

#8

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, June 07, 2022 8:14:02 PM
Last Modified: Tuesday, June 07, 2022 8:59:22 PM
Time Spent: 00:45:20
IP Address: 107.123.21.56

Page 1

Q1

Identity-Please fill out the indicated fields.

Candidate Name: Austin Haynes
Office Seeking: House of Delegates
Party Affiliation: Republican
District: 50

Q2

Contact Info-Please fill out the indicated fields.

Address: PO Box 465
Address 2: N/A
City/Town: Oak Hill
State/Province: WV
ZIP/Postal Code: 25901
Country: United States
Email Address: haynesforwv@gmail.com
Phone Number: 3046405080

Q3

Education & Experience-Please fill out the indicated fields.

High School Attended (Ex: School name, city, & state): Oak Hill High School, Oak Hill, WV
Colleges Attended & Degrees Obtained (Ex: Marshall, MBA): Concord University
Current Employer & Job Position (Ex: WVMA, Director of Operations): Self Employed - Haynes Insurance
Describe your current job & responsibilities: Insurance Agent selling policies to customers
How long have you worked for your current employer?: 4 months

Q4

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

The role of the government is to stay out of the way of business. We should create an economy conducive to business but otherwise stay out.

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 closely with small businesses in Fayette County to help them grow and become sustainable.

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.

Chairman of the Fayette County Republican Party and member of the Fayette County 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?

We have accomplished a lot in regard to businesses, however, we still have a lot to do. One of my biggest goals is to eliminate the business equipment and inventory tax.

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.

Absolutely! I proudly voted to put this measure on the ballot and I will be promoting it while we are on the campaign trail. It makes great sense and it will be a huge help to our businesses.

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?

Lower taxes and less regulations. By implementing the conservative policies we have promoted over the last few years, we will continue growing West Virginia.

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?

In order to help those that are addicted to become productive members of society, we have to work on treatment instead of jail. That will allow these folks to come out and be rehabilitated so they can hold a job and take care of their families.

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 am willing to do what the business community indicates they need done.

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.

I have always supported two year colleges and incentivizing folks to get technical skills so they can fill the openings that are available.

Q13

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

Our school choice options have been tremendous, but we also need to work on curriculum and other standards.

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)?

In Fayette County, we have a fantastic STEM program, including an aerospace engineering class. I think we could model programs such as this.

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?

Being reasonable is a first step. A certain number of regulations are needed but we cannot hamper businesses. I have supported lots of bills to reduce regulations but not to a dangerous level. We have to support our businesses. Period.

Q16

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

Legislation like PPA agreements and others to diversify into other energy sources will always be supported. My voting record proves that (including the removal of the nuclear moratorium).

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?

As stated previously, we have to listen to businesses so we can best tailor our policies that impact them.

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?

Eliminating the income tax and the business equipment and inventory tax

Q19

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

Yes, absolutely

Q20

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

Haynes for House - Facebook
