



2020 General Election -- Legislative Candidates' Questionnaire

This survey is available to complete online at www.wvma.com/candidatesurvey2020. You may also scan and email your completed survey to Rebecca McPhail at rebecca@wvma.com, or mail by **August 3, 2020** to:

West Virginians for Manufacturing Jobs PAC
2001 Quarrier Street
Charleston, WV 25311

Candidate Name: Cindy Frich Office Seeking: House of Delegates 51st
Party Affiliation: Republican Email: cindy.frich@yahoo.com
Address Line 1: 1248 Bakers Ridge Road
City: Morgantown State: WV Zip: 26505 Phone: (304) 599-1309

Questions:

1. Describe your overall philosophy toward the role of state government as it relates to business and industry.

Help educate a healthy workforce and provide competitive environment that allows opportunity to citizens to provide for their families. I've improved West Virginia's competitiveness by supporting + voting for reform since 2003 in the House of Delegates and reducing regulations via my leadership in the Legislative Rule Making & Review Committee.

2. What do you bring to the office you seek? Specifically, what have you built, improved, or changed for the benefit of your community or business?

Since my first election to the WV House of Delegates in 2002 as a Republican from a Democrat district, I have successfully passed multiple tort reform measures, such as medical malpractice reform, workers compensation reform, & automobile reform. I fought for funds for WVU & saved the WVU Fiftieth Term. I've sponsored & passed multiple bills to mitigate the opioid crisis including lead sponsor of WV Drug Control Policy Act. I've served on Finance Committee, Judiciary, Business & Industry, Energy, Rule Making, etc.

3. Please list any groups, associations, or non-profits in which you are an active member or volunteer such as civic groups, labor organizations, advocacy groups.

National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, NRA life member, NRA Foundation Board member + State Inland Chairwoman, Formerly elected WV State Republican Executive Committee member 16 yrs, Elected twice to Republican National Convention

4. West Virginia is facing many challenges. What do you consider to be the most important and critical challenge that threatens our state and what is your plan to alleviate this threat?

Drug Free Skilled Workforce

I will support the Office of Drug Control Policy that my HB 2620 created and continue focusing on mitigating the crisis. Support technical programs K-12 and encourage industry partnerships with community and technical colleges.

5. During the 2020 Legislative Session, SJR 9 and SB 837 moved in the West Virginia Senate, but fell short of the votes needed to move to the House of Delegates. The intent of the effort was to allow West Virginians to vote on a constitutional amendment to phase-out/repeal of manufacturing inventory, machinery, and equipment tax, business inventory, and tax on passenger vehicles while making local governments and schools whole. Please describe your ideas for addressing this issue which requires a change to the West Virginia Constitution.

Taxing inventory, machinery & equipment puts WV in a competitive disadvantage so I support repeal of the property tax. In SB 837, the increased sales tax is fractional parts in a bit wonky & likely challenging for small business & restaurants who implemented. I've voted "yes" on both cigarette taxes in the past 2 decades.

6. What ideas do you have to help build our state's economy and improve West Virginia's position in competing for investment and job growth?

Phase out the property tax on equipment, machinery & inventory. Mitigate opioid crisis. Support natural gas storage hubs, pipelines & encourage energy development.

7. Use of and addiction to opioids in West Virginia and our region have reached crisis levels. This is a problem being recognized not only at the state level, but at the federal level. What ideas do you have to help stop this devastating trend in our state?

I was lead sponsor of HB 2620 WV Drug Control Policy Act which created the Office of Drug Control Policy in 2017 to strengthen our response to the drug crisis. I have sponsored & passed many bills to keep drugs out of WV, educated youth to the dangers, and increase access to rehabilitation. I would like to continue getting substance abusers into treatment.

8. Racial justice and equity, LGBTQ rights and gender equity are important factors for many current West Virginia employers, companies that consider moving to our State, and employees who may consider relocating to West Virginia. How would you address these issues to recruit and retain companies and employees for whom this is a priority?

Support equal justice under the law.

9. What are your specific ideas related to developing a diverse and skilled workforce in West Virginia?

Continue supporting K-12 technical program and supporting partnerships between industry and community and technical colleges.
Continue mitigating opioid epidemic.

10. The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection proposed a rule for the 2021 Legislative Session to adopt a portion of US EPA recommended human health criteria which established limits for certain environmental permits. The WVMA is actively involved in ongoing discussions related to these criteria and supports the WV DEPs approach to establish an active work group to further evaluate these important measures. Please describe your position on the proposed rule.

WV DEP 3/31/2020 proposed rule of 24 criteria seems to be an improvement over the prior proposal.

11. Please describe policies that you believe may be helpful in balancing state regulations and environmental rules while maintaining a competitive atmosphere for industrial job growth and investment?

Include substantial economic impact criteria on the Rule form.

I served as Vice Chair of Legislative Rule Making Review Committee.

12. What would you like to share with our members that we have not asked?

I was initially elected as a Republican in a Democrat District when the Legislature was controlled by Democrats. I helped flip the Legislature to Republican control. I feel I'm a small minority of my caucus that served in the Republican minority.

13. Would you be available for an interview remotely or in person?

I think you know me from my 10 year Legislative record.

14. Where may the WVMA follow you on Social Media? Please list social media handles including Facebook, Twitter, and others.

*I don't campaign on social media - it's like leaving bread crumbs
for the others in my 5 delegate multi district race.
And, I don't govern by social media.*

**SAVE THE DATE – 2020 WVMA All State-Legislative Dinner
Charleston, W.Va.**

Monday, November 16, 2020

**Sitting and newly elected Legislators are encouraged to attend as guests of the WVMA
Occupancy restrictions may lead to registration limits – details to follow.*