



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: Boy Cooper Office Seeking: House of Delegates
Party Affiliation: Rep Email: Marilyncooper2020@yahoo
Address Line 1: 31 Pans Way
City: Wayside State: WV Zip: 24985 Phone: 304-466-5523

Questions:

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

Partner - Not adversarial.

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 am a 20 year veteran of the U.S. Navy now retired. I am a retired teacher from the public schools. I am a farmer. I have owned and operated businesses on a part time basis and I know the Panic of Payroll and day of a sale.

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.

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?

#1-Workforce Participation -

A. Support measures that make working more attractive than sitting at home.

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.

The county budgets cannot suffer if this is cut out.

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?

Corporate state taxes must be tied to payroll of employers. Simply put, the higher the payroll of a company, the lower its corporate taxes should be.

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?

1. Deal with the folks who write prescriptions.

2. Deal with the folks who are selling or abusing medication.

3. Deal with them harshly.

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?

A good job and equal opportunity helps us all. I would support no measure that hinders either.

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

We have already started with the Testman's focus in education, continue that and involve the private sector in education decision making at the local level.

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 am not knowledgeable enough to comment at this point. However, who is on that work group is key.

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?

1. Follow federal policies as much as possible
2. Appeal Federal policies if they hurt the economy
3. Make sure that industry is listened to and involved when policies are being considered.

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

I have an 8 year voting record and am pro-business in my actions and thoughts.

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

yes

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

marilyn cooper @ facebook
Roy Cooper @ facebook

**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.*