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Q1

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

Govt' s role is to provide basic educational, infrastructure, health care and safety needs within a known/flexible taxation, legal, and regulatory environment.

Q2

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?

Experience, leadership, and track record. 30+ years in banking, investment banking and private equity combined with 10 years in the legislature.

Q3

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.

Board member of Wesbanco; former elder & trustee of 1st Presbyterian Church; Former board member of Holz Elementary and Sunrise Foundations; current board member of Clay Center & Charleston Coliseum & Convention Center; Member IOGA

Q4

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?

We cannot return to the failed policies and politics of the past. WV must continue to diversify the WV economy, which requires having representatives with proven experience, depth, and necessary leadership traits to work with others in setting policy.

Q5

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 favor phasing out the tax. Requires full commitment of Gov & legislative leadership to develop a plan that prioritizes most critical areas to repeal and creates new sources to support replacing the funding this tax currently provides.

Q6

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?

Support my candidacy for the Senate. Being open minded to change and adjusting policy to better compete with our contiguous states. Continue to focus on and prioritize the appropriate tax, legal, regulatory, workforce and infrastructure needs.

Q7

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?

Continue trends implemented under Republican leadership to fund those programs showing best results, educating at an early age, and improving our job/economic prospects.

Q8

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?

I support policies to treat everyone equally.

Q9

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

Identify & quantify needs of industries currently in WV & others we hope to recruit. Concurrently, continue to enhance & expand programs in our educational hierarchy together with refining govt incentives necessary to support workforce needs.

Q10

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 support and am always open to discuss and better understand any existing or proposed rule.

Q11

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?

I'm open to discussing and prioritizing policies that will improve WV industry competitiveness.

Q12

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

I'm hopeful my proven experience and leadership during my 10 yrs in the House has secured your trust in me to structure and promote positive policies to move WV forward. We've come along way the last 6 years, but the job is not done!

Q13

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

Absolutely

Q14

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

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Q15

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Q16

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