

#14

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Q1

Identity-Please fill out the indicated fields.

Candidate Name: **mike woelfel**
 Office Seeking: **state senate**
 Party Affiliation: **d**
 District: **5**

Q2

Contact Info-Please fill out the indicated fields.

Address **801 8th street**
 Address 2 **huntington**
 City/Town **huntington**
 State/Province **WV**
 ZIP/Postal Code **25701**
 Country **United States**
 Email Address **m1kewoelfel3@gmail.com**
 Phone Number **13045226249**

Q3

Education & Experience-Please fill out the indicated fields.

High School Attended (Ex: School name, city, & state) **ST Joseph**
 Colleges Attended & Degrees Obtained (Ex: Marshall, MBA) **BA History, Marshall, JD WVU**
 Current Employer & Job Position (Ex: WVMA, Director of Operations) **lawyer**
 Describe your current job & responsibilities **litigation**
 How long have you worked for your current employer? **16 years**

Q4

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

please refer to my voting record .

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 read and understand as many bills as possible then follow my conscience in terms of the overall benefit to our citizens.

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.

St Joseph HS

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?

job retention, job growth, a drug free and educated workforce Also, outmigration of our residents is a major liability.

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

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?

Please refer to my voting record

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?

Please refer to my voting record.

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?

Social issues serve to divide and polarize. Inclusion of all people is fundamental to job retention and job creation. Further, inclusion is right.

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.

Enhancement of workforce development is key. Community college and vocational education deserve more funding.

Q13

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

Better pay for educators. Parental involvement is lacking in WV, due to the opioid epidemic.

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)?

No specific ideas.

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?

This is complex. My approach is to study each issue and act accordingly.

Q16

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

Wind, nuclear, solar should complement our fossil fuel sources.

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 have engaged with Steve Roberts on this topic. We need to be mindful of the dynamic nature of corporate policies. Diversity, inclusion and open-mindedness are not to be feared.

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?

Eliminate the tax on personal property.

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.

Twitter. Michael Woelfel.
