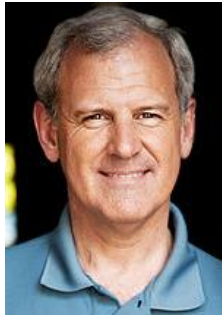


Alabama CD-01

Bradley Byrne (R)

BIOGRAPHY



Biography: When mainstream Republicans were looking for someone to fill Jo Bonner's newly-vacant seat, Bradley Byrne seemed like a made-to-order candidate. Byrne is a relatively mild-mannered, middle-of-the-road conservative, a veteran politician, and a member of a family that might be considered Alabama royalty. The Byrne family settled in Mobile in 1780. Since then, its members have held public offices ranging from probate judge to postmaster to county

sheriff. After earning a law degree from the University of Alabama, Byrne got his first taste of political life, serving as campaign manager for a Democratic congressional candidate in 1984. Although Byrne's family had been long-time Democrats, he was growing uncomfortable with the direction his party was taking, complaining that it was becoming "too liberal for us." He remained with the party, though, running successfully as a Democrat for a seat on the Alabama State Board of Education in 1994. He crossed the aisle officially in 1997, winning re-election under the Republican banner a year later. From there, Byrne moved to the Alabama State Senate, winning convincingly in 2002 and again in 2006. He distinguished himself by championing educational and environmental causes. Byrne left the State Senate in 2007 to serve as chancellor of the Alabama Community College System, where he led an investigation into widespread corruption in the state's two-year college system. He left in 2009 to pursue an ultimately unsuccessful run for governor. He's spent the last three years practicing law in Mobile. Alabama's deeply conservative 1st Congressional District is also home to Dean Young, a political neophyte and tea party firebrand who proudly compared himself to Ted Cruz and invited residents to vote for him and then "get a big old thing of popcorn and a Big Super Gulp and lean back and turn on C-SPAN" to enjoy his obstructionist theatrics. Campaigning in the Republican primary as a rational alternative to Young's flame-throwing extremism, Byrne said his opponent would be "an embarrassment to the Party." Despite Young's grassroots support in rural portions of the district, Byrne rode a wave of high-profile endorsements to take a surprisingly close primary race. Winning every county, Byrne had significantly less trouble beating Democrat Burton LeFlore in the December special election.

Fast Facts

Born: February 16, 1955, Mobile, AL

Residence: Fairhope

Religion: Episcopalian

Family: Married, Rebecca Byrne; four children

Education: Duke University; University of Alabama School of Law

Career: Chancellor, Alabama Community College System; Attorney

Military: None

Previous Office: Alabama State Senate; Ala. State Board of Education

LOCAL COVERAGE

From The *Mobile Press-Register*: "Bradley Byrne has been in the arena, not just on the edge of it. He's what Coastal Alabama needs right now. ... Now is not the time to send a neophyte to Washington, although several of the candidates competing for former Congressman Jo Bonner's seat could surely

grow into the job. There's only one who would open up his laptop and go straight to work: Bradley Byrne. No other candidate has the depth and breadth of experience, the leadership skills, a track record of consensus building as well as the critically important mastery of the political martial arts. Byrne excels in all of those categories, while the best-of-the-rest have exhibited strength in only one or two. At age 58, Byrne may be the old geezer on the ballot, but he clearly has consecrated himself to this mission and talks about its challenges with a teenager's enthusiasm. His resume of public service is thick, and the Press-Register developed a rich tradition of endorsing him over the years." (Editorial, "Our View," *Mobile Press-Register*, 9/22/13)

Political Information

2013 ELECTION RESULTS

Election	Party	Candidate	Percent	Votes
2013 Special Election	Rep	Bradley Byrne	71%	36,042
	Dem	Burton LeFlore	29%	14,968
2013 Runoff Election	Rep	Bradley Byrne	52%	38,150
	Rep	Dean Young	48%	34,534
2013 Primary Election	Rep	Bradley Byrne	35%	18,090
	Rep	Dean Young	23%	12,011
	Rep	Chad Fincher	16%	8,177

PREVIOUS ELECTION RESULTS

Election	Party	Candidate	Percent	Votes
2012 General Election	Rep	Jo Bonner	100%	196,073
	Non	Unopposed	-	-

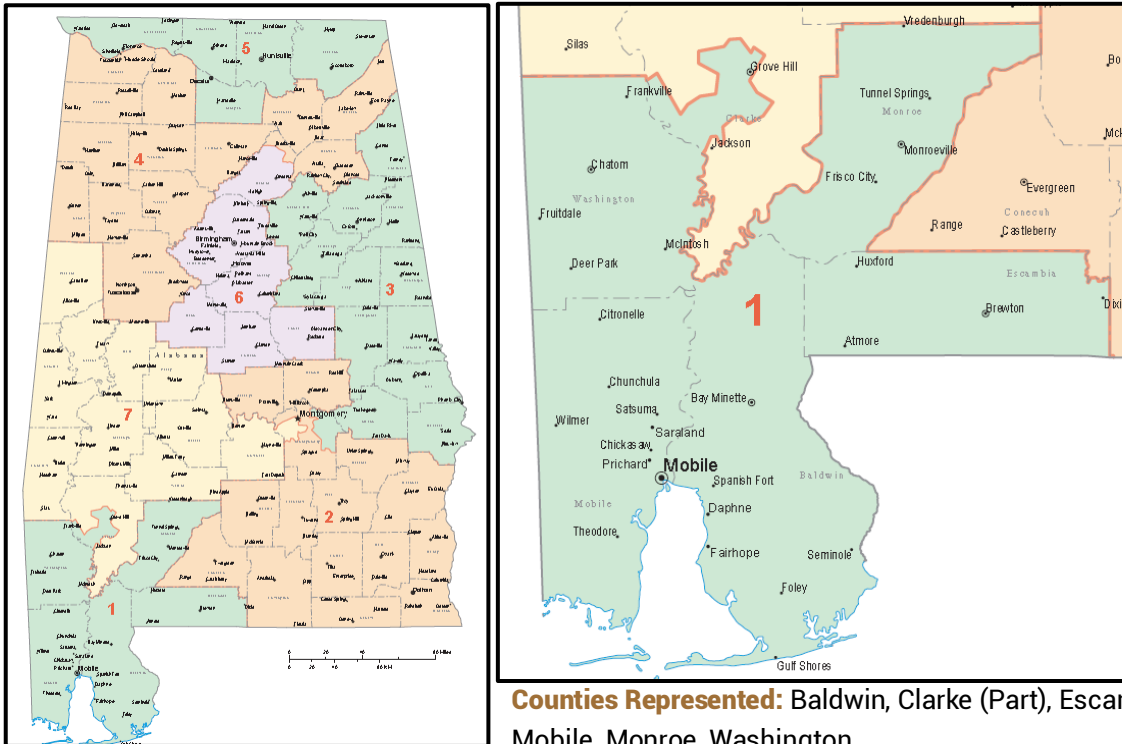
PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION RESULTS

Election	Party	Candidate	Percent	Votes
2012 Presidential Election	Rep	Mitt Romney	62%	184,743
	Dem	Barack Obama	37%	111,712
2008 Presidential Election	Rep	John McCain	61%	183,754
	Dem	Barack Obama	38%	115,981

DISTRICT DESCRIPTION

Alabama Congressional District 1: While Alabama's southernmost congressional district is home to a few rural back country settlements, more than 60 percent of its residents live in Mobile, a former Confederate port and New Orleans lookalike that has been celebrating its own Mardi Gras since 1703. Its grand southern homes hint at affluence, but Mobile has been hit hard recently, first by Hurricane Katrina which carved a mile-long gash on the beach and created a new island, and later by the BP spill that covered the beaches in oil. Today, Mobile is a city on the mend. Although the desolate beaches have left the tourism industry in tatters, shipbuilding and manufacturing are picking up the slack as new shipyards, storage terminals, and factories are bringing prosperity back to the district. While unemployment is well above the national average, the mean household income is about \$4,000 above average. The Democratic Party has had solid support from the African American community, which accounts for about 30 percent of the population, but the decidedly conservative district has been a virtual lock for Republicans over half a century.

STATE AND DISTRICT MAP



DISTRICT DEMOGRAPHICS

Category	Estimate
Total population	693,136
Median age (years)	38.70

Category	Estimate
18 years and over	528,601
65 years and over	105,175
Race	
White	470,105
Black or African American	192,099
Asian	9,751
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	20,334
Employment Status	
Civilian labor force	316,257
Employed	279,664
Unemployed	36,593
Armed Forces	1,555
Percent Unemployed	11.6%
Occupations	
Management, business, science, and arts occupations	85,661
Service occupations	71,742
Sales and office occupations	50,539
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	40,914
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	30,808
Top Industries	
Educational services, and health care and social assistance	61,978
Retail trade	39,691
Construction	32,599
Public administration	27,174
Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services	25,772
Economic	
Median household income (dollars)	\$41,450
Mean household income (dollars)	\$55,809
Health Insurance Coverage	

Category	Estimate
With private health insurance	418,814
With public coverage	240,615
No health insurance coverage	106,002
Education	
Percent high school graduate or higher	85.4%
Percent bachelor's degree or higher	22.1%

CAMPAIGN FINANCE

Candidate	Party	Receipts (\$)	Indiv. Cont. (\$)	PAC Cont. (\$)	Candidate (\$)	Spent (\$)	Debt (\$)
Byrne, Bradley	Rep	1,119,799	708,698	411,100	-	983,582	75,063
LeFlore, Burton	Dem	6,649	6,649	-	70	5,686	-

TOP DONORS BY INDUSTRY: BRADLEY BYRNE

Rank	Industry	Total
1	Lawyers/Law Firms	\$61,950
2	Retired	\$58,550
3	Insurance	\$30,600
4	Real Estate	\$16,550
5	Health Professionals	\$15,500
6	Business Services	\$12,700
7	General Contractors	\$12,350
8	Lobbyists	\$9,500
9	Building Materials & Equipment	\$9,100
10	Misc Finance	\$8,100
11	Construction Services	\$7,450
12	Hospitals/Nursing Homes	\$7,200
13	Beer, Wine & Liquor	\$6,500

(Center For Responsive Politics, www.opensecrets.org, Accessed 12/16/13)

TOP DONORS BY BUSINESS / GROUP: BRADLEY BYRNE

Rank	Business / Group	Total
1	Pilot Catastrophe Services	\$21,600
2	Jones Walker LLP	\$9,500
3	Saad Enterprises	\$8,050
4	Columbia Southern University	\$5,500
5	Budweiser-Busch Distribution	\$5,500
6	Blue Cross/Blue Shield	\$5,500
7	HealthSouth Corp	\$5,200
8	SH Enterprises	\$5,200
9	Great Southern Wood Preserving	\$5,100
10	Burr & Forman	\$4,750
11	Cooper Group of Companies	\$4,500
12	Hand Arendall LLC	\$4,100
13	Fine, Geddie & Assoc	\$4,000
14	Gulf Distributing Holdings	\$4,000
15	Adams & Reese	\$3,500
16	Scotch & Gulf Lumber	\$3,500

(Center For Responsive Politics, www.opensecrets.org, Accessed 12/16/13)

Policy Information

PHILOSOPHY OF GOVERNMENT

Byrne Sees Himself As "A Conservative Reformer." "Byrne doesn't necessarily embrace the 'establishment' label, arguing that his tenure on the state school board, in the state Senate and later as a statewide two-year college system chief makes him 'a conservative reformer.'" (Bill Barrow, "GOP Internal Divide Plays Out In Alabama Campaign," *The Associated Press*, 11/2/13)

During The Campaign, Byrne Promoted His Record Of Negotiating With Democrats In The Alabama Legislature – "I Don't Fight For The Sake Of Fighting." "[Byrne] promoted his record of negotiating with Democrats in the Alabama Legislature to find consensus. 'I'm a strong person when it comes to what I think and that I'll fight like crazy, but I don't fight for the sake of fighting,' Byrne said." (Mary Orndorff Troyan, "Byrne Makes Rounds On Capitol Hill," *The Montgomery Advertiser*, 11/20/13)

Byrne: "We're Never Going To Solve Our Problems In Washington If All We're Doing Is Fighting. Never. And You Can't Solve Problems If You're Not Talking. So, I'm A Big Proponent Of Talking. Don't Ever Surrender Your Principles; And I Don't Think I've Ever Had To Surrender My Principles In The Past." (Sean Sullivan, "A Chat With Alabama House Candidate Bradley Byrne," *The Washington Post*, 11/6/13)

While Stating "There Are Ways To Work Together," Byrne Generally Believes Obstruction In Washington "Is Coming From The Democrats." "Byrne said that his experience in the Legislature and the two-year college system mandated that he work with members of both parties. 'There are ways to work together without sacrificing principle. I don't think the obstruction in Washington is coming from the Republicans. I think it is coming from the Democrats,' he said." (Cassie Fambro, "LeFlore, Byrne Tangle At Debate," *Mobile Register*, 12/6/13)

In His Campaign Advertising, Byrne Called Washington D.C. A "Mess," Promising To Go To The Nation's Capital To "Fight To Clean It Up." "Seeking to remind folks about one last election on Tuesday of next week, Republican Bradley Byrne launched a TV ad hitting a number of familiar themes. ... A narrator decries the 'Washington mess' and vows, 'Bradley Byrne will fight to clean it up.'" (Brendan Kirby, "As Vote Looms, Byrne Hits Airwaves," *Mobile Register*, 12/11/13)

Byrne: "If You're In The Minority, As We Are In Washington, You've Got To Be Unified Or You Can Accomplish Nothing." (Campbell Robertson, "Byrne Wins Republican Runoff In Alabama House Race," *The New York Times*, 11/6/13)

Drawing On His Christian Foundation, Byrne Believes The Answer To America's "Moral Crisis" Is To Heed God's Call "And Do His Will." "My faith in Christ is my foundation. Our nation faces a moral crisis, but it doesn't have to be that way. As God called the people of Israel back time and time again we in America have the responsibility to heed His call and do His will. Our Congress can set a better example." ("Issues," www.byrneforcongress.com, Accessed 12/14/13)

ON DEFENSE

Byrne Sees His District As A Hub Of Aviation And Shipbuilding – "This Is Our Magic Moment And We Must Seize It." "Our district is poised for greatness. With Airbus and Austal, our single biggest private-sector employer in the district, we are already a center for aviation and shipbuilding. We have one of the fastest-expanding cargo ports in the world. This is our magic moment and we must seize it." ("Issues," www.byrneforcongress.com, Accessed 12/14/13)

ON HEALTH CARE

"Byrne Opposes The Federal Health Care Law." (Phillip Rawls, "Rare Holiday Election To Decide Ala. Congressman," *The Associated Press*, 12/14/13)

"Byrne Said He Would Not Settle For Amending The Health Care Law. 'Republicans Need To Have The Discipline To Say 'No, We're Not Going To Fix It, We're Going To Repeal It,' Byrne Said." (Mary Orndorff Troyan, "Byrne Makes Rounds On Capitol Hill," *The Montgomery Advertiser*, 11/20/13)

Byrne Expects Democrats To Come To Republicans To Fix Obamacare, But He Wants To Repeal It And Then Find A "Common-Sense Replacement." Byrne: "I think Obamacare is becoming so unpopular that

Democrats are literally going to come to Republicans and say, ya'll have got to help us. They are going to want Republicans to help them fix it. And my position is, we are not going to help you fix it, we will help you repeal it and talk about a common-sense replacement." (Sean Sullivan, "A Chat With Alabama House Candidate Bradley Byrne," *The Washington Post*, 11/6/13)

ON INFRASTRUCTURE

Byrne Sees The Need For Infrastructure Spending In The District, Including Deepening And Widening The Mobile Ship Channel. "I will focus on the local Infrastructure needs of our district. For instance, we need to build a new I-10 bridge across Mobile Bay and extend the Foley Beach Express to I-65. We need secure the necessary funding to deepen and widen the Mobile ship channel, so we can realize the full potential of our cargo port." ("Issues," www.byrneforcongress.com, Accessed 12/14/13)

ON JOBS & THE ECONOMY

To Byrne, The Job Of A Congressman Is More Than Acting On National Issues – It's About Local Jobs In Places Like Shipbuilding Yards Along The Mobile River. "'Tone is important,' Byrne said, sitting in his downtown law office in the district's population center. 'The job of a congressman is more than just what you say about these national issues,' he said, pointing down at the shipbuilding yards along the Mobile River. 'It's about those jobs right out there. You have to be able to work with people, in Washington and at home.'" (Bill Barrow, "GOP Internal Divide Plays Out In Alabama Campaign," *The Associated Press*, 11/2/13)

ON TAXES & BUDGET

Byrne: "I'll Lead The Charge To Balance The Budget Without Raising Taxes, Hold The Line On Spending, And Allow The American Economy To Expand Through Natural, Bottom-Up Growth." ("Issues," www.byrneforcongress.com, Accessed 12/14/13)

Byrne: "I Will Fight For A Simpler And Fairer Tax Code That Would Virtually Eliminate The Need For The Corrupt IRS." ("Issues," www.byrneforcongress.com, Accessed 12/14/13)

Byrne Signed The Americans For Tax Reform Pledge Opposing Increases To Marginal Income Tax Rates, As Well As Cuts In Deductions And Credits. "By signing ATR's Taxpayer Protection Pledge, Byrne has committed to oppose any and all efforts to increase the marginal income tax rates for individuals and/or businesses and oppose any net reduction or elimination of deductions and credits, unless matched dollar for dollar by further reducing tax rates." (Americans For Tax Reform, "Pledge Signer Bradley Byrne Wins Republican Runoff In Alabama-01," *States News Service*, 11/6/13)

"On The Federal Debt, Byrne Advocates A Balanced Budget And Spending Cuts Across The Board. Leflore Proposes Cuts For Military Spending But Not Social Programs." (Phillip Rawls, "Rare Holiday Election To Decide Ala. Congressman," *The Associated Press*, 12/14/13)

Byrne On The Federal Debt: "The Federal Government Is Spending Money It Doesn't Have. ... It Is Immoral." (Cassie Fambro, "Leflore, Byrne Tangle At Debate," *Mobile Register*, 12/6/13)