



2020 General Election -- Legislative Candidates' Questionnaire

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

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

Candidate Name: Matt Rehnbach Office Seeking: MOD 17th
Party Affiliation: Republican Email: _____
Address Line 1: 25 Kensington Lane
City: Huntington State: WV Zip: 25705 Phone: 304-565-5040

Questions:

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

State government should enable business to be successful in our state.

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?

I helped build a business that employs 400 workers

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.

Active in my church & Wayne County Seniors.

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?

The drug problem is a major issue. As Chairman of the committee dealing with this problem I have been very active in this area.

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.

We have to develop a way to get this done. Raising sales tax will not get ~~the~~ voters approval so this is not a valid plan.

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?

As chairman of the New Economy Workgroup I am working to make WV more competitive.

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?

Refer to my work as chairman of the Committee for the Prevention & Treatment of Substance Abuse.

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?

We should follow the current Federal Law.

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

More CTE is a must.

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.

I will follow ~~the~~ ~~the~~ WVMA on this.

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?

Looking at what our surrounding states are doing is a good place to start.

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?

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

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.*