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# MOBILIZE MISSOURI

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State House of Representatives Candidate Survey 2018  
Marissa Brown – District 76



## HEALTHCARE

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

I would first identify existing efforts in the legislature to protect and support health care access, then vociferously support measures to fund health care access initiatives.

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

The legislature can increase efforts to fund community education initiatives on impacts of opioids as early as middle school. Legislature can seek increase funding to combat the sources of supply and address misappropriation of drugs. Lastly increase funding for treatment and reentry.

*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?**

It can pass legislature to increase penalties for climate-linked pollutants and polluters. It can seek to stem the federal efforts to ease EPA restrictions under current administration. Increase public awareness and move climate change to the policy forefront. Reduce carbon emissions and as a body seek resolutions to invest and incentivize use of renewable forms of 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  \*\*\*(I'm strong proponent of concept of local control, balanced with some federal oversight being that there's state waterways whose impact can affect areas outside of the primary area of the CAFO. Would have to be presented with more information to form a more definitive policy position)

## ECONOMIC & LABOR POLICY

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

The State must become more actively involved in allocating resources on building the urban infrastructure of its key economic engines found in the urban areas which provide upward of 25+ of tax base/budget by addressing the education systems/schools and crime. Which outside of tax incentives, make Missouri more attractive to corporations.

### 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?

Yes. Given workers a stake by given decision-making authority and profit-share as motivation would increase worker satisfaction and thus increase in quality production. Would support tax incentives to corporations which do so, but a cost-benefit analysis of incentives must ensure that breaks given to companies are interwoven into the profit share increase to workers.

*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  \*\* Would have to study its impact to ensure that the middle class and economically disadvantaged are positively impacted by changes.

### 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?**

It can begin by not making being “Pro police and Pro-community” mutually exclusive propositions. It has to address issue of police misconduct and disparities in justice system to begin to build trust amongst the community with the justice system. It can look to establish pilot programs in early education to expose children to law enforcement careers. Must break mortar into the walls of “Blue Silence” code, if it is to expect to break to “no snitch” street code. The community as a whole wants justice in their communities and support law enforcement, but law enforcement must show a regard how it polices community. Legislature can support enforcement of implicit-bias training.

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

We have to increase opportunities through employment and training initiatives. One way is re-enforcing re-entry initiatives and remove barriers of re-entry. On the front end (pre-entry), we must invest in a vibrant educational system that works for all inspite of income. We have to review the efficacy of the social systems (Dept of Soc. Svcs, Family Svcs, etc.) and make sure they’re functioning to address and serve children as well as helping to empower the parents with tools to help children in home and not overburden and use teachers and schools as defacto disciplinarians. We have to look to balance punishment where it addresses the sources of supply and not immediately look to criminalize addiction. We have to adequately address and fund mental health initiatives.

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

I support decriminalizing marijuana. As many who’ve once vehemently supported the mass incarceration of marijuana users now support is legalization because of the economic boom of marijuana dispensaries we also have to look to the issue of expungement of criminal convictions of marijuana offenders. I would review local legislation currently proposed on the levels of legalization, gradually increasing from full support of medical marijuana to recreational use.

**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  \_\_\_ (I believe that local prosecution is sufficient unless there's a proven conflict of interest in the office)

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

Yes \_\_\_ No  \_\_\_ (I support local law enforcement, but I believe there's sufficient penalties that exist that address that. What's missing is establishing penalties of police misconduct and abuse, history has shown as a whole Blue Lives have always mattered as case history has shown an unwavering support of police. Comparatively there's many more documented evidence of police misconduct perpetuated upon communities of Color that needs to show Black Lives Matter. This helps to build trust and not further alienation between two components)

**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?**

Choice is a fundamental principle that underlies our constitution and it shouldn't stop at women exercising full rights of choice over their reproductive issues. We cannot enforce what may be your personal/individual views on all. We want local control and decision making authorities in government affairs, women should have "local control" over the decision making of their bodies and affairs.

**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 must increase awareness and training of what constitute sexual harassment as the culture of what was once socially acceptable has changed. Zero tolerance at all levels must be strictly enforced. We must protect the identities of victims and ensure that retributive actions are penalized.

*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  \*\*\* I support protecting the rights and safety of ALL, specifically marginalized populations

## 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)**

I will look to support increasing funding for public transportation and access. The State highways and bridge systems must be strengthened and re-enforced. And we must look to invest in the building of the surrounding community infrastructures of those transportation projects.

**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?**

With energy usage steadily increasing and rising with population increases we must modernize our electrical grid. I would look for creative ways of funding first before seeking to burdening consumers with an increase, although at some point it may be inevitable. Opportunity to further explore incentivizing solar and other energy efficiency alternatives.

*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

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

Yes  No



## 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 support removing the over abundance of influence of lobbyist on state government. I believe reporting requirements must be maintained to ensure transparency.

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

Earliest possible voting. Repeal voter ID laws.

*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?**

Adequately fund foundation formula. Increase teacher pay to attract quality teachers. Invest in surrounding communities by helping to abate crime and remove social stigmas associated with urban schools. Fixed dilapidated buildings.

*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 my platform issues and your organizations missives are congruent.

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

Addressing educational disparities/strengthening  
Abating crime  
Jobs/economic development

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

I believe the Democratic party itself is the umbrella that encompasses all those elements. So, I would stay consistent in engaging all in welcoming input in decision making process.

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

I support the idea of a clean bill, so that it’s not clouded, especially with “poison pills.” But I understand their may exist overlays, so as long as the amended content enhance the underlying issue, I wouldn’t be diametrically opposed.

*Yes or no/fill in the blank:*

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

Yes  No

### 51. Do you have a fundraising plan? yes

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?  
 30 hrs

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 have access to VAN and my map. My district covers portions of the 1<sup>st</sup> ward, 2<sup>nd</sup> ward, 21<sup>st</sup> ward, 22<sup>nd</sup> ward, and 27<sup>th</sup> ward.

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

Approximately 3200. Of course this number varies depending on voter turn out.

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 establishing a network of committed women, minorities, and citizens that live in low income communities to assist me with broadening my reach. I have a number of elected officials supporting my campaign and vision.

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 an African American woman from a low income area, I understand what it's like to be the underdog. As a double minority I want to use my platform as a way to fight for equal rights for those that look like me and other minorities as well. I have worked in the not for profit sector for two years working with at risk youth. I spend my spare time volunteering with KECA (Kingsway East Conservation Association) and I am at the beginning stages of starting my own not-for-profit. I live, work, and volunteer in my community.

During my last campaign for Alderperson of the first ward I came extremely close. I was within about 60 votes of winning. During that campaign I worked extremely hard and almost defeated the incumbant. With the name recognition from my last campaign and the hard work I am putting into this campaign, I believe I can win!