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# MOBILIZE MISSOURI

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State House of Representatives Candidate Survey 2018  
Travis Estes – District 81



## HEALTHCARE

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

Continue support of the expansion of Medicaid under ACA as a constitutional amendment. 31 states have already proven the viability, which includes cost savings. Jill Schupp's work in this area needs to be continued.

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

Change Missouri's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program to track patients, not pharmacists and doctors.

Treat all addiction as an illness rather than disfunction. Lead with a message of help rather than punitive action.

Make sure that all Missourians have equal access to healthcare rather than set people who've suffered from addition in unaffordable high-risk pools.

Legalize medical marijuana.

*Yes or no:*

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

Yes

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

Yes

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

Yes



## ENVIRONMENT

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

Have Missouri align with the Paris Climate Accord regardless of Federal inclusion.

Create a designation of Sacred Green Spaces and Waterways, denying any future development on those lands and regulating the businesses whose run-off, discharge or emissions negatively impact those lands.

Review economic incentives for renewable energy creators and civilians and companies who commit to renewable energy usage.

*Yes or no:*

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

Yes

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

Yes

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

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



## ECONOMIC & LABOR POLICY

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

Repeal Right to Work

Replace TIF incentives for private company development with incentives for working with Missouri Start-Ups – this is a piece I’m actively working on and want to propose immediately.

Invest in STEM and STEAM based education programs in our schools. I strongly feel that coding is the next wave of blue-collar careers and we need the talent that will attract companies to Missouri.

**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 absolutely support worked-owned businesses and think they should receive the same benefits/incentives that pass-through partnership LLCs receive. I believe we’d have to relax restrictions on profit-sharing limits or create new classifications. I’m not a tax-law specialist, but my inclination would be to create a new category to avoid potential misuses by corporations. My primary concern would be to protect the individual employee, and to ensure there are mechanisms in place to ensure proper taxes are being paid and the employee doesn’t have to cover business liabilities.

*Yes or no:*

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

Yes - \$15 / hr by 2026

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

No

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

Yes

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

I need more information to answer this confidently.

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

Yes



## **POLICING/JUSTICE**

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

Commit to state wide accreditation for all law enforcement officers for racial sensitivity and community service.

Move some Enforcement positions into Community Engagement positions that include counseling as a mandate for all officers who carry deadly force.

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

Respect through education and employment. This includes jobs programs and investment in youth.

Increasing gun violence prevention. Tightening firearm restrictions and requiring certification and registration for ownership.

Increasing citizen oversight in all communities.

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

Full legalization. This is an incarceration and racial equity issue.

*Yes or no:*

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

No

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

Yes

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

No

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

Yes



## 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 fully support Planned Parenthood and NARAL’s missions. I want to make one of my first actions as an elected official to file regulations on fake CPCs to clearly define their purpose, to refrain from using medical terminology unless they are licensed as a medical facility and to remove public funding if they have religious affiliations.

In discussion, I talk about women’s right to medical care and the right to have confidential communication with their doctors. I support the government protecting the rights of people to practice their faith as best suits them and I will fight for them to keep those protections just as I will fight to ensure that women can have access to non-faith-based medically sound research and to be able to make up their own minds without being told what they must do.

**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 want to make sure that every police force has an adequate number of specially trained officers that can work through completely anonymous intake channels. Furthermore, these same trained offices will be able to address the same harassment and violence perpetrated against LGBTQ+ persons who need the same crimes.

*Yes or no:*

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

Yes

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

Yes

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

Yes

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

Yes



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

**Yes**

## **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. Public internet connectivity. Equal access to the internet has become a necessity and something that can help with education, employment and being an informed citizen.

2. Public transportation within cities. We must address the transportation needs as part of education and employment access.

3. From what I understand, bridges across the state are in such disrepair we need to address them for both safety and commerce.

**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?**

This is difficult because we need to modernize our grid now. If we can raise corporate taxes in Missouri, we could fund modernization without additional burdens on citizen's utility bills.

*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?**

**No**

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

**Yes**

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

**Yes \*\* I have many caveats to this however \*\***



## 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 don't believe this is the correct bill, or I'm not finding the correct one.

But we still have room to tighten up on lobbyist gifts, but I don't see any reason to remove reporting requirements. I feel that it is necessary to maintain transparency on all lobbyist giving. I do apologize if I'm misreading this question, please call if you'd like further clarification.

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

- Remove Voter ID laws
- Increase penalties for any type of voter suppression.
- Clean up the SOS website so that it's easier to register online, find if you are registered already, and to locate your polling place.
- Online sign up for mobile polling alerts

**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**

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

**Yes**



## EDUCATION

*Survey:*

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

- Ensure that all public schools are properly funded, including for education.
- Allow locally elected school boards to do their jobs.
- Allow school districts to have more control over their curriculum to address regional differences.

*Yes or no:*

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

No

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

Yes

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

No

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

No



## GENERAL

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

In my interactions with the members, leadership and online materials of Mobilize Missouri I've found the most direct reflection of my personal beliefs across the entire spectrum of current issues. Voters will understand what I stand for when they see Mobilize Missouri next to my name.

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

- Shine a light on fake CPCs
- Fund public education
- Raise the minimum wage/repeal RTW

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

Intentional, funded outreach – not only in Jefferson City, but in our respective regions. Creating a panel of thought leaders in social equity and giving them regular audience at the capitol.

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

100%. For transparency in government, to make the legislative process more accessible to the public and to reduce machinations in omnibus bills that intentionally mislead, harming Missouri and feeding special interests.

*Yes or no/fill in the blank:*

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

Yes

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

Yes

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

Yes

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

Yes

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

5-6 hours of monitored call time per week



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

Yes

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

Yes. 6026

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

2600

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

Yes

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

I'm active in tech and start up communities and believe that to be the core of Missouri's economic future. (Venture Café, CIC, Cortex)

In education I've had a role with UMSL's School of Business, both as a frequent lecturer and volunteered the past four years on the Midwest Digital Marketing Conference committee.

As arts are a \$1bn revenue generator, and events total are a \$7bn revenue generator, I take great pride in my network of Executive Directors and organizations like RAC, MAC, and currently serve on the board of Arts & Education Council's marketing committee.

I attend as often as I can and am a member of Mobilize Missouri and St. Louis Young Democrats and am currently the Vice-President of Marine Villa Neighborhood Association.

**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 am a Progressive Democrat. My opponent is not. We cannot let someone like Steve Butz occupy a blue seat in the Missouri Legislature. Your endorsement means a great deal to me personally. I need the insights and opinions of your membership as well.