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Q1

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

The government should work to provide the infrastructure, competitive legal framework, and a healthy, productive and competent citizenry to allow for a prosperous economy and a beneficial relationship between citizens, employers, and industry.

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?

My work in the legislature has focused around the core duties of government including infrastructure and broadband internet improvement, legal reform, and an educated and well prepared workforce to grow our state. I spearhead efforts to make government more efficient and effective.

In private life, I have work to empower other companies to grow by providing quality information technology services, grown my family businesses of more than 34 years, and served on various boards and task forces working to improve quality of life and make our state more attractive for population growth and investment.

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.

City of Huntington Gigabit City Task Force
Cabell-Wayne Beekeepers Association
Rotary Club
Farm Bureau
Keith Albee Performing Arts Theater Board of Directors
Huntington Chamber of Commerce

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?

Broadband expansion is the single biggest challenge West Virginia faces. It touches business location, site development, Education, healthcare, and so much more. No single issue has as far and wide reaching effects as broadband internet availability.

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.

First, SJR9 did not make it to the West Virginia House of Delegates. It fell short in the West Virginia Senate.

I am supportive of the elimination of the equipment and inventory tax and any tax which serves to penalize and discourage employment in West Virginia.

If a Constitutional Amendment cannot pass through the West Virginia Senate, utilization of Salvage Value Valuation may be a legal change in classification which could effectively reduce this tax by 95%.

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?

Infrastructure Investment, Results-Based educational metrics and funding, and lower taxes.

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?

Treatment is certainly necessary, but ultimately this problem of addiction to some substance follows economic despair across the globe. When any people lack opportunity to provide for themselves and their families and to improve their lot in life, a drug problem follows into those communities. The cure, then, is to provide upward mobility, gainful employment, strong families, and a sense of purpose and dignity to our communities- through economic prosperity and the policies that have proven to provide those conditions necessary for it.

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 is fairly simple - in law all people should be treated equally and as individuals, without regard for any group that society, government or even that individual places them into.

Q9

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

Direct collaboration on curriculum with employers, Results-Based educational funding and programs including in higher education funding, and policies that serve to attract talent to West Virginia, like incentives to work remotely here.

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 would support the further evaluation and collaboration with manufacturers to both improve environmental quality and facilitate industry growth.

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?

All regulation should be evaluated for efficacy and workability. A practical approach to regulation delivers the best possible result for everyone.

Q12

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

I am a staunch advocate of expanding jobs in West Virginia and I believe our manufacturers are a perfect fit for that aim - good jobs providing career advancement for West Virginians of so many varying skill and educational levels.

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.

Twitter: @DelegateDaniel

Facebook.com/LinvilleForWV

Q15

Name

Daniel Linville

Q16

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Q17

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