



## 2020 General Election -- Legislative Candidates' Questionnaire

This survey is available to complete online at [www.wvma.com/candidatesurvey2020](http://www.wvma.com/candidatesurvey2020). You may also scan and email your completed survey to Rebecca McPhail at [rebecca@wvma.com](mailto:rebecca@wvma.com), or mail by **August 3, 2020** to:

West Virginians for Manufacturing Jobs PAC  
2001 Quarrier Street  
Charleston, WV 25311

Candidate Name: JOHN R. KELLY Office Seeking: HOUSE DISTRICT 10  
Party Affiliation: REPUBLICAN Email: jrkelly@suddenlink.net  
Address Line 1: 2802 BROOKVIEW ST  
City: PARKERSBURG State: WV Zip: 26104 Phone: 304-428-2846

### Questions:

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

BUSINESS & INDUSTRY WILL LEAD THE STATE IN JOB CREATION, STATE GOVERNMENT MUST WORK WITH, NOT AGAINST THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY. CHECK MY VOTING RECORD.

2. 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?

ONLY MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATURE WITH A "TRUE" MANUFACTURING BACKGROUND. RETIRED E.I. DUPONT 30 YRS. MOST RECENT CONTRIBUTION TO MFG'ING, LEAD SPONSOR OF HB4019. CHECK VOTING RECORD.

3. 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.

CHECK PREVIOUS LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES.

4. 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 CONTINUE TO LOSE POPULATION, MOSTLY BECAUSE OF SHORTAGES IN QUALITY JOBS. HB 4019, & 4421 WERE DESIGNED TO ENCOURAGE JOB GROWTH IN OUR STATE

5. 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.

MFG INVENTORY TAX IS THE MOST REGRESSIVE JOB KILLING TAX WE HAVE IN THE STATE, AND MUST GO. WV IS ONE OF ONLY A HANDFULL OF STATES THAT STILL TAX AUTO OWNERSHIP. BOTH TAXES NEED TO GO WHILE KEEPING SCHOOLS WHOLE.

6. 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?

SEE HB 4019

7. 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?

I WAS THE LEAD SPONSOR FOR A PROGRAM THAT PROVIDED \$22M. FOR DRUG & ALCOHOL ADDICTION TREATMENT. THIS BILL CREATED THE RYAN BROWN FUND.

8. 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?

SEE MY VOTING RECORD

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

SEE MY VOTING RECORDS

10. 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.

AS VICE CHAIR OF ENERGY, I WORK CLOSELY WITH DEP. SEE MY VOTING RECORDS

11. 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?

AGAIN, I HAVE A HISTORY OF WORKING TO IMPROVE OUR BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY CLIMATE, IF RE-ELECTED, I WILL CONTINUE TO WORK IN THE SAME DIRECTION.

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

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

YES, ANYTIME BY PHONE OR IN PERSON

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

BEING DEVELOPED AS WE SPEAK

**SAVE THE DATE – 2020 WVMA All State-Legislative Dinner  
Charleston, W.Va.**

**Monday, November 16, 2020**

*\*Sitting and newly elected Legislators are encouraged to attend as guests of the WVMA  
Occupancy restrictions may lead to registration limits – details to follow.*