



2022 General Election -- Legislative Candidates' Questionnaire

This survey is available to complete online (preferred) at www.wvma.com/candidatesurvey2022. You may also scan and email your completed survey to Rebecca McPhail at rebecca@wvma.com, or mail **no later than July 15, 2022*** to:

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

Candidate Name: Roger Hanshaw Office Seeking: House of Delegates Party
Affiliation: Republican District: 62 Email: hanshawforhouse@gmail.com
Address Line 1: 5035 Wallback Road
City: Wallback State: WV Zip: 25285 Phone: 3045879947
High School Attended (School, City, State): Clay County High School Colleges Attended &
Degrees Obtained: WVU (BS, biochemistry); WVU College of Law; University of Notre Dame (PhD, chemistry)
Current Employer & Job Title: Bowles Rice LLP- Attorney
Time with Current Employer: 11 years
Current Job Responsibilities: Attorney - environmental and regulatory law

Questions:

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

The two primary jobs of government are maintenance of public safety and development of infrastructure.

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 drafted the resolution and developed the House strategy for passage of the constitutional amendment to eliminate the business equipment and inventory tax.

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.

I belong to the American Chemical Society, the National Association of Parliamentarians, the American and West Virginia Bar Associations, and a number of local public interest groups in the Kanawha Valley.

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?

Enhancing economic diversification is the greatest challenge, and the greatest opportunity, we have as a state.

5. Do you support the passage of Amendment One on the November 2022 General Election ballot? The measure provides the legislature with the authority to repeal or phase out tangible personal property in the future, this includes tax on personal vehicles, small business inventory, and tax on manufacturing inventory, machinery, and equipment.

Yes. I literally wrote this amendment. It is critically important.

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?

We need to expand options for greater energy diversification in order to make it possible for tailoring manufacturing processes to meet the demands of external constituencies and leaders outside of West Virginia.

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?

We should offer more flexibility for organizations and employers who want to develop and offer drug training and treatment programs in West Virginia. The current approach being used by our DHHR is not working and appears to deter those who would otherwise consider offering these programs.

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 need to hear from these groups themselves on options for development of greater minority business ownership and participation. I have created a special House committee to take up consideration of those issues this summer and fall.

9. What are your specific ideas for addressing workforce skills gaps in industry? Specifically, with the growth of manufacturing jobs in the state and need for diverse and skilled labor, what are your ideas to prepare the state's current and future workforce for manufacturing jobs.

We need greater emphasis on community college associate degree, non-degree and certificate programs and apprenticeship programs in our state.

10. What are your ideas for improving outcomes in the state's K-12 public education system?

My primary focus for K-12 education in West Virginia is increasing the number of assistant teachers in grades 1-3 in our elementary schools.

11. What ideas do you have for incorporating a focus on STEM education in our public schools and how could industry engage to support increased workforce learning models in middle and high schools, as well as career and technical education centers (vo-tech)?

I am a great proponent of technology education courses in our middle and high schools in West Virginia. I was a product of these programs in my own educational experience and would happily support reintroduction or expansion of these initiatives.

12. 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?

These issues are influenced significantly more by federal action than by state action, and our best approach is likely making sure we are not regulating out past that required by US EPA.

13. What do you think West Virginia could do to promote energy diversity including the growth of renewable energy sources in the state?

It is necessary now for the state to adopt some new options for electricity consumers to contract directly for the energy source of their choosing rather than continue with the captive approach we are currently using.

14. Many corporations have established environmental, social, and governance (ESG) criteria. How would such goals impact your decision making on relevant policy issues as a member of the legislature?

We have an obligation as a state to treat everyone equally, and that applies to individuals, companies, and organizations. When we simply follow that approach, all the related goals end up taking care of themselves.

15. If you could work on a single piece of legislation to help support manufacturers within the state of West Virginia what would it be? and Why??

I would work (and have already been working) on a bill to streamline renewable energy purchase agreements in West Virginia. I am convinced this will be beneficial to all industrial sectors in our state.

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

Sure. I am always happy to discuss any item of interest to our state's employers.

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

www.hanshawforwv.com

SAVE THE DATE – 2022 WVMA All State-Legislative Dinner

Charleston, W.Va.

Monday, September 12, 2022

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

Surveys received after July 15, 2022 **will not be reviewed or considered for candidate endorsement.*