Colorado)	Gustafson, Heather	\$1.92
9/19/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Bollier For Kansas)	Gustafson, Heather	\$1.93
9/19/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Cal For Nc)	Gustafson, Heather	\$1.93
9/19/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Theresa Greenfield For Iowa)	Gustafson, Heather	\$1.93
9/19/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For MJ For Texas)	Gustafson, Heather	\$1.93
9/14/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Friends Of Dan Feehan)	Gustafson, Heather	\$10.00
9/11/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Biden For President)	Gustafson, Heather	\$15.00
8/11/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Biden For President)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
8/6/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Win The Era)	Gustafson, Heather	\$4.00
7/10/20	ActBlue	Gustafson, Heather	\$1.00

7/10/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For DCCC)	Gustafson, Heather	\$35.00
7/5/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Biden For President)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
7/2/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Biden For President)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
6/23/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Biden For President)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
6/20/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Friends Of Dan Feehan)	Gustafson, Heather	\$10.00
3/13/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For DCCC)	Gustafson, Heather	\$1.00
3/5/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Biden For President)	Gustafson, Heather	\$3.00
3/4/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Biden For President)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
3/2/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Biden For President)	Gustafson, Heather	\$1.00
3/2/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Biden For President)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
2/27/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Pete For America, Inc)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
2/27/20	ActBlue	Gustafson, Heather	\$1.00
2/24/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Pete For America, Inc)	Gustafson, Heather	\$3.00
2/19/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Pete For America, Inc)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
2/10/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Pete For America, Inc)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
2/2/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Pete For America, Inc)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
1/27/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Pete For America, Inc)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
1/27/20	ActBlue	Gustafson, Heather	\$1.00
1/17/20	ActBlue (Earmarked For Tom Steyer)	Gustafson, Heather	\$1.00
12/31/19	ActBlue (Earmarked For Pete For America, Inc)	Gustafson, Heather	\$3.00
12/30/19	ActBlue (Earmarked For Pete For America, Inc)	Gustafson, Heather	\$3.00
12/27/19	ActBlue	Gustafson, Heather	\$1.00
12/27/19	ActBlue (Earmarked For Pete For America, Inc)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
12/21/19	ActBlue (Earmarked For Amy For America)	Gustafson, Heather	\$4.00
11/27/19	ActBlue (Earmarked For Pete For America, Inc)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
11/27/19	ActBlue	Gustafson, Heather	\$1.00
11/21/19	ActBlue (Earmarked For Amy For America)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
11/16/19	ActBlue (Earmarked For Committee To Elect Tedra)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
11/6/19	ActBlue (Earmarked For Warren For President, Inc.)	Gustafson, Heather	\$2.00
11/2/19	ActBlue (Earmarked For Pete For America, Inc)	Gustafson, Heather	\$3.00
10/27/19	ActBlue (Earmarked For Pete For America, Inc)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
10/27/19	ActBlue	Gustafson, Heather	\$1.00
10/18/19	ActBlue (Earmarked For Pete For America, Inc)	Gustafson, Heather	\$3.00
9/30/19	ActBlue (Earmarked For Pete For America, Inc)	Gustafson, Heather	\$3.00
9/27/19	ActBlue (Earmarked For Pete For America, Inc)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
9/27/19	ActBlue (Earmarked For Pete For America, Inc)	Gustafson, Heather	\$1.00
9/16/19	ActBlue (Earmarked For Fair Fight, Inc. PAC)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
9/7/19	ActBlue (Earmarked For Pete For America, Inc)	Gustafson, Heather	\$3.00

8/27/19	ActBlue	Gustafson, Heather	\$1.00
8/27/19	ActBlue (Earmarked For Pete For America, Inc)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
7/27/19	ActBlue	Gustafson, Heather	\$0.40
7/27/19	ActBlue (Earmarked For Pete For America, Inc)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
7/27/19	ActBlue	Gustafson, Heather	\$1.00
7/27/19	ActBlue (Earmarked For Beto For America)	Gustafson, Heather	\$4.00
6/28/19	ActBlue (Earmarked For DCCC)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
6/28/19	ActBlue (Earmarked For DCCC)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
6/27/19	ActBlue (Earmarked For Beto For America)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
6/27/19	ActBlue	Gustafson, Heather	\$0.50
6/27/19	ActBlue (Earmarked For Pete For America, Inc)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
6/27/19	ActBlue	Gustafson, Heather	\$1.00
4/13/19	ActBlue (Earmarked For Pete For America, Inc)	Gustafson, Heather	\$3.00
4/13/19	ActBlue	Gustafson, Heather	\$1.00
3/15/19	ActBlue (Earmarked For Beto For America)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
3/15/19	ActBlue	Gustafson, Heather	\$1.00
10/28/18	ActBlue (Earmarked For Elizabeth Pannill Fletcher For Congress)	Gustafson, Heather	\$5.00
10/15/18	It Starts Today	Gustafson, Heather	\$0.38
10/15/18	It Starts Today	Gustafson, Heather	\$3.98
11/29/17	ActBlue (Earmarked For Doug Jones For US Senate)	Kraabel, Heather	\$5.00
11/22/17	ActBlue (Earmarked For Doug Jones For US Senate)	Kraabel, Heather	\$5.00
11/26/16	ActBlue (Earmarked For DCCC)	Kraabel, Heather	\$5.00
11/26/16	ActBlue	Kraabel, Heather	\$0.50
TOTAL:			\$606.80

(Heather Gustafson, [FEC](#), Accessed 5/11/22)

State And Local Contributions

Donations To State-Level Candidates And Committees

NOTE: A search was conducted for political contributions at the state level from Gustafson, which produced no results.

BUSINESS AND PERSONAL

VADNAIS HEIGHTS FOR CHANGE

Background

Gustafson Claims To Have Organized Vadnais Heights For Change, An Informal Community Group Of Neighbors

Gustafson Describes Herself As The Founder And Organizer Of Vadnais Heights For Change, A Civil And Social Organization Based In Vadnais Heights, Minnesota. (“Heather’s Story,” [Gustafson for Senate](#), Accessed 6/1/22; “About Page,” [LinkedIn](#), Accessed 6/6/22, “Heather G.,” [LinkedIn](#), Accessed 6/1/22)

- **Vadnais Heights For Change Is “A Community Group Of Volunteers Who Live In Vadnais Heights Working For Positive Changes In Vadnais Heights.”** “We serve on committees, volunteer for local candidates that match our goals, and advocate for civil rights and the environment. Our values prioritize the environment, equity, and common sense leadership.” (“About Us,” [VH4Change](#), Accessed 6/6/22)



(VH4Change Logo, [Twitter](#), Accessed 6/6/22)

Vadnais Heights For Change Is Reportedly Nonpartisan Although Their Values Closely Align With The DFL Platform, Minnesota’s Democratic Party. “We are not officially part of any party although our values are most closely aligned with the DFL platform and many of us independently promote, volunteer, and support DFL candidates. Some of us are Democrats, some of us are Republicans, and some don’t care about politics at all. Honestly, it’s wild that the things we are passionate about (community work, civil rights, and the environment) are seen as political.” (“About Us,” [VH4Change](#), Accessed 6/6/22; “Why is Minnesota’s Democratic Party called the DFL?,” [Star Tribune](#), 1/25/20)

The Group Has Not Filed As A Formal Business Entity. (Search, [Minnesota Secretary of State](#), Accessed 6/30/22)

Business Record Search »

Business Name File Number

vadnais heights for change Search

Search Scope: Begins With Contains Filing Status: Active Inactive Include Prior Names: Exclude Include

Please see search results below. For best results, type only a portion of the business name. You may change the search criteria with the options above.

Search Results

No results match the criteria entered.

(Search, [Minnesota Secretary of State](#), Accessed 6/30/22)

Gustafson Describes Her Involvement With This Organization Beginning In November 2021 Despite The Group Opening Its Facebook Page In June 2020

Gustafson Describes Her Involvement With VH4Change As Beginning In November 2021. (“Heather G.,” [LinkedIn](#), Accessed 6/30/22)

Heather G. (She/Her)
Education, media, community organizing

Founder
Vadnais Heights for Change · Part-time
Nov 2021 - Present · 9 mos
Vadnais Heights, Minnesota, United States

(“Heather G.,” [LinkedIn](#), Accessed 6/30/22)

The Organization Opened Its Facebook Page In June 2020 And Held Its First Event In October 2020. (Vadnais Heights For Change, [Facebook](#), Created 6/19/20; Events – Vadnais Heights For Change, [Facebook](#), Accessed 6/30/22)

Page transparency See all

Facebook is showing information to help you better understand the purpose of a Page. See actions taken by the people who manage and post content.

Page created - June 19, 2020

Food Drive
Vadnais Heights For Change
FRI, OCT 16, 2020

(Vadnais Heights For Change, [Facebook](#), Created 6/19/20; Events – Vadnais Heights For Change, [Facebook](#), Accessed 6/30/22)

In August 2020, Community Members Appeared To Respond To Either A Now-Deleted Comment From Gustafson Or Were Aware That She Is The Admin Of The Group. (Vadnais Heights For Change, [Facebook](#), 8/03/20)

Author
Vadnais Heights For Change
With all due respect, Patricia Youker, the things you mentioned are not mutually exclusive with working toward the GreenStep program at all.
Like Reply 1y

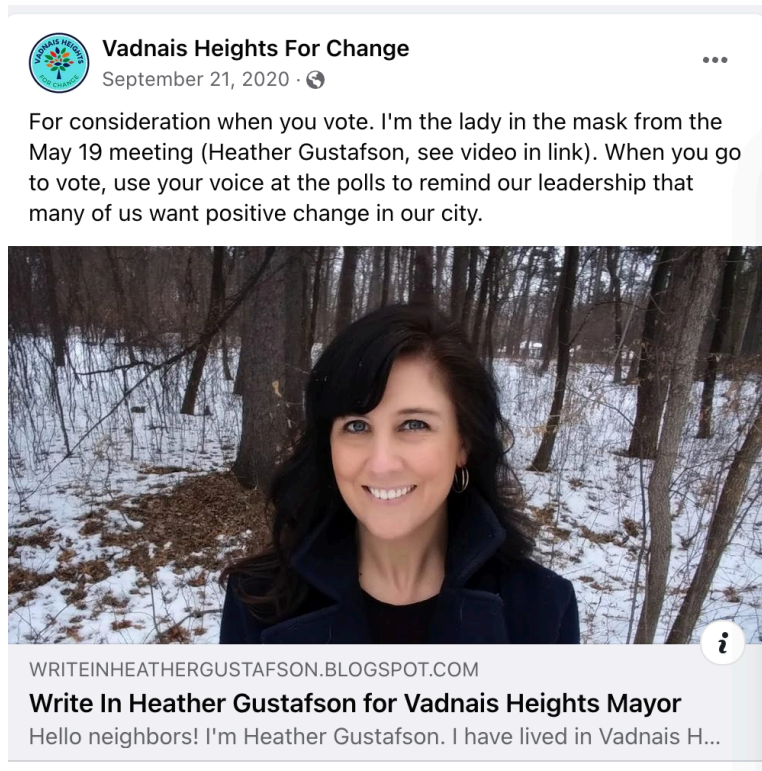
Lucie Passus
Steve Jorissen That is unfortunate. Change is needed. ...
Like Reply 1y

Patricia Youker
Gus HG / Heather Gustafson, if you want to debate the issues, why don't you run for council? "We currently have two major priorities on our plate, infrastructure needs and flooding issues, and have some concern of a shift in resources should VH sign on... See more
Like Reply 1y Edited

(Vadnais Heights For Change, [Facebook](#), 8/03/20)

In 2020, VH4Change Encouraged Members To Write In Gustafson As Mayor For Vadnais Heights

In 2020, VH4Change Encouraged Community Members To Vote For Members Steve Rogers And Erik Goebel For Council Members And Write Gustafson In As Mayor For Vadnais Heights. (Vadnais Heights For Change, [Facebook](#), 9/21/20; Vadnais Heights For Change, [Facebook](#), 9/25/20; Vadnais Heights For Change, [Facebook](#), 9/27/20)



(Vadnais Heights For Change, [Facebook](#), 9/21/20)

Stances On Local Issues

Vadnais Heights For Change Has Called For The Creation Of A Human Rights Commission to Address Racial Issues In The Community

Vadnais Heights For Change Called For A Human Rights Commission As Early As Spring 2020 And “Accused Local Leaders Of Dragging Their Feet.” “More than a year later, Gustafson is still at the helm of a grassroots group of neighbors called Vadnais Heights for Change, demanding the Ramsey County suburb of 13,600 form a commission to address these types of issues head-on. While the mayor says city officials want to make sure any new commission has a clear purpose and is wanted by the community, Gustafson accuses local leaders of dragging their feet.” (Shannon Prather, “Vadnais Heights Group Demands A Human Rights Commission,” [Star Tribune](#), 8/9/21)

- **At An August 2021 City Council Meeting, Gustafson Also Cited Alleged Race And Equity Issues In Vadnais Heights, Claiming The Community Was Hardly Diverse.** “A human rights commission could jump-start discussions about race and equity and reveal issues in the Vadnais Heights community. Vadnais Heights is nearly 80% white, 8% Asian, 7% Black and 3% Hispanic.” (Shannon Prather, “Vadnais Heights Group Demands A Human Rights Commission,” [Star Tribune](#), 8/9/21)
- **On The VH4Change Site, The Grassroots Group Highlighted The Importance Of A Human Rights Commission And Further Advocated For The Creation Of One.** “A Human Rights Commission is an important and necessary part of city governments, no matter the

size. Human Rights Commissions help ensure fair housing and employment practices, assist with reporting for accurate data at the state level, and have influence in long-term policy decisions. A Human Rights Commission is as important as a Planning Commission or a Health and Public Safety Commission. In Vadnais Heights, our city council has a troubled past and elected officials have shown several instances of prejudice and intolerance. Still, the city refuses to do more than "explore options" of possible inclusivity committees. Our city needs a Human Rights Commission to protect equality and justice for all citizens, especially those underserved and marginalized."

("About Us," [VH4Change](#), Accessed 6/7/22)

Vadnais Heights For Change Supported A Letter To The City Council From A Local Citizen Urging The City To Address Concerns Of Inclusion And Equity. "Effecting reforms and valuing diversity, equity, and inclusion require participation by all levels of government, businesses, schools, colleges, and individuals. In Vadnais Heights, we may not have protesters marching in the streets or overt cases of discrimination; but bias exists, and the city does have an important role to ensure equity and inclusion going forward as changing demographics influence diversity, and cultural and social changes occur." (Phil Lewenstein, "My City Should Focus on Inclusion and Equity," [Phil's Focus](#), 12/31/20)

Vadnais Heights For Change Uses Leftist Language On Its Website, Highlighting That The Town "Occupies The Lands" Of Three Native American Tribes

VH4Change's Website Includes A Footer That Highlights, "Vadnais Heights Occupies The Lands Of Wahpekute, Anishinabewaki ᐱᓄᓄᓂᓂᓄᓂ, And Očeti Šakówiŋ (Sioux)."

([Vadnais Heights for Change](#), Accessed 6/30/22)

Vadnais Heights occupies the lands of [Wahpekute, Anishinabewaki ᐱᓄᓄᓂᓂᓄᓂ](#), and [Očeti Šakówiŋ \(Sioux\)](#).

([Vadnais Heights for Change](#), Accessed 6/30/22)

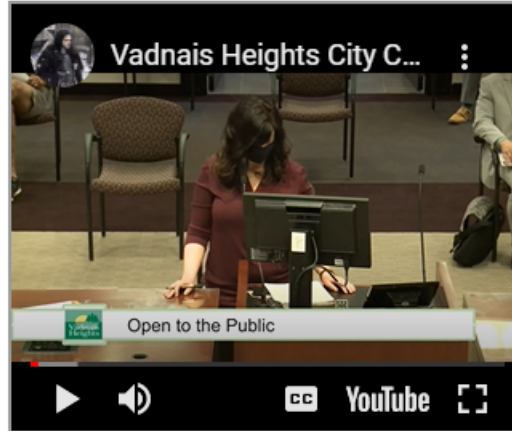
Members Of VH4Change, Including Gustafson, Criticized The Vadnais Heights' City Council's Reopen Resolution To COVID-19, Saying They Were "Not Taking The Lives Of Citizens Seriously."

Members Of VH4Change, Led By Gustafson, Pushed Back On Vadnais Heights' City Council's Reopen Resolution To COVID-19, Admonishing City Leaders For Denying The Opportunity For Citizens To Weigh In. "A masked Heather Gustafson represented about a half-dozen citizens whom she said 'felt strongly about the resolution, but did not want to speak.' The Southwood Drive resident admonished city leaders for denying the opportunity for citizens to weigh in on the Reopen Resolution, which was not on the public agenda, and said it was passed without support of the business community or Vadnais citizens." (Debra Neutkens, "Residents push back on Reopen Resolution," [Press Pubs](#), 5/27/20)

- At The City Council Meeting, Gustafson Also Condemned Council Members, Including CM Greg Urban For "Acting In Self-Interest And Not Taking The Lives Of Citizens Seriously."** "Gustafson called the resolution 'self-serving' for some members, pointing out that Urban owns a bar in Minneapolis, and that its passage was handled poorly. 'What's most appalling,' she added (addressing Urban), 'is you seem to be using your position in Vadnais Heights to assist your business in Minneapolis.' The councilman and Gustafson debated a citizen's Constitutional rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness (inalienable rights written in the Declaration of Independence), the right to assemble and the right to worship. Gustafson said the words are intentionally written in order and that 'life' is first." (Debra Neutkens, "Residents push back on Reopen Resolution," [Press Pubs](#), 5/27/20)

- **Gustafson Highlighted Her May 2020 City Council Appearance In Her 2021 Write-In Campaign For Vadnais Heights Mayor.** ([Write In Heather Gustafson for Vadnais Heights Mayor](#), Accessed 6/30/22)

When you go to vote this fall, please consider writing in my name: Heather Gustafson. (You may want to practice, it's very similar to my opponent. 😊) You can ask me any questions at hahgustafson@gmail.com. (P.S. Check out the recording of the May 19 council meeting, I'm the lady in the mask fighting for my fellow neighbors). Thank you.



([Write In Heather Gustafson for Vadnais Heights Mayor](#), Accessed 6/30/22)

In A February 2022 Tweet, VH4Change Praised The Efforts Of Local City Officials For “Giving Attention To Paid Family Leave”

In A February 2022 Tweet, VH4Change Praised The Efforts Of Local City Officials For “Giving Attention To Paid Family Leave.” “Thank you to CM Erik Goebel, CM Steve Rogers, & City Administrator Kevin Watson for giving attention to paid family leave. Our city workers deserve to have a paycheck while they care for their newest family members in those precious early days. We all deserve that. #vh4change” (“Paid Family Leave,” [Twitter](#), 2/9/22)

CAMPAIGN VULNERABILITIES

Gustafson Harshly Criticizes The GOP And Her Incumbent Opponent, Roger Chamberlain, In Several Interviews And Tweets

AUDIO: In A Podcast Interview In May 2022, Gustafson Accused Roger Chamberlain’s Campaign Of Taking Outside Money And Pushing “Opposition Research Against The DFL.” “Chamberlain’s campaign has a lot of money coming in from PACs and produces opposition research against the DFL to hurt their votes for Heather’s campaign... We are an underdog campaign.” (Heather Gustafson, [Interview With AM950](#), 5/16/22) 8:45-9:31

- **AUDIO: Gustafson Also Criticizes Chamberlain’s Reluctance To Address Overcrowded Classrooms, Shortage Of Staff, Lack Of Funding For Special Education.** “Roger Chamberlain is the head of the education finance committee, so he oversees and whenever we say please do something to help us – we kinda just throw that message at everybody in the legislature – he really is one of those people that could do it. He has the control and the power to kinda say, yes we will fund and no we won’t fund. And he’s choosing to say no... We’re falling very short on what schools need... When we have overcrowded classrooms, not enough staff and we’re not fully funding special education, we need to address those things first...With an historic surplus in the budget, there is still not enough money allocated to public schools.” (Heather Gustafson, [Interview With AM950](#), 5/16/22) 10:48-11:50
- **VIDEO: Gustafson: “Chamberlain Wants To Give Tax Breaks To The Wealthy And Defund Public Schools.”** ([YouTube](#), 4/27/22) 1:57- 2:03

Gustafson’s Husband Chad Is An Avid Hunter

AUDIO: Gustafson And Her Husband Own A Hunting Cabin In Wisconsin. “My husband is an avid hunter, angler. We have a hunting cabin in Wisconsin... I’m not a hunter. My husband is. But I belong to [Pheasants Forever and Ducks Unlimited] because of all the great conservation work that they do.” (Heather Gustafson, [Interview With AM950](#), 5/16/22) 1:40-1:51; 2:56-3:12

Website Relaunch

NOTE: *As noted below, initial research on Gustafson’s policy positions was done through her website in mid-June. By the end of the month, Gustafson had relaunched the website, drastically shifting her priorities. No archive was found but researchers were able to save a PDF of the page’s Google-cached version, which is included as Appendix A at the end of this report.*

Gustafson’s Website Reshuffled Her Priorities, From Highlighting Liberal Causes To Moderate Issues

In Gustafson’s Now-Deleted Website, She Prioritized Campaign Issues In The Following Order:

1. Education
2. Reduce Student Loan Debt
3. Workers’ Rights
4. Healthcare
5. Environment Protection [sic]
6. Public Safety
7. Legalize Marijuana
8. Reproductive Justice
9. LGBTQ+ Justice
10. Veterans.

(“Issues,” Gustafson for Senate, Cached Version Accessed 6/30/22)

Gustafson’s New Priorities Are Listed As:

1. Strong Economy
2. World-Class Schools
3. Safe Communities

4. Protection From Government Overreach.

(Priorities, [Heather Gustafson for State Senate](#), Accessed 6/30/22)

Environmental Protection, Healthcare, Workers’ Rights, Veterans, LGBTQ+ Justice, And Student Loan Debt Reduction Receive Mention As A Footnote On The Site. (Priorities, [Heather Gustafson for State Senate](#), Accessed 6/30/22)

Environmental Protection

I will work to protect and restore our water, farmland, and resources while strengthening our economy through green jobs.

Healthcare

I will work to expand healthcare coverage to Minnesotans of all income levels.

Workers’ Rights

I will collaborate with labor groups and workers to advocate for change and raise everyone’s standard of living.

Veterans

I will work to eliminate barriers to affordable housing and increase funding for mental health services for veterans.

LGBTQ+ Justice

I will work to reduce discrimination in our laws and create a more inclusive community for LGBTQ+ Minnesotans.

Student Loan Debt Reduction

I will work to reduce existing loan payments and expand education grants for qualifying families.

(Priorities, [Heather Gustafson for State Senate](#), Accessed 6/30/22)

Legalizing Marijuana And “Reproductive Justice” Are Not Mentioned On Gustafson’s New Site. (Priorities, [Heather Gustafson for State Senate](#), Accessed 6/30/22)

KEY ISSUES AND VOTES

ECONOMIC ISSUES

Job Growth

Gustafson Claimed That A Primary Focus Of Her Campaign Will Be Dedicated To Job Growth By Bringing In Sustainable Jobs And Supporting Local Businesses

Gustafson Claimed That A Primary Focus Of Her Campaign Will Be Dedicated To Job Growth, Bringing In More Sustainable Jobs To Minnesota. “In the economy... jobs... I think we have a real opportunity to bring in some new jobs, more sustainable jobs into our state, especially into places where I think are left without a lot of options.” (Heather Gustafson, [Interview With The DFL Debrief](#), 3/4/22) 29:15- 29:25

In May 2022, Gustafson Attended An Economic Development Event In Vadnais Heights And Tweeted Her Support For Small/Local Businesses In Her Community. “Local businesses are a pillar of our community and I’m proud to celebrate alongside some incredible small businesses tonight. Congrats to Elena Glass from @LakeshoreWBL & thanks to @VHEDC for hosting a great event! #smallbusiness #WithYouForUs” (Heather Gustafson, [Twitter Feed](#), 5/12/22)



(Heather Gustafson, [Twitter Feed](#), 5/12/22)

JOBS ISSUES

NOTE: During the research process, Gustafson relaunched her website. The “Issues” page is no longer available. No archive was found but researchers were able to save a PDF of the page’s Google-cached version, which is included as Appendix A at the end of this report.

Gustafson Supports Creating And Maintaining Labor Unions In Her District

Gustafson Argues That “Unions Promote Dignity And Fairness In The Workplace And Help Revitalize Our Economy And Democracy By Strengthening The Middle Class.” (“Issues,” [Gustafson for Senate](#), Accessed 6/14/22)

- **Gustafson Plans To Collaborate With Labor Unions.** “As a senator, I look forward to collaborating with labor groups and workers.” (“Issues,” [Gustafson for Senate](#), Accessed 6/14/22)

Gustafson Is Endorsed By The Minnesota Association Of Professional Employees And The American Federation of State, County And Municipal Employees. (Endorsements, [Heather Gustafson for State Senate](#). Accessed 6/30/22)



(Endorsements, [Heather Gustafson for State Senate](#). Accessed 6/30/22)

Gustafson Is Pushing For Green Energy Jobs

Gustafson Is Pushing For Green Energy Jobs, Claiming That They “Make Sense.” “Distributors, installers, and fabricators of renewable energy equipment are direct beneficiaries of clean energy policies across the country. They represent more than 62,000 Minnesotans who rely on a strong clean energy policy to provide stability to the renewable market and promote long-term growth.” (“Issues,” [Gustafson for Senate](#), Accessed 6/14/22)

HEALTH CARE

Gustafson Calls For Expanding Health Care Coverage In Minnesota

Gustafson Initially Endorsed “Expanding Healthcare Coverage” And “Replacing Our Current System.” “Americans have the highest healthcare spending in the world and Minnesota families feel this. The amount families pay for premiums, co-pays, prescriptions, and their deductible - it’s too much. Minnesota families should not have to stress over medical bills when they should be focused on getting healthy. Replacing our current system would allow some financial freedom and stability. Expanding healthcare coverage in Minnesota would provide uniform, comprehensive, affordable coverage to people of all income levels.” (“Issues,” [Gustafson for Senate](#), Accessed 6/14/22)

- **In A Late-June Edit To Her Website, Gustafson Removed Her Call To Replac[e] The Healthcare System.** (Priorities, [Heather Gustafson for State Senate](#), Accessed 6/30/22)

Healthcare

I will work to expand healthcare coverage to
Minnesotans of all income levels.

(Priorities, [Heather Gustafson for State Senate](#), Accessed 6/30/22)

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Gustafson Promotes Climate Issues As “Huge For Me” But May Not Fully Understand Environmental Challenges

On Gustafson’s Official Site, She Claims That “Climate Change Is An Immediate Threat To Minnesota.” “Natural resources aren’t limitless and need to be protected for future generations. It’s frustrating to see climate action being polarized with politics when we all need clean air and water.” (“Issues,” [Gustafson for Senate](#), Accessed 6/14/22)

AUDIO: Gustafson Noted That “The Environment Is Huge For Me” But Admitted She’s “Just Trying To Learn As Much As I Can.” “Beyond that, the environment is huge for me and

I'm really working with some great groups around our community who have been doing this work for a long time and just trying to learn as much as I can from them.” (Heather Gustafson, [Interview With The DFL Debrief](#), 3/4/22) 29:04-29:15

Gustafson Was Endorsed By The DFL Environmental Caucus For Her State Senate Race

Gustafson Was Endorsed By The DFL Environmental Caucus For Her State Senate Race. “Heather Gustafson is running for Senate in District 36 and had been fully endorsed by the DFL Environmental Caucus!” (Heather Gustafson, [Twitter Feed](#), 3/27/22)



(Heather Gustafson, [Twitter Feed](#), 3/27/22)

- **According To Its Official Endorsement, The Caucus Credited That When Gustafson “Tried To Get Her City Council To Become A Green Step City And The Mayor Blocked It,” It Sparked Gustafson’s Interest In Running.** “Heather is a high school history teacher with 4 kids of her own. When she tried to get her city council to become a Green Step City and the mayor blocked it, Heather decided it was time for more people to get ‘political.’” (“Our Endorsed Candidates 2022,” [DFL Environmental Caucus](#), Accessed 6/13/22; “Welcome to GreenStep Cities,” [Minnesota GreenStep Cities](#), Accessed 6/13/22)
- **Reportedly, Gustafson Is Connected With The NE Metro Climate Action Group (NEMCA), Which Works Directly With The Sierra Club And Other Groups.** “Northeast Metro Climate Action works with the climate initiatives of larger groups like Sierra Club, MN350, Citizens Climate Lobby to communicate with northeast metro communities regarding coming impacts of climate change and actions that can be taken to prepare for and adapt to them.” (“Our Endorsed Candidates 2022,” [DFL Environmental Caucus](#), Accessed 6/13/22; “About Us,” [Northeast Metro Climate Action](#), Accessed 6/13/22)

SOCIAL ISSUES

Abortion

Gustafson Is Pro-Choice And Has Called Abortion “Healthcare”

In May 2022, After The SCOTUS Leak, Gustafson Encouraged Voters To “Take [Their] Fear” And “Volunteer Or Donate To A Pro-Choice Campaign In Your State.” “Now, right now, is the time to volunteer or donate to a pro-choice campaign in your state. Take your fear and turn it into work that will elect people who will protect women’s reproductive rights. #RoeVsWade” (Heather Gustafson, [Twitter](#), 5/02/22)



Heather Gustafson
@gus_heather



Now, right now, is the time to volunteer or donate to a pro-choice campaign in your state. Take your fear and turn it into work that will elect people who will protect women's reproductive rights. [#RoeVsWade](#)

10:30 PM · May 2, 2022 · Twitter for Android

(Heather Gustafson, [Twitter](#), 5/02/22)

In June 2022, Gustafson Criticized The Supreme Court’s Decision To Overturn Roe v. Wade And Encouraged Minnesotans To Vote, Writing, “Protecting Our Healthcare Rights Is One Of The Reasons I’m Running For Office.” “Two things are clear after #Roe decision: - Republicans will not stop at abortion. - Flipping the Minnesota State Senate is more critical than ever. Protecting our healthcare rights is one of the reasons I’m running for office.” (Heather Gustafson, [Twitter](#), 6/24/22)



Heather Gustafson
@gus_heather



Two things are clear after [#Roe](#) decision: - Republicans will not stop at abortion.
- Flipping the Minnesota State Senate is more critical than ever.

Protecting our healthcare rights is one of the reasons I'm running for office.

secure.actblue.com/donate/gustafs...



11:16 AM · Jun 24, 2022 · Twitter for Android

(Heather Gustafson, [Twitter](#), 6/24/22)

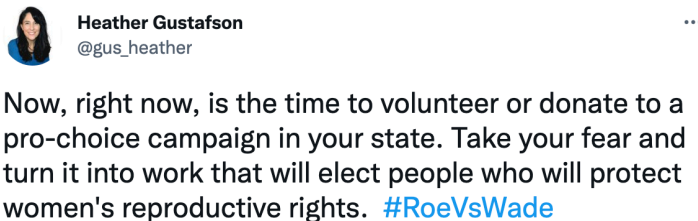
Gustafson Vowed To Protect Reproductive Freedom And Choice For Minnesotans

Gustafson Vowed To Protect Reproductive Freedom And Choice For Minnesotans With The Belief That “Minnesotans Should Be Able To Make Their Own Reproductive Decisions.” “Recent bills and laws in other states are stripping women of their right to choose and are inspiring Minnesota Republicans to propose similar plans. That ends when we win.” (“Issues,” [Gustafson for Senate](#), Accessed 6/14/22)

- **Gustafson Signaled She Opposes Any Restrictions On Abortion, Pledging To End “Bills And Laws... Stripping Women Of Their Right To Choose.”** “I believe Minnesotans should be able to make their own reproductive decisions. I will protect reproductive freedom and

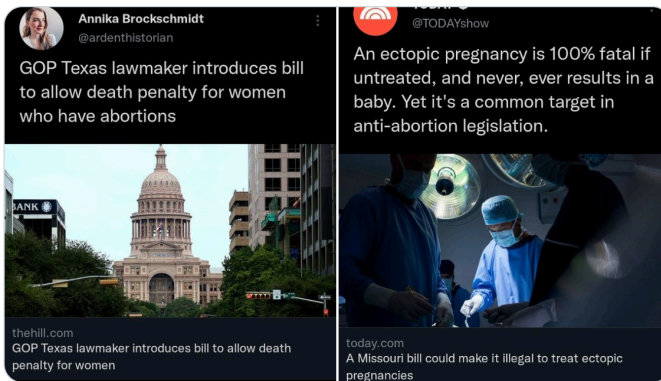
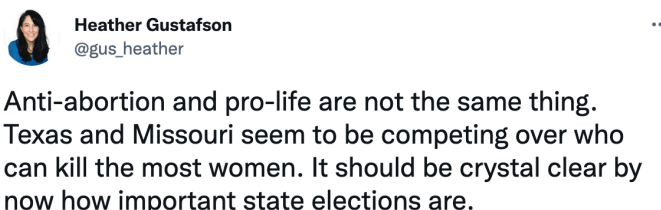
choice for Minnesotans. Recent bills and laws in other states are stripping women of their right to choose and are inspiring Minnesota Republicans to propose similar plans. That ends when we win.” (“Issues,” [Gustafson for Senate](#), Accessed 6/14/22)

In May 2022, Gustafson Urged Pro-Choice Voters To Go Out And Vote In A Tweet. “Now, right now, is the time to volunteer or donate to a pro-choice campaign in your state. Take your fear and turn it into work that will elect people who will protect women's reproductive rights. #RoeVsWade” (Heather Gustafson, [Twitter Feed](#), 5/2/22)



(Heather Gustafson, [Twitter Feed](#), 5/2/22)

- **Gustafson Alleged That “Anti-Abortion And Pro-Life Are Not The Same Thing.”** “Anti-abortion and pro-life are not the same thing. Texas and Missouri seem to be competing over who can kill the most women. It should be crystal clear by now how important state elections are.” (Heather Gustafson, [Twitter Feed](#), 3/12/22)



(Heather Gustafson, [Twitter Feed](#), 3/12/22)

Progressive Talking Points

Gustafson Has Promoted Progressive Talking Points, Calling CRT And Socialism “Fake Problems Meant To Divide Us”

Gustafson’s Campaign Celebrated Juneteenth. (VoteHeatherGustafson, [Instagram](#), 6/19/22)



(VoteHeatherGustafson, [Instagram](#), 6/19/22)

VIDEO: Gustafson Called CRT And Socialism “Fake Problems Meant To Divide Us.”
“When the GOP tells us to be angry with one another, that’s a political game they’re playing to distract us from issues in our state. If you look at the GOP’s talking points, they talk about CRT and socialism, which are fake problems meant to divide us.” ([YouTube](#), 4/27/22) Minute: 1:45- 1:56

LGBTQ+ Issues

Gustafson Has Voiced Support For The LGTBQ+ Community

Gustafson Criticized Recent GOP-Sponsored Bills That She Claimed “Discriminate” Against The LGTBQ+ Community And Has Pledged To “Create A More Inclusive And Supportive Community.” “As a lawmaker, I will work to create a more inclusive and supportive community for LGBTQ+ folks. In schools, sports, the workplace, and anywhere else we see discrimination - I will fight for your rights and freedom. Recent GOP-sponsored bills are an example of extremism meant to exclude and divide. These bills do not accurately reflect our Minnesota values.” (“Issues,” [Gustafson for Senate](#), Accessed 6/14/22)

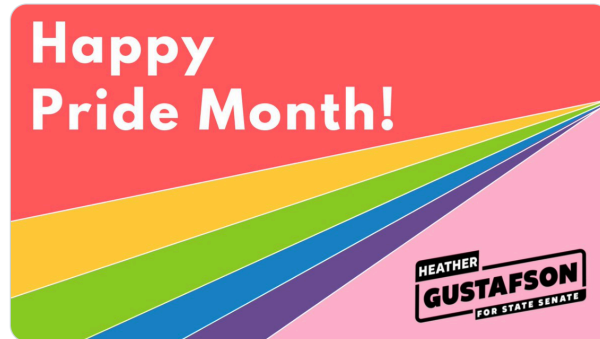
In June 2022, Gustafson Tweeted In Celebration Of Pride Month. “Happy #PrideMonth! A month of celebration for our LGBTQ+ friends, family, and neighbors and gratitude for the work done to demand visibility and support for this community. We’ve come so far, but there’s so much left to do. Let’s go!” (Heather Gustafson, [Twitter Feed](#), 6/1/22)



Heather Gustafson
@gus_heather



Happy #PrideMonth! A month of celebration for our LGBTQ+ friends, family, and neighbors and gratitude for the work done to demand visibility and support for this community. We've come so far, but there's so much left to do. Let's go!



(Heather Gustafson, [Twitter](#), 6/1/22)

In April 2022, Gustafson Was Endorsed By Pro LGBTQ+ Caucus Stonewall DFL022.

“Stonewall DFL is proud to endorse @gus_heather for Senate District 36! ‘I am so honored to receive the Stonewall DFL endorsement. I’ve been working to move my community to be a more inclusive and supportive community for our LGBTQ+ family, friends, and neighbors.’” (Heather Gustafson, [Twitter](#), 4/18/22)



(Heather Gustafson, [Twitter](#), 4/18/22)

Gustafson Posted A Tweet And Photo In Which She Announce Her Support For Trans Rights. “In the classroom, in the workplace, in sports, and anywhere else we see discrimination, I will fight to protect your rights. #FlipMNSenate” (Heather Gustafson, [Twitter](#), 3/6/22)

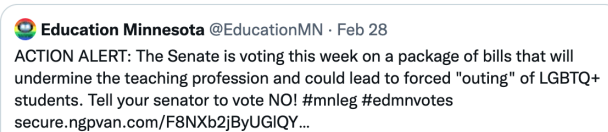


(Heather Gustafson, [Twitter](#), 3/6/22)

In June 2022, Gustafson Attended A Pro-LGTBQ+ Rally At The Minnesota State Capitol That Aimed To “Push Back Against Proposed Legislation They Say Would Hurt Transgender Children.” (Brittany Ermon, “Groups rally at Capitol to support transgender children,” [KSTP](#), 6/6/22)

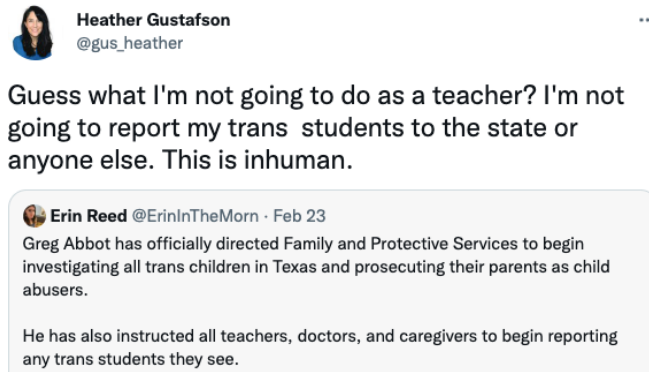
In 2022, Gustafson Said She Would Not Comply With Legislation Requiring Teachers To “Report” Their Transsexual Students

In March 2022, Gustafson Signaled Her Opposition To A Package Of Bills That She Characterized As Requiring Teachers To “Report” Their Transsexual Students, Calling It “Discrimination And A Betrayal Of Trust.” “I’m a teacher & will NEVER out/report my trans students to anyone. It’s discrimination and a betrayal of trust. As your SD36 senator, I will advocate for the rights of all our students and families.” (Heather Gustafson, [Twitter Feed](#), 3/1/22)



(Heather Gustafson, [Twitter Feed](#), 3/1/22)

- **In February 2022, Gustafson Signaled That She Had No Plans Of Reporting Her Trans Students To The State, Calling It “Inhuman.”** “Guess what I'm not going to do as a teacher? I'm not going to report my trans students to the state or anyone else. This is inhuman.” (Heather Gustafson, [Twitter Feed](#), 2/24/22)



(Heather Gustafson, [Twitter Feed](#), 2/24/22)

Recreational Marijuana

Gustafson Supports Legalizing Recreational Marijuana In The State of Minnesota

Gustafson Supports Regulating Recreational Marijuana, Emphasizing “Minnesota Will Take In More Tax Revenue, Save Law Enforcement Dollars, And Create New Jobs.” “I believe adults can use marijuana responsibly. If we regulate recreational marijuana the way we do alcohol, tobacco, and sports gambling, then Minnesota will take in more tax revenue, save law enforcement dollars, and create new jobs.” (“Issues,” [Gustafson for Senate](#), Accessed 6/14/22)

In March 2022, Gustafson Retweeted MN DFL’s Claim That State Senate Republicans Were “Out Of Touch With Minnesotans” And Blocking Attempts To “Legalize, Expunge, And Regulate” Cannabis. “The only reason we don't have a regulated market for adults to safely consume cannabis is because Senate Republicans are out of touch with Minnesotans on this issue. It's time to legalize, expunge, and regulate. #mnleg #legalizeMN” (Heather Gustafson, [Twitter Feed](#), 3/3/22)



(Heather Gustafson, [Twitter Feed](#), 3/3/22)

EDUCATION

Gustafson Says Education Reform Is Her Top Priority, And Supports Increasing Funding To School Districts

On Gustafson’s Campaign Site, She Asserts That The Schools In Her District Are “Incredibly Underfunded” And That Increased “Support For The Public School System Leads To A Quality Education.” “My mission as your senator is to provide Minnesota’s kids with the education they deserve. Our schools are incredibly underfunded. We know that in order to ensure every student in our state gets a quality education, we have to support our public school system.”

(“Issues,” [Gustafson for Senate](#), Accessed 6/14/22)

- **Gustafson Claims She Sees Her Mission As Senator As One To Provide “Better Access To Mental Health Services, Caring And Competent Staff In Every Classroom And Every School Building, And Resources To Help Every Student Learn And Thrive.”** “As your senator, I will fight for early education programs, fully funding special education, robust mental health access for students and educators, and push for more resources for students and families inside and outside of the classroom.” (“Issues,” [Gustafson for Senate](#), Accessed 6/14/22)

AUDIO: Gustafson Sees Her Top Priority As Education Reform. “Public schools are under attack, as someone who was a public high school teacher, I’m absolutely going to be protecting public schools whenever possible.” (Heather Gustafson, [Interview With The DFL Debrief](#), 3/4/22) 28:51-29:04

Gustafson Is A Supporter Of Reducing Student Loan Debt

Gustafson “Supports Reducing Existing Student Loan Payments And Expanding Education Grants For Families Who Qualify.” “As your senator, I support reducing existing student loan payments and expanding education grants for families who qualify. I will also work to advance programs in trade and technical training, apprenticeships, and skilled career paths.” (“Issues,” [Gustafson for Senate](#), Accessed 6/14/22)

- **Gustafson Believes “The Effects Of Student Loan Debt Negatively Impact The Lives Of Borrowers.”** “If we do nothing about student loan debt, then the collective burden of student loan debt will contribute to lower homeownership rates, less small business development, and slower economic growth.” (“Issues,” [Gustafson for Senate](#), Accessed 6/14/22)

MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES

Veterans Affairs

Gustafson Supports Measures For Affordable Housing And Increasing State Funding For Mental Health Services For Veterans. “I support measures that would end discriminatory housing policies as well as eliminate barriers to affordable housing for veterans. Moreover, the majority of veterans experiencing homelessness in Minnesota have experienced trauma. We need to increase state funding for mental health services in our veteran population.” (“Issues,” [Gustafson for Senate](#),

Accessed 6/14/22)

- **Gustafson Plans To “Work With Lawmakers And Community Groups To End Veteran Homelessness.”** “Veterans deserve to be treated with dignity. We need to use more than words to express our gratitude for their sacrifice and service. As your senator, I will work with lawmakers and community groups to end veteran homelessness.” (“Issues,” [Gustafson for Senate](#), Accessed 6/14/22)

APPENDIX A



DONATE



Gustafson for Senate

Home

Meet Heather

Issues

Get Involved

Support

ISSUES

EDUCATION

My mission as your senator is to provide Minnesota's kids with the education they deserve. Our schools are incredibly underfunded. We know that in order to ensure every student in our state gets a quality education, we have to support our public school system.

With more than \$9 billion in surplus revenue, Minnesota has the resources to support schools across the state. We can care for our students by supporting the things we know make a difference - better access to mental health services, caring and competent staff in every classroom and every school building, and resources to help every student learn and thrive.

As a current teacher in the public school system, my experience in the classroom will guide my decisions. I am able to advocate for students and families in a way that others cannot. As your senator, I will fight for early education programs, fully funding special education, robust mental health access for students and educators, and push for more resources for students and families inside and outside of the classroom.

REDUCE STUDENT LOAN DEBT

I believe Minnesotans should receive an education without the burden of crushing debt when they graduate.

 College tuition is rising at historic rates. Meanwhile, wages for new college graduates remain at



DONATE



Gustafson for Senate

Home

Meet Heather

Issues

Get Involved

Support

borrowers, essentially trapping them in an almost hopeless financial situation.

As your senator, I support reducing existing student loan payments and expanding education grants for families who qualify. I will also work to advance programs in trade and technical training, apprenticeships, and skilled career paths.

WORKERS' RIGHTS

Unions promote dignity and fairness in the workplace. Unions help revitalize our economy and democracy by strengthening the middle class.

Raising the standard of living to ensure Minnesotans have access to a decent education, good-paying jobs, affordable childcare, full healthcare coverage, housing, and senior services is the right thing to do.

As a senator, I look forward to collaborating with labor groups and workers. I support programs for Minnesota families that reduce the cost of childcare and early education.

HEALTHCARE

Americans have the highest healthcare spending in the world and Minnesota families feel this. The amount families pay for premiums, co-pays, prescriptions, and their deductible - it's too much.

Minnesota families should not have to stress over medical bills when they should be focused on getting healthy. Replacing our current system would allow some financial freedom and stability. Expanding healthcare coverage in Minnesota would provide uniform, comprehensive, affordable coverage to people of all income levels.

ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION

Climate change is an immediate threat to Minnesota, and we must work together in order to build a more sustainable future for our state. Natural resources aren't limitless and need to be protected for future generations. It's frustrating to see climate action being polarized with politics when we all need clean air and water.



DONATE



Gustafson for Senate

Home

Meet Heather

Issues

Get Involved

Support

I will work to protect and restore our water, farmland, and resources. I believe there is common ground with many groups when it comes to protecting our environment. As the granddaughter of a farmer and the wife of an avid hunter and angler, agriculture and hunting are industries that depend on clean water and soil to survive. We can all work to make sure our planet and its resources are protected and strengthen our economy while we do it.

PUBLIC SAFETY

I believe we should fund public safety needs. My grandpa was a state trooper, I know how stressful law enforcement jobs can be. I also know that we can do better to protect and serve Minnesotans. I support proven prevention strategies that disrupt criminal activity, stop violence and improve overall public safety. This includes support and early intervention for teenagers, families, and communities. Policing policies should be accountable to the community it serves.

LEGALIZE MARIJUANA

Responsible marijuana smokers should not be treated as criminals.

I believe adults can use marijuana responsibly. If we regulate recreational marijuana the way we do alcohol, tobacco, and sports gambling, then Minnesota will take in more tax revenue, save law enforcement dollars, and create new jobs.

REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE

I believe Minnesotans should be able to make their own reproductive decisions. I will protect reproductive freedom and choice for Minnesotans. Recent bills and laws in other states are stripping women of their right to choose and are inspiring Minnesota Republicans to propose similar plans. That ends when we win.

LGBTQ+ JUSTICE

I am passionate about fairness and equality for the LGBTQ+ community.

The Medical Rights community has been calling for the establishment of a Human Rights



DONATE



Gustafson for Senate

[Home](#)

[Meet Heather](#)

[Issues](#)

[Get Involved](#)

[Support](#)

readership represents.

As a lawmaker, I will work to create a more inclusive and supportive community for LGBTQ+ folks. In schools, sports, the workplace, and anywhere else we see discrimination - I will fight for your rights and freedom. Recent GOP-sponsored bills are an example of extremism meant to exclude and divide. These bills do not accurately reflect our Minnesota values.

VETERANS

Veterans deserve to be treated with dignity. We need to use more than words to express our gratitude for their sacrifice and service. As your senator, I will work with lawmakers and community groups to end veteran homelessness. I support measures that would end discriminatory housing policies as well as eliminate barriers to affordable housing for veterans. Moreover, the majority of veterans experiencing homelessness in Minnesota have experienced trauma. We need to increase state funding for mental health services in our veteran population.

DONATE

Prepared and Paid for by Friends to Elect Heather Henry Gustafson, 99 Southwood Drive, Vadnais Heights, MN

55127

