



## 2020 General Election -- Legislative Candidates' Questionnaire

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

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

Candidate Name: Steve Westfall Office Seeking: House - 12 District  
Party Affiliation: Republican Email: steve5574@yahoo.com  
Address Line 1: P.O. Box 249  
City: Ripley State: WV Zip: 25271 Phone: 532-8875

### Questions:

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

State government needs to help business & industry to grow. Do whatever is needed to help.

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?

This is my 5<sup>th</sup> election. I've been a member of the House for 8 years. I've always voted to help manufacturing and will continue to do so.

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.

Ripley Rotary, Jackson County Community Foundation

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 drug problem in our state.

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 supported SB 837 and will in the future.

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?

Repeal Business & Inventory tax.

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 don't have a plan to stop the drug problem. If a person has a job it should help with the drug problem.

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?

Adopt the Fairness Act.

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

SB 1 is helping with the problem. It may need to be adjusted some.

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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.

Let WV adopt their own rule.

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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?

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

I've sponsored bills in the past to help manufacturing, and will in the future.

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

Yes

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

Facebook - Steve westfall - State Farm Agent

- Delegate Steve westfall

**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.*