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# MOBILIZE MISSOURI

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State House of Representatives Candidate Survey 2018



## HEALTHCARE

### 1. How would you protect and/or expand health care access for Missourians?

Healthcare for all is the top item on my list of five fundamental campaign priorities. In Missouri we must expand Medicaid – for both healthcare reasons as well as financial reasons. Ultimately, I would like to see us move to a Medicare for All model because healthcare should NOT be dependent on what you can pay or on your employment status.

### 2. What can the Missouri legislature can do to combat the opioid crisis?

We need to make Narcan mandatory for all police, fire, and EMTs. I would also like to see a model similar to Vermont’s hub and spoke approach. This is a more holistic approach to helping people. It is a coordination between healthcare providers, counselors, teachers, police, and families. The drugs should be de-criminalized so people who are addicted are given help rather than penalties.

*Yes or no:*

### 3. Do you support using state funds for addiction and recovery resources?

Yes  No

### 4. Would you support a bill to apply for an Affordable Care Act Reinsurance waiver?

Yes  No

### 5. Do you support Medicare for All legislation (public health insurance)?

Yes  No



## ENVIRONMENT

**6. What type of legislation do you believe the Missouri legislature could pass to have a significant impact on combating climate change?**

I believe we should pass a resolution to meet the Paris Climate Accord standards as a state even as our President pulled us out of it as a country. I would also like to see companies incentivized for reducing their CO2 footprint through renewable energy.

*Yes or no:*

**7. Do you support states tax credits and or/exemptions for businesses and private citizens investing in renewable energy?**

Yes  No

**8. Do you support a state buyout for residents near the West Lake Landfill?**

Yes  No

**9. Do you support selling state park land to private entities for economic development?**

Yes  No

**10. Do you believe local municipalities should have more say over regulating Concentration Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) and agriculture growing near state waterways than the EPA?**

Yes  No

## ECONOMIC & LABOR POLICY

**11. In your view, what role can the state legislature play in attracting and retaining jobs in Missouri?**

I believe paying fair wages and repealing “Right to Work” are the first steps we need to take in our state. Paying livable wages should be a requirement for employers. If that happens, the entire state will become more prosperous and therefore companies will want to open businesses here. Attracting companies that underpay workers or have great volumes of minimum wage jobs (when minimum wage is as low as it is currently) does not help our state.

**12. Would you support the development of worker-owned businesses and cooperatives, where business decisions and distribution of profits can be democratically decided by their employees? If so, what kinds of incentives and/or legislation would ideally aid these businesses?**

I would definitely support this idea. As I mentioned above, I believe workers are the first priority, and if we are supporting workers, opportunities like that will become more available.

*Yes or no:*

**13. Do you support an increase to the state minimum wage? If so, what dollar amount?**

Yes  No  \$15

**14. Do you support right to work legislation?**

Yes  No

**15. Will you vote for the state to commit to using union businesses to fulfill state contracts?**

Yes  No

**16. Would you vote to consolidate the current state tax brackets into 2 brackets?**

Yes  No  (honestly, I don't know about this proposal, so I'd prefer to learn more)

**17. Do you support low income housing credits?**

Yes  No

## **POLICING/JUSTICE**

### **18. What can the state legislature do to improve law enforcement relationships with disenfranchised communities?**

- The first thing I would like to do is decriminalize drugs and legalize marijuana. The war on drugs has victimized minorities and has become a weapon police are forced to use against those communities.
- I would also like to see de-escalation training and mental health crisis training mandated for all police.
- Just today, I met with the Chief of Police in Chesterfield (which is part of my District). We had a very positive discussion about ensuring that the demographics of the police need to represent minority communities (including LGBTQ, multiple languages, etc.).
- A special prosecutor should be appointed for all officer-involved shootings.

### **19. What do you see as the most effective way to reduce crime?**

Decriminalizing drugs and legalizing marijuana.  
Healthcare for all – both physical and mental

### **20. Do you support marijuana legalization? If so, what level of access would you propose?**

Yes.

*Yes or no:*

### **21. Are you in favor of involving state troopers in crime prevention/hot spot policing beyond traffic violations?**

Yes  No

### **22. Do you support appointing a special prosecutor for officer involved shootings?**

Yes  No

### **23. Do you support “Blue Lives Matter” legislation proposing an increase in penalties for crimes against police officers?**

Yes  No

### **24. Do you support ending the death penalty?**

Yes  No

## REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS & GENDER ISSUES

**25. How would you explain your views on reproductive issues? How do you explain these views to groups with differing opinions in Missouri?**

I strongly support reproductive rights for women. While women's bodies up for debate in the legislative agenda, we are neither equal nor free. I support comprehensive science-based sex-education in schools, and access for all to safe or low-cost contraception.

**26. What measures will you take to ensure that perpetrators of sexual harassment, including those in elected positions, are held accountable for their actions? What will you do to ensure women feel safe reporting these?**

As an HR professional for over 20 years, I have extensive experience dealing with sexual harassment complaints, investigations, and discipline. The first rule: believe people when they say they've been harassed or assaulted. This does not mean you don't look into it or investigate, but you do that with the assumption the victim is telling the truth. Shaming and blaming the victim is one of the biggest issues that must be addressed.

*Yes or no:*

**27. Will you protect access to contraception and support mandated insurance coverage, state or private?**

Yes  No

**28. Do you support repealing restrictions against abortion providers and hospitals, including doctor/hospital privileges and the 72 hour waiting period?**

Yes  No

**29. Will you support removing state tax credits for crisis pregnancy centers?**

Yes  No

**30. Do you support mandating that medically accurate sex education be taught in every public school district?**

Yes  No

**31. Will you support legislation that specifically protects the rights and safety of transgender individuals?**

Yes  No

## TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

**32. Outline your top three priorities for infrastructure expansion or improvement in the state. (Expanding public transportation in cities or rural areas, maintaining state highways and bridges, etc.)**

1. My first priority for infrastructure expansion is broadband internet access to all residents in all areas.
2. I would like to see more resources dedicated to assessing bridge and highway safety and putting state funds toward the most dangerous ones.
3. The safety of our electric grid needs to be assessed for both aging issues as well as security vulnerabilities.

**33. Do you support electrical grid modernization? If yes, do you believe funding for these projects should be partially funded through an increase in utility billing rates?**

Yes. I believe this is an area that could be targeted by bad actors and could hurt both business and individuals throughout the state. It is in our best interest to modernize and secure our grid.

*Yes or no:*

**34. Do you support transferring funding, upkeep, and control from the state to counties on secondary state highways? Should any funding or responsibility for state highways be shifted from the state to the county level?**

Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_ (I have not studied this issue; on the face of it I would support this)

**35. Do you support an increase in the fuel tax in order to enable more infrastructure investment?**

Yes\_\_X\_\_ No\_\_\_

**36. Do you support the addition of tolls to increase infrastructure spending?**

Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_ I would only support tolls if they did not require traffic to stop (all done with overhead cameras) AND if they would allow exemption for Missouri residents.



## GOVERNANCE

**37. Would you support HB 1301, which bans certain lobbyist expenditures to state public officials and removes reporting requirements? Why or why not?**

I'm not certain it's HB1301, as that appears to be a bill about: "Crime Victims' Compensation Fund to the state forensic laboratory account." But either way, I support banning lobbyist gifts. I don't know about removing reporting requirements... I'd have to study that.

**38. What should the state do to help enable legally registered voters to participate in elections?**

Mail in ballots. We should encourage early voting via mail-in ballots (Oregon model). We could also have regular voting on election day, but without a significant move to main-in ballots, I would propose moving election day to a weekend or holiday (which I realize is more of a federal issue).

*Yes or no:*

**39. Do you support state intervention to make a decision on a the possible merger of St. Louis City and St. Louis County?**

Yes\_\_\_ No\_X\_\_

**40. Do you support repealing Missouri's voter ID law?**

Yes\_X\_\_ No\_\_\_





## EDUCATION

*Survey:*

**41. What do you believe would improve Missouri public schools, to make them a better option than private schools?**

I don't know that we need to pit public and private schools against each other (as the question seems to do), but we need to have a state law mandating full funding for Missouri public schools at all levels. That budget should be separate from the rest of the budget and should not be able to be touched or cut.

*Yes or no:*

**42. Do you support public funding for school vouchers for private and charter schools?**

Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

**43. Do you support the election of school boards by voters of the local school district?**

Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

**44. Do you approve of the process Governor Greitens used to appoint state education board members?**

Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

**45. Should teachers be allowed to carry firearms in public schools?**

Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

## GENERAL

### 46. Why are you seeking the endorsement of Mobilize Missouri?

I believe Mobilize Missouri's positions on issues mirror mine very closely. I also need as much support as possible to show people in my District that there are progressive Democrats out here in West County, and they DO have the opportunity to support one. My District has never had a Democratic candidate who campaigned (we've had a couple people just put their names on the ballot so the Republican wouldn't run unopposed), and I believe there is more support out here than many realize, but they need to be shown there is a viable candidate.

### 47. What are your top three legislative goals when elected?

I have the following five fundamentals, and they can be considered in priority order (although I feel very strongly about all of them):

1. **Healthcare** for all (expand Medicaid, move toward Medicare for All)
2. Access to high quality, affordable **education**
3. Good **jobs** with fair wages (repeal RTW)
4. **Civil rights**, with non-discrimination protections
5. Address pressing **environmental** safety issue, and shrink Missouri's carbon footprint

### 48. If elected, how would you foster inclusivity of viewpoints based on race, gender, ethnicity, religion, and sexual orientation in the state legislature?

My life has included many examples of the positive impact of diverse voices throughout my life:

- Growing up as the only Jewish (non-practicing) family in my small town in Wyoming
- Marrying a gay man and helping him come out of the closet (and then publishing a book about the experience)
- Tutoring kids in low-income areas of Chicago, and later in North St. Louis City
- Supporting BLM protestors
- Running the Missouri Courage Scholarship, which rewards young people for standing up for social justice

These experiences, and many others, have given me the opportunity to hear from diverse voices, and they have always made a positive difference in my decision-making. I will carry that philosophy into office with me as well.

### 49. Where do you stand on "clean bills" – one bill, one subject?

I very much support the idea of clean bills. One of the most frustrating things for our legislators is having a good bill with a bad amendment that makes them have to vote against the original bill. Slipping amendments in – even on unrelated topics – is hard for constituents to follow and understand, and it makes the legislative process disingenuous.

*Yes or no/fill in the blank:*

**50. Do you have a committee formed?**

Yes  No

**51. Do you have a fundraising plan?**

Yes  No

**52. Have you raised money/gotten commitments already?**

Yes  No

**53. Do you have a campaign manager?**

Yes  No

**54. What amount of time per week do you envision dedicating to campaigning and call time?**

I currently spend at least 15-20 hours a week working on my campaign, I see that continuing and then ramping up as we get closer to November.

**55. Do you have access to or plan to access VAN or some other voter information/address list?**

Yes  No

**56. Do you know the size of your universe?**

Yes

**57. What is your goal number of votes needed to win?**

Approximately 8,000

**58. Do you have someone organizing volunteers for your campaign?**

Yes  No

**59. List any relevant networks are you a part of or targeting in order to broaden your reach.**

I am a member of the Chesterfield Township Democrats

I am endorsed by, and go to the meetings for, the Rockwood Labor Club

I have Candidate Distinction from Moms Demand Action

I am holding town halls (already held two), meeting with Mayors and City Council members of the 5 municipalities in my District. I am meeting with police and fire chiefs, and large business owners in my District.

**60. Please use this last opportunity to discuss anything else about your issues, principles, or differentiating factors from opponents that you want your constituents to know:**



As I mentioned above I have the following five fundamentals of my campaign (and my priorities for office). I believe if you can get these 5 things right, everything else will work better in our state for individuals, businesses, and our government.

1. **Healthcare** for all (expand Medicaid, move toward Medicare for All)
2. Access to high quality, affordable **education**
3. Good **jobs** with fair wages (repeal RTW)
4. **Civil rights**, with non-discrimination protections
5. Address pressing **environmental** safety issue, and shrink Missouri's carbon footprint