



MOBILIZE MISSOURI

BILL OTTO

State House of Representatives Candidate Survey 2018



HEALTHCARE

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

Expand Medicare. Fund additional clinics. Start Missouri based insurance exchanges to provide insurance at affordable levels. Encourage the Federal government to continue and expand insurance subsidies to help individuals to be able to take responsibility for their own healthcare.

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

Expand the prescription monitor program to stop drug shopping between doctors and hold medical experts responsible for the drugs they prescribe. Additionally, the program has to be shared between border states to monitor those who jump state lines to get prescription drugs. Schools should be given funds to expand educational programs of the dangers of these drugs & provide tools to help resist peer pressure.

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?

First, energy suppliers need to close or improve antiquated facilities that continue to damage our atmosphere by dumping millions of tons of toxic waste into the air. Second, our transportation system is sorely behind on improvements that would reduce emissions by lowering congestion times and creating more direct routes. Increase spending on public transportation needs to be part of the picture as well.

Another huge threat to our environment is the coal ash ponds located on the river banks and are subject to flooding. The impact to our rivers and drinking water is virtually unknown but Missouri concrete producers have rejected the use of coal ash in the manufacture of concrete due to the possibility of contaminated dust entering the atmosphere and the lack of information of potential harm to the human population. If it's too dangerous to put on the roads, it certainly cannot be allowed to enter our water supply.

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 I support a buyout of nearby residents but, if it is due the radioactive materials in the landfill, then the buyout should be conducted by the EPA. If the buyout is due to the smells or harmful toxic emissions due to the underground fire or anything due to the operation of the landfill, then Republic Services should be required to buyout the surrounding neighborhoods. The State does nor have the process or experience needed to execute a buyout.

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?

Increasing funding to public schools is the best first step including vocational training and higher education. Secondly, our roads and public infrastructure is badly needs improving including Lambert Field and Kansas City International Airport. Lastly, the caustic atmosphere from our capitol needs to be eliminated and our legislators have to work on resident's behalf instead of attacking working families and rewarding corporate interests and big political donors. No business will locate to a state with poor schools, bad roads, and an negative legislature.

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 certainly support these business models, but I would only support incentives in a very narrow scope. I don't know what type of legislation could be proposed but we should examine present statutes to ensure there are no barriers already in place.

Yes or no:

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

Yes No \$ 15.00 within a reasonable timetable

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 I am not sure how that would be done constitutionally

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

Yes No Not if it lowered revenues

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?

I believe body cameras would have a positive effect ensuring everyone that there is accountability for all involved. A quick, efficient, and fair court system would boost public confidence in the process.

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

Improve the education system and ensure equal access for all. Private/public investment in less advantaged communities.

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

Yes Full legalization

Yes or no:

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

Yes___ No___ Not sure how that would look or be funded

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

Yes_X___ No___

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

Yes___ No_X__

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 support everyone’s right to control their own body. Women’s rights are human rights, not sure how else to explain it.

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?

We should have a zero-tolerance policy and expel those who do not abide. Create a special council/commission to independently handle complaints along with a confidential or anonymous reporting line.

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)

Road improvements must be addressed with emphasis on the through highways (Hwy 70 & 44) and aging bridges. Public transportation has to be included along with the viability of major airports.



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, paid for by the utilities. It is ridiculous that these companies are guaranteed specific profit margins and yet are not willing to invest in the future of their own business. This is a business model only supported in a monopoly.

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__X__ NO NO

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_X__

GOVERNANCE

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

HB 1301 is bill filed by Conway(R) Cottleville relating to Crime Victims Compensation Fund. Given the opportunity, I would ban ALL lobbyists expenditures to public officials which would remove all reporting requirements.

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

Automatically register voters when they license their cars or pay their taxes. Open polls for 10 days (or more) prior to the election including evenings. Possibly move elections to the weekend but not necessary with extended voting opportunities.



Yes or no:

39. Do you support state intervention to make a decision on 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?

We already have good public schools. We will never understand how to best address deficiencies until we increase funding. Until funding meets everyday needs in a modern society, we cannot make determinations of improvements.

Yes or no:

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

Yes___ No__X__

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

Yes__X__ No___

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

Yes___ No__X__

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

Yes___ No__X__



GENERAL

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

I believe that Mobilize MO has the ear of voters who may feel disenfranchised with the current process. It is my hope that your endorsement will help communicate that I will represent the views of all Missourians including theirs.

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

Access to healthcare for all.

Increased funding for all levels of public education.

Improving transportation infrastructure.

Full legalization of marijuana including the manufacture of hemp-based products

I always file these bills:

- Remove all publicly supported benefits for elected officials including state paid healthcare, insurances, retirement benefits, and any benefit not available to all Missourians.
- Change our redistricting process to a citizen commission. (Hopefully not necessary with the passage of the CLEAN initiative)
- Discontinue the use of specialty plates for legislators.

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

By encouraging all points of view in committees and on the House floor.

49. Where do you stand on “clean bills” – one bill, one subject?

Required by Missouri’s Constitution. Absolutely support



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? & finance manager, & communications manager

Yes No

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

All of it

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?

7863

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 Union member and have worked with organized Labor for many years. I am a supporter of Mom's Demand Action, League of Women Voters, STL Moms, the LGBTQ community, and progressive groups throughout the metropolitan area. In past elections I have been endorsed by MNEA, AFT, all of organized Labor, Mobilize Missouri, NARAL, Planned Parenthood, & PROMO. I'm sure there are some that I am not listing.

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:

I have always felt that public service should just that: service to the community without personal gain or self promotion. Too often folks who run for office, either successful or not, do not return to give of their experience or help. It is my personal goal to be there for others until I have nothing more to offer. I believe that separates me, not only from my opponents, but also from so many running for office.