



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: AMY SUMMERS Office Seeking: WV House 49
Party Affiliation: REPUBLICAN Email: Summersbunch@aol.com
Address Line 1: 98 MEADLAND RD.
City: FLEMINGTON State: WV Zip: 26347 Phone: 304-842-7958

Questions:

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

STATE GOVERNMENT serves to establish a basic framework on how business & industry operates within a state ie tax structure, license requirements etc. Rules & regulations are set forth at a minimal level to provide safety to the public.

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?

As a small business owner, Morrow Hill Farm, I raise and provide eggs, healthy beef for my neighbors and strive to be good stewards of our land. In addition, as a past President of my local EMS I wrote & garnered support for a levy to provide 24/7 emergency medical care to my community. I have also passed laws in WV to bring more broadband to my area & improved benefits to my state workers especially the correctional center.

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.

GRAFTON LIONS CLUB
WV Cattlemans Association
WV Angus Association

Two additional items, I worked with my town to become the official state Memorial Day Parade, and also helped coordinate the plan to gain a water park at our lake for many to enjoy.

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?

The mindset by many that Government Knows best. I will continue to fight for reasonable & fair rules, regulations & laws to keep Government with smaller influence not greater. Capitalism must flourish. Economic stability & predictability impacts all.

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.

I will always allow WV to opportunity to vote on changes to our Constitution if it improves the well being of WV. I believe a slow phase out would allow the entities impacted the ability to make changes.

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?

We must continue to improve broadband and actively share the positive aspects of our state. Welfare support must only be utilized by those who truly need it. Workforce development has been a focus over the past two years. We need to evaluate that effort.

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?

The Opioid Reduction Act of 2018 was an excellent start. We saw a decrease of overdose deaths from 2017 of 1,019 to 906 in 2018 & ↓ 849 in 2019. The state has also increased opportunities for behavioral health care by removing the Certificate of Need bureaucracy. Funding towards more treatment options has also occurred.

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?

All individuals under the law are equal. The US Supreme Court just clarified the definition of the term sex to aid in its interpretation.

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

I think the state needs to evaluate the current programs we have implemented. Are young adults utilizing the educational opportunities? Are high schools getting students connected? Are high school technical programs preparing students for jobs in our area.

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.

I cannot give a well informed position to this rule but in general I want a limited amount of rules and only those deemed absolutely necessary to protect public health and welfare.

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?

The process the state of WV has in place in which the legislature reviews all rules & they come before a vote is fantastic and gives us a checks & balances needed.

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

Please review my voting record to review actual votes cast. You will find they encourage manufacturing growth in WV.

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

YES

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

Summers for House on Facebook

AmyMSummers on Twitter

**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.*