

WHY JOEL IS RUNNING

The general answer is simple: *Liberty*.

What in particular motivated me to run at this point in time is the fact that I couldn't get any of the members of the Tennessee Legislature with whom I spoke to promote legislation that re-established the citizen's right to join with other Tennesseans in Local Militia Organizations.

Liberty is the foundation of everything that makes us who we are as Tennesseans and Americans.

We can agree that we need some government on most levels of our society; but we don't need government making it impossible for us citizens to take care of ourselves wherever possible and practical.

In a serious challenge to our liberty - our Tennessee government has made it illegal for local groups to organize into militias and practice with arms, let alone respond to a public disorder as an armed group.

Responsibilities and Rights are the two mainstays of a free republic.

When responsibilities are demeaned and thwarted - and the individual is treated by government as not being trusted to form militia groups and practice with loaded long guns because the government claims that would present a criminal threat to public safety - then government is no longer our servant, but our master.

The most singularly important outcome of the American Revolution, was that for the first time in history - a nation was formed upon the belief that power emanates from the people to the government, and government was to remain responsible to the people - that it is the people who maintain power and only limitedly relinquishes that power when absolutely necessary.

Any legislation or issue presented to me when I am in Nashville will be viewed through a lens that asks if the legislation is truly necessary, beneficial, sufficiently frugal vis a vis taxation and spending, and whether it impacts our Liberty.