

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Date: 8/17/2023 Contact: Email: <u>mattblakeforiowa@gmail.com</u>; Phone: 515- 661-4151

Matt Blake Announces Candidacy for Iowa Senate District 22

URBANDALE - Urbandale City Councilmember and US Army veteran Matt Blake today announced his campaign for State Senate in District 22, representing Urbandale, Johnston, parts of Saylorville and Des Moines. Matt Blake will run as a Democrat. Senator Brad Zaun currently represents Senate District 22.

Matt released the following statement:

"I feel called to run for State Senate because Iowa is not heading in the right direction. For too long, an extreme few have been ignoring the wishes of everyday Iowans and passing legislation that is out of step with what Iowans want and deserve. Our state is moving away from its tradition of common sense, instead attacking teachers, women, LGBTQ+ children and adults, and the poor. As State Senator, I will work for middle class families, fight for our public schools, and protect our constitutional freedoms."

Matt is currently an Urbandale City Council Member. He was elected in 2019, finishing first place in a seven-way race. On the Council, he has helped pass key policies without raising the tax levy, such as green initiatives, crisis intervention teams for mental health and substance abuse, economic development, resources for first responders, and more.

Matt also serves in the Iowa Army National Guard as a Judge Advocate (JAG) and holds the rank of Captain. Matt is assigned with the 67th Troop Command in Iowa City and deployed to Kuwait and Iraq in 2021.

"Urbandale is the place my wife and I chose to make our home because of the safe neighborhoods, great schools, and opportunities for young families," Matt said in making his announcement.

"I am dedicated to public service, and I am looking forward to continuing that service in the State Senate," he said.

"Our community deserves a State Senator who better reflects our community, and not one that promotes an extreme agenda," Matt said.

To learn more about Matt Blake's campaign for State Senate, go to his website <u>mattblakeforiowa.com</u>