



IN PERSON QUESTIONS-Tyler Bass

- 1. Tell us about a time you lost something important (election, job, business etc.) and how you handled it.**

During the COVID-19 pandemic, many personal training clients paused due to the state shutdowns. As restrictions eased and demand for personal training returned, the business grew quickly. I obtained my Minnesota Life and Health insurance license and credit repair license during and after COVID because the business was doing well. I hired additional trainers and put them through my training process, but realized the business model wasn't quite right yet.

After personally training clients for over 10 years, I grew out of wanting to train people myself. Even though the fitness business was successful, in 2023 I decided to shift my focus back to general contracting and home remodeling — the work I grew up doing and enjoy most. While I was licensed in insurance and credit repair, credit repair is a nice skill to have, but it wasn't the right long-term business for me.

The original fitness company is still active. I built a social fitness app and plan to reboot it in the future with an improved business model that allows me to sell leads to personal trainers, who will then be responsible for their own outcomes.

- 2. Are there any votes or positions our party/organization has taken in the last five years that you disagree with and why.**

On a national level, there isn't much I disagree with. I strongly support the SAVE Act. I'm tired of seeing our American tax dollars sent overseas while we have serious issues right here at home — like improving healthcare access, lowering the cost of medications, and promoting overall wellness.

As a former licensed health insurance agent, I'd like to see real changes to health insurance policy. The ACA currently forces everyone to pay the same premiums regardless of health status, even though not everyone needs the same level of care. I believe we should offer Americans the option of a fully underwritten health plan

based on actual health assessments and blood work. Healthy people would pay less because they use fewer services, which would help lower overall healthcare costs in America while still covering those who need more care.

I strongly disagree with wasting American tax dollars on foreign programs, especially the kind DOGE has exposed — like millions spent on DEI initiatives in Serbia, a “DEI musical” in Ireland, a transgender opera in Colombia, and other ridiculous overseas projects. We need to keep our money here fixing problems in America first.

Locally, I disagree with restrictions on guns, including limits on ammunition that affect law-abiding citizens like mothers protecting their families. I’m strongly for border protection and applied to ICE months ago. I support legal immigration, not illegal immigration.

3. What is the single biggest problem facing this country in the future and how should Congress address it?

We must limit H-1B visas nationwide immediately. Here in Minnesota we’re already down 95,000 jobs for Minnesotans, and the biggest problem is that the H-1B program allows Big Tech companies and our major employers in the Twin Cities to hire H-1B workers instead of hard-working Americans. Once again, we’re being passed over for employment in our own country.

The clear solution is to cap H-1B visa holders at no more than 1% of any company’s workforce and require the rest to be true Americans. This would drive health insurance premiums down because right now H-1B holders are riding on our insurance plans. It would also help bring housing prices down by reducing the number of people competing for homes. Most importantly, the current H-1B system is driving American wages down and creating a stigma that American workers are only suited for “low-wage” jobs.

If we want working Americans to have the same buying power that Boomers enjoyed in the 1970s, the federal minimum wage would need to be \$66 per hour—yet it’s still stuck at \$7.25. We need to raise the minimum wage and put Americans first in every hiring decision.

For foreign workers who want jobs in tech or other skilled fields, companies should only be allowed to hire them as 1099 independent contractors. That way they don’t get access to American health insurance benefits and must obtain their own coverage, which will help drive premiums down for the rest of us.

The only legal immigrants in this country should be those who enter with proper work visas. It is entirely possible to be illegally present in the United States but still hold a work permit. The state of Minnesota is currently issuing work permits

to illegal immigrants, with many set to expire around the year 2035. All in all, we need to prevent the issuing of work permits altogether and only allow work visas to be issued. The work permits and ITIN system allow illegals to form LLCs, become general contractors and bid on jobs all while being illegally in our country.

On top of that, the ITIN (Individual Tax Identification Number) system allows illegal immigrants to obtain a taxable identification number. This lets them form an LLC, open bank accounts, get insurance, and even become licensed general contractors here in Minnesota. Many of these illegal workers are being exploited by certain general contractors who pay them the lowest wages possible in exchange for steady work. These contractors are stealing jobs from honest, hard-working American citizens and legal, permit-holding immigrants. This has been going on for over 20 years.

They are able to underbid legitimate contractors by as much as 90% by underpaying their illegal workforce. This practice is extremely disruptive and unfair to law-abiding contractors in the construction industry. I want to see this issue addressed at the federal level.

Chuck Schumer and Bernie Sanders are two of the biggest problems in government today. Term limits and fair elections are what's really holding great candidates back from taking on the Democrat Party. Too many career politicians like Nancy Pelosi have been in office longer than I've been alive. Every time we elect a Republican President, they still stand up and blame the Republican Party — all while lobbying to send our tax dollars overseas, only for that money to circle back into their own pockets.

America First means putting American workers, American wages, and American families first—period. We must secure our borders, protect our jobs, and restore opportunity for the people who built this country.

4. What is one major policy you have changed your mind in the last ten years and what caused you to change it?

None that he can think of.

5. Tell us about a situation where you had to address competing and conflicting interests? How did you handle it and what was the outcome?

When I was being recruited for football, I received offers from both Luther College and Wartburg College — two big rivals. Wartburg recruits far more aggressively, bringing in about 100 freshmen each year while expecting a large number to quit. Luther, on the other hand, had around 110 committed players actually on the field. After visiting both schools and evaluating them, I chose Luther as the better option for me.

I also built a social fitness app where users could create profiles and document their fitness journeys with photos and posts. Most of the users were from the Twin Cities area. At the time, I was making good money across several industries, but I was spending heavily on marketing. The profit margins at the end of the year were disappointing, so at that fork in the road, I decided to switch my focus back to the construction business.

With many illegal workers either detained or staying out of the public eye due to fear of detention, there is now considerably more work available for me and my American citizen crew.

6. What is your plan to find a media outlet outside of our local legacy media (MPR, StarTribune, WCCO, KARE11, KTSP etc.) to gain name recognition and attention to your message?

I'm very comfortable with technology and social media, and I plan to lean heavily into it to promote my campaign. I enjoy making videos and have strong marketing skills. I'm going to model my style after Benny Johnson and speak openly about the election fraud I've personally witnessed here in Minnesota. I'll use YouTube to run commercials and have already converted my website from Republicans4Prez to Bass4Congress for the campaign.

7. Who is the best grassroots organizer you know personally who has already committed to working on your campaign?

I worked with Brad Kohler and met several good people through him. I plan to post a job listing on Indeed to recruit campaign staff and volunteers. I've also been actively reaching out to people I know to build my team.

8. Tell us about something that you consider to be one of your greatest

accomplishments.

One of my greatest accomplishments was my football journey at Luther College. I started as a freshman, returned punts and kicks, and finished 16th in the nation in punt and kick returns. As a sophomore, I was recruited by the Kansas City Chiefs. Unfortunately, I broke my clavicle during my junior year.

I also had the opportunity to travel overseas with the team to play games in Germany, Switzerland, and Austria. We played against a German football team and ran a football camp for local kids in Switzerland to help grow the sport there. After the trip, I was offered a position as a running back with the Milan Rhinos in Italy, but I turned it down because I still had one semester left of college and wanted to finish my degree.

Beyond sports, I spent countless late nights studying in the Luther library until it closed, putting in hundreds of hours to prepare myself for the real world. When it comes to work ethic, that is my biggest accomplishment — and it's something I learned from my dad.

Another major accomplishment is repairing my relationship with my family after several years of being disconnected.

9. What keeps you up at night?

Running multiple businesses keeps me up at night. When you're a small business owner, you have to wear every hat — I handled the marketing, advertising, sales, website development, lead generation, planning, and payroll all on my own. Every time money came in, it immediately went back into the business to buy more leads, build new websites, and keep growing. I don't have 40 employees handling things for me. It's a lot of stress, but it's also taught me a tremendous amount along the way.

10. How do you handle personal attacks on you and/or your family?

I grew up with social media and have used it my entire life, so I'm very comfortable navigating it. I know there will always be people with different —

and sometimes very negative — political opinions about me. At the end of the day, I know who I am, and social media won't change that.

I maintain a presence on all major social media platforms. When responding, I try to stay respectful, professional, and focused strictly on the facts.

11. After you are no longer in office, what do you want people to say you accomplished?

If I can deliver on the things I say I'm going to do, I'll be happy with my legacy. I want to be known as someone who follows through — a person who actually does what he says he will do.