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Q1

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

I Believe government regulates to much in private business and regulations should be looked at and reduced where possible. Equipment and inventory tax should be repealed to help create a level playing field for businesses.

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 a good working knowledge of the Legislature and have built relationships with many Legislators which will help considerably if elected. Much of my experience comes from working with the WVCDL in protecting the 2nd amendment in West Virginia, My biggest benefit to community would be simply the work involved in the 2nd amendment.

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.

West Virginia Citizens Defense League as a board member and now as a member only due to my resignation to run for office. Berkeley County Republican club member and previous secretary (resigned to run for office per by laws) Blue Ridge Patriots, Jefferson County We the People

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?

Growing our economy across the state, which in my opinion requires repeal inventory and equipment tax and looking at regulations and elimination any that can be eliminated.

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 need to combat the narrative that repeal will place the tax burden on the middle class and give big business a tax break, in reality it will increase the tax base by bringing businesses to the state with good jobs. President Trump did this on the National level and our economy exploded, just as our state can if the conditions are met to make our state the place to do business. I have campaigned on the need to get this done.

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?

First and foremost repeal equipment and inventory tax, look at over regulation and make appropriate changes.

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?

Very complicated issue and i have no new ideas at this time as i have not really studied the issue.

A good thriving Economy would help the issue considerably.

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?

There has been much discussion on this issue and from what i understand our Constitutions give everyone equal protections so i do not know if any legislative intervention is required.

I will always look at proposed legislation with an open mind.

Q9

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

Votech and Tech schools would likely help and less emphasis on a college education, we are approaching a point where a degree can be required for a job in a fast food restaurant.

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 am not familiar with this but i would say we need to be very careful when we adopt or craft these regulations.

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?

I do not know of any policies that i support or oppose, With that said i will look at any proposal with an open mind. We need to tread carefully as sometimes the cure is worse than the problem.

Q12

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

I am very Liberty minded and place our individual rights very high on my list to protect.
I will always look at Legislation with an open mind

Q13

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

yes

Q14

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

Facebook you can find me at Charles Horst and Charles Horst for Delegate 62nd District

Q15

Name

Charles Horst Sr

Q16

Office Seeking

House of Delegates 62nd

Q17

Party Affiliation

Republican

Q18

District

62nd

Q19

Email

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Q20

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Q21

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Falling Waters

State/Province

West Virginia

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