

For a gubernatorial candidate, we have chosen Alderman Ameya Pawar of the 47th ward. Initially, we had thought to choose an opposite party member of the incumbent, which wasn't hard since Bruce Rauner was the only Republican candidate at the time of our choosing, and, to our prediction, will most likely be the only Republican candidate for Illinois Governor. On the list of Democratic candidates, there were nearly a dozen. Along with a new political party, we chose Ameya Pawar for his diversification, since it feels like nearly every person of power in America is a perfect copy of each other. When diving deeper into Ameya's stances, we found him to agree on the group's greatest vexation; education.

Alderman Ameya Pawar seems to have a very strong opinion on education and has made it one of his main goals in his campaign. As well as him already being an Alderman of the 47th ward, has gotten a jump start of his goal for education by creating GROW47. "GROW47 is a community led and driven committee composed of parents, teachers, community leaders, neighbors and the 47th Ward office working together to build and maintain strong neighborhood schools" (Grow47). Clearly he is very dedicated to the education of his community as well as others, safe to say he very much wants to continue his goals of improving the education system. For both initial education and higher education "we must lessen the student loan debt that is weighing down consumer spending, wealth creation, and forcing many young people to delay life decisions. Forcing students to take on so much debt just to attend college is wrong" (Dardick). Along with his education for K-12, he is also very passionate about creating a reasonable and less debt ridden for the future of college education.

Pawar shows his support of senior care in an article discussing Ravenswood, a senior housing development that has created a diverse reaction to in the public eye, as well as in the

minds of the city council. Alderman Pawar has seemingly supported the creation to Ravenswood back in February of 2016, since the former hospital is no longer used. People's biggest opposition to the structure and repurposing of the building is the parking concerns that are already apparent in the ward. According to Alderman Pawar, "the Ravenswood project would offer a much-needed alternative" (Wetli), in reference to the lack of available senior living accommodations.

Along with his other stances, he is a supporter of the LGBT+ community. Having attended a march for the right of same sex couples to marry back in June of 2013, it's safe to say that he would continue support for members of the LGBT+ community even to this day (Pols). While it is not his first and foremost topic to focus on, if situations arise that involve this community, he would be an ally in times to come for the members of the community. He would continue his fight with the LGBT+ community on other fronts that are coming their way in the years to come with his governorship and perhaps even suggest more helpful laws to make members feel safer and more welcome in public spaces

Something else that is a main force in Ameya's goals is on jobs, to create more and long lasting ones as well. Hoping to use the Mississippi River to generate tourism for the environmental aspects of it. " Ameya believes we can create eco-tourism opportunities along the Mississippi River and elsewhere while investing heavily in cities and rural communities alike by focusing on public school infrastructure, water and sewer mains, and roads and bridges that are rapidly decaying" (Issues). With things like these, Ameya is trying his best to create the kinds of jobs that would be best for many communities, in the sense that it creates a healthier community and generates jobs for the members.

In regards to stances on Health Care and Veterans nothing was really found on them, but will continue to be searched for in attempts to clarify. Even though there are no solid stances on these items, it could be assumed from other stances on how he could go about these. Yet at the end of the day they are just assumptions and should wait until word from the man himself before jumping to any conclusions.

When it comes to the environment, Alderman Pawar shows that, on a larger scale, he will take it into consideration and take great steps to advance the care of the environment. His records for voting has shown his support for the Chicago Urban Agriculture Ordinance, informing the public of his small scale goals for environmental care (About). The Chicago Urban Agriculture Ordinance allows for the building of community and urban gardens and farms in most parts of the city (Urban). On the website for the 47th ward of Chicago, there is an entire page dedicated to the environment, such as what can be recycled, how to deal with stormwater, and even how to save energy throughout the unpredictable Chicago winter (Environmental).

For his ideas of reform he plans to make solid changes to assist and cater to the everyday citizen and consumer. In his current time of being an Alderman of Chicago he has passed at least eight legislations in favor of those average citizen and consumers. Some of those include amendments to the Chicago Human Rights Ordinance so as to help prevent employers from discriminating against possible employees when applying, has made one of the strongest anti-wage theft ordinances in the entirety of not just our state but our entire country, and made it so debt collectors must have a licence to be able to do their job, so as to prevent people abusing the power and other predatory uses of the job (About). Many other Legislations have been passed, these are but a few of the best that he has passed.

Alderman Pawar has stated in a video interview, posted to YouTube, that he does not support guns, overall. This seems feasible since he sides with a more democratic view. While he doesn't like guns, he says he will not infringe upon people's 2nd Amendment right (Ald.). To us, this seems to mean that Ameya Pawar will not actively seek to take guns from law abiding citizens, but he will most likely impose corrections to the difficulty in getting firearms. Such things as deeper background checks, and a longer wait period upon purchasing a gun.

With other things he's done to help the average citizen he also does not intend to put a large tax on the middle class. Instead he very much plans to tax the more rich citizens, due to the working middle class paying more than what they should be, he's so intent on this decision that he's even been quoted, "...says the rich, like Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner, should pay more" (Gubernatorial). He truly does not wish to push the taxes onto the working class that has been paying their generous amounts of taxes for years, it's time for the richer citizens to take some of the blow off of the working class.

For the running mate of our gubernatorial candidate, we have chosen former First Lady, Michelle Obama. We believe Michelle Obama would work well with Ameya Pawar because of their coinciding beliefs and interests. Like Pawar, Michelle Obama sees education as a high priority and her Reach Higher Initiative would work well with his GROW47 community. As previously mentioned, the GROW47 community is designed to build and maintain strong neighborhood schools (Grow47). Michelle Obama's Reach Higher Initiative would be a great follow up to this program because it is designed to "inspire students to pursue an education beyond high school" (The Reach). Both candidates prioritize education with their respective programs because they understand the importance of the upcoming generation. Both of them

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want to help these students succeed and one of the few ways they can do so is by creating programs to aid and assist each student as they progress into adulthood.

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