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Q1

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

The state should have common sense guidelines to assist the business and its employees without causing undue financial hardship on business.

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?

I founded a two step drug ministry and have been involved as a student, state trooper and ordained minister for over 50 yrs., in this problem. I also had an alarm business that I terminated due to overbearing state regulations and I have a small investigative business.

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.

I am a member of the WV Farm Bureau, Troopers Assoc and Retired WV Troopers Assoc., and founder and president of Drug Prevention Ministries Inc. I am a past treasurer of a Christian School and past representative in DC for the WV Christian School Assoc.

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?

Many challenges. I would like to see the 5% vehicle tax done away with as it pertains to new residents or businesses. The virus is the main challenge in relation to businesses and the school system. I feel a closer relationship between the teachers and state govt., may be needed for the safety of all.

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/peel 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 think this is needed and should have been passed to allow the voters of WV to decide this matter. These taxes are wrong and are a burden on businesses.

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?

Restructure the business tax to make it less demanding on the businesses. The state really needs to focus on tourism with the understanding of allowing businesses to come onto state property with extremely long and inexpensive leases to meet the needs of the area. For ex: Allow a company to build a hotel and civic center on Beech Fork Lake with a water park and allow the Virginia Port Authority to take over the intermodal facility in Pritchard. For now both are failing. Business run instead of state controlled.

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?

Expand WV Hope and Jobs Act to include faith based facilities. Hold accountable state agencies and other agencies that accept state and federal help as to their success rate. The idea to keep an addict medicated for the rest of the addict's life is wrong. Give the addict a choice: a year in rehab with vocational training, and if you graduate after a year, expungement of your arrest record. Otherwise, go to jail.

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 think the recent supreme court ruling takes care of this situation; however, I truly think it should be left up to the company, as to who they want to employ.

Q9

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

Examine other states to see what they are doing, so you do not have to re-invent the wheel. The sad part is that a lot of people are unable to secure good jobs as they are unable to pass a drug test. Better training in schools may help with this. This is where a good vocational school can be of great importance.

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 have no position at this time. Communication between these two groups may solve the situation, unless other organizations need to be consulted.

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?

This is where the need of communication is of great importance with the focus on accountability with feasibility. Some ideas, in the past, appear to have forgotten about common sense.

Q12

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

It is my conviction that the legislature needs to pass a law in relation to term limits for all elected positions. I am not sure how it is now, but I looked at a few state jobs and saw many inconsistencies within state departments that made it hard on a small business to compete in the bidding process.

Q13

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

Possibly

Q14

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

Chad4Senate or just Chad Shaffer, on facebook. Undecided on webpage due to finances.

Q15

Name

Charles R. "Chad" Shaffer

Q16

Office Seeking

State Senate

Q17

Party Affiliation

Republican

Q18

District

5th

Q19

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Q20

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Q21

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