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Q1

Identity-Please fill out the indicated fields.

Candidate Name:	Charles Clements
Office Seeking:	WV Senate
Party Affiliation:	Republican
District:	2nd

Q2

Contact Info-Please fill out the indicated fields.

Address	242 E Thistle Ct
Address 2	242 E Thistle Ct
City/Town	New Martinsville
State/Province	WV
ZIP/Postal Code	26155
Country	USA
Email Address	senatorc2018@gmail.com
Phone Number	3047713530

Q3

Education & Experience-Please fill out the indicated fields.

High School Attended (Ex: School name, city, & state)	Scott HS. Madison, WV
Colleges Attended & Degrees Obtained (Ex: Marshall, MBA)	WVU. AB Mathematics
Current Employer & Job Position (Ex: WVMA, Director of Operations)	Retired - WV Senate
Describe your current job & responsibilities	Senator
How long have you worked for your current employer?	6 Years

Q4

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

Government should create an environment where business can thrive.

Q5

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 have worked with business and leadership to improve business climate in WV

Q6

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.

WV Route 2/I68 Authority

50+ year member of Rotary

41 year retired WSSAC Football Official

Wetzel Chamber of Commerce

Q7

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?

Create atmosphere to encourage jobs by removing state created barriers to employment. Jobs will help with WV's drug problem. I support Amendment 1 to do away with personal property taxes. I fully support infrastructure improvements: roads, water, sewer, and broadband.

Q8

Do you support the passage of Amendment One on the November 2022 General Election ballot? The measure provides the legislature with the authority to repeal or phase out tangible personal property in the future, this includes tax on personal vehicles, small business inventory, and tax on manufacturing inventory, machinery, and equipment.

Yes. I will work to encourage passage of the amendment.

Q9

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 need to remove government barriers to growth. Work to eliminate personal income tax to encourage investment in our state.

Q10

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?

If we create employment opportunities we will reduce the drug problem. Treatment centers should be developed around the state to help those addicted to drugs.

Q11

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 will support legislation to prevent discrimination against these groups.

Q12

What are your specific ideas for addressing workforce skills gaps in industry? Specifically, with the growth of manufacturing jobs in the state and need for diverse and skilled labor, what are your ideas to prepare the state's current and future workforce for manufacturing jobs.

Many of our high school students need to be encouraged to obtain a life skill instead of college. We have expanded the offerings in our two year colleges and created a program to help with the expense of going to school.

Q13

What are your ideas for improving outcomes in the state's K-12 public education system?

Emphasis should be placed on STEM subjects. Part of the problem is with parents who do not become involved in their child's education. We need to create a program to get parents involved.

Q14

What ideas do you have for incorporating a focus on STEM education in our public schools and how could industry engage to support increased workforce learning models in middle and high schools, as well as career and technical education centers (vo-tech)?

Creative teaching to include field trips to local industries. Time set aside for "teachers" from different industries and occupations talk with and encourage students to become interested in STEM subjects. Creative teaching will encourage STEM.

Q15

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 believe that WVDEP and industry should engage in a negotiated regulatory atmosphere. Before the bureaucracy became a political tool, regulations were worked out with those who were affected. We are hampered by the federal government. We should have no regulation more stringent than the federal requirements.

Q16

What do you think West Virginia could do to promote energy diversity including the growth of renewable energy sources in the state?

If we are the "energy state" we need to allow all forms of energy while continuing to support our coal and gas industry. We need to be able to supply what the customer wants.

Q17

Many corporations have established environmental, social, and governance criteria. How would such goals impact your decision making on relevant policy issues as a member of legislator?

I would look at the affect it would have on our state. I will not support the "no carbon" issue as we are years away from developing total green energy in the US.

Q18

If you could work on a single piece of legislation to help support manufacturers with in the state of West Virginia what would it be? and Why?

Expedited permitting process. The process takes too long.

Q19

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

Yes

Q20

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

CharlesClementsWVSenate.com
