



MOBILIZE MISSOURI

Greg Upchurch
State House of Representatives Candidate Survey 2018



HEALTHCARE

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

I would like to see the age to enroll in Medicare dropped to 18 years of age. I feel this would have the same effect as having the public option as originally written with the Affordable Care Act, before it was gutted.

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

I believe the topic of Medical Marijuana can help with this epidemic. There should be a vote in MO in November. There are many unexplored uses of CBD oils and research is showing cannabis products to be a great help with combating opioid problem. Holding Doctors accountable is also very important, but this is regulation and not an alternate solution.

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, as Missourians, could have a great impact with directing legislation to further the use of renewable energy such as solar, wind and hydro-electric energy. We could also bring many quality jobs to Missouri in the process. We could legislate funds for training and education to bring those manufacturing jobs to Missouri.



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 (This is terrible!)

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?

We can draft and support legislation for training individuals to perform tasks associated with renewable energy, as well as funds for technical and apprentice training.

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 am not sure we need legislation to incentivise or aid these types of projects, as people are now free to do this exact thing. I would be more concerned about legislation to keep from hindering this process in the future. Currently, if I wanted to start a company with my buddies, there is nothing stopping me from pursuing that goal. *If forced to adopt a plan, I would take example from the Green Bay Packers football team.

Yes or no:

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

Yes No \$ 10

14. Do you support right to work legislation?

Yes No "Say NO to Amendment A"



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

Yes__X__ No____

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

Yes____ No____ *I need more clarification on this issue.

17. Do you support low income housing credits?

Yes__X__ No____

POLICING/JUSTICE

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

Provide funding to ensure more officers have the time to interact and be present within the communities of the state of Missouri. Better resources and better training are the keys to success here. I fully support law enforcement.

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

The best way to reduce crime is through community involvement. Additional resources would allow officers to spend more time within the communities, while building personal relationships with the residents. Law enforcement only works with the support of the community.

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

I fully support marijuana legislation. I believe it should be completely legal and recreational should be heavily taxed.

Yes or no:

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

Yes__X__ No____

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__X__ No____

24. Do you support ending the death penalty?

Yes____ No__X__



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 believe everyone should be able to make the choices that are right for their own lives. I simple ask them their choice and accept their answer, while explaining that this is the same opportunity I am giving others. Your choice is yours, as their choice is theirs. Do you deserve to live the way you want to live, or should I be able to dictate their decisions and how they live.

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?

I think there should be an anonymous line for being able to report abuse, the same as there are now for reporting crimes. I would like to establish a government based hotline where individuals can privately report and a task force to immediately look into ALL allegations.

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)

We must start with the existing roads and bridges (commerce provides much of the funding we need).

This state has needed a link between St. Louis and Kansas City for a long time. I would support a train, light rail or a subterranean system.

I would like to allocate money for research into alternative paving methods. There are many great projects happening throughout the world that use recycled materials to build roads. I would like to further that research.

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?

I do believe we need to upgrade the electrical grid. I think it should be underground, which would make it harder for disruptions from storms and terrorists. Modernization is the answer, ONLY if it makes the grid safer and more reliable. I also believe some systems are too modern and need to revert back to human interaction that is not vulnerable to hackers and outside entities.

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

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

Yes No ___ (But only if there is no other way to get the funding)

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

Yes ___ No (Toll roads create all kinds of traffic problems all over the country and disenfranchise both local citizens and travelers. We need to make transportation easier and friendlier, so as to attract tourism and commerce, not deter.)



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 would like to remove lobbyists from our political system as a whole. I think there should be more reporting by lobbyists, if their activities continue to exist. I am for banning lobbyist expenditures and making them report all activities if they do spend.

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

I think the ID program in this country should be free and subsidized by the government. Anyone who wants an ID to vote, can get one for free. Those who can not get to the ID facility, could have access through a mobile program that travels to different parts of the state to service those requests. This program could also serve as the Missouri census to establish the number of registered voters we have.

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 (But ONLY if the two entities can not reconcile. Arbitration may be necessary at that point)

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

Yes No (I like my solution above, if there needs to be a compromise.)

EDUCATION

Survey:

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

Stop using public money to fund private schools. Stop using public money to fund charter schools. Increase the amount of revenue going toward public schools and stop pitting schools against each other for resources.

I would also consider giving incentives and possible tax breaks to teachers who choose to teach in the public school system. Also offer tax and additional incentives to those who continue to educate themselves and STAY in the public school system.



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 many of my core values align with the core values of this group. The groups progressive agenda is in line with many of the actions I would like to see happen if elected to the State House of Representatives.

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

Fund PUBLIC schools and apprenticeship programs

Explore renewable energy to protect the environment

Lower the age of Medicare or adopt/develop a similar program

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

Being a representative of the people means you listen to those you represent. I believe all viewpoints should be heard and acknowledged. When the majority speaks, then the will of the people shall be done. I feel this way, because I believe I live in a district where MOST people believe in fairness and what is right for all. "Choice" goes a long way toward allowing people the freedoms they desire.



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

ALL BILLS SHOULD BE CLEAN BILLS AND ONLY ADDRESS ONE SUBJECT AT A TIME! (I have always thought this.)

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?

Full time job

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, I also have the past results.

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

+1

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.

St. Charles County Democrats

Mobilize Missouri

Local Unions

New Approach

MSTA



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 believe what sets me apart is my education and experience.

I have been positioning myself to run for office for years now. It is not only that I have a Masters degree, but that I have a Masters Degree in Public Administration.

I am a small business owner and understand budgeting and customer service.

I care greatly about the environment due to my many seasons as a commercial fisherman in Alaska.

I worked as a laborer for many years and fully support the working adult. I understand the struggle and it is real!

I believe in Interstate commerce and the necessity for roads and bridges, due to my time as an over-the-road truck driver.

I believe that being born and raised in this area is a true asset for me to understand what the people of my district want and feel. I do not believe an outsider has the same understanding about the unique characteristics of our community.