

## #12

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, July 23, 2020 4:59:20 PM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, July 23, 2020 6:44:58 PM  
**Time Spent:** 01:45:37  
**IP Address:** 184.14.139.163

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**Q1**

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

Government at any level needs to provide an environment that is friendly to business and allows it to operate without interference from the bureaucracy; provide fiscal support that is an advantage to business and not create regulations that prevents business from operating successfully.

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**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 have served in leadership positions in all of the organization listed in question number 3.. I have served 18 years in the House of Delegates

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**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.

Davis Trust Co  
Davis Health System  
Elkins-Randolph County Chamber of Commerce  
Independent Insurance Agent of WV  
Valley Health of Randolph County  
Elkins Mountain School  
Mt State Forest Festival  
Randolph County Development Authority  
Randolph County CVB  
WV Railroad Museum  
Coalition for Corridor H  
WV National Guard (32 yrs)  
Elkins Kiwanis

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**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?

I believe that the three most critical that West Virginia has are budget issues (known and unknown because of Covid 19, lack of available workforce, and health care delivery. If we are to be successful in solving these threats we must put the divisiveness behind us.

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**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.

We must have a plan of action before any constitutional amendment. It must be phased out over three or four years with the replacement fund source identified before the amendment election. We can not plan to replace it with property tax or the constitutional amendment doesn't have a prayer.

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**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?

The most important issue an available and diverse workforce. Without workers all of the other incentives we may offer are not important

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**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?

Start drug education in grade school, we have lost the young adult individuals. Strong enforcement of existing laws against drug companies and the dealers..

Effective rehabilitation clinics must available in every community

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**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?

This issue has improved over the past few years. Education is probably the most important. It is not going to go away without opens dialogue in the community.

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**Q9**

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

Education starting at a much lower level about the importance of social responsibilities by each individual and its effect on the community

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**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.

Open dialogue between all parties is very important. I have been involved in issues where there was no real effort to find common ground.

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**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?

The remarks in the previous question would apply here also

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**Q12**

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

As we attempt development a effective workforce it is important that employees are treated with respect and kept well informed about their contribution to the company

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**Q13**

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

yes

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**Q14**

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

I have a Facebook page that is managed a PR firm.

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**Q15**

Name

Bill Hartman

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**Q16**

Office Seeking

House. 43rd District

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**Q17**

Party Affiliation

Dem

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**Q18**

District

43rd

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**Q19**

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**Q20**

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**Q21**

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