



MOBILIZE MISSOURI

State House of Representatives Candidate Survey 2018
Mike Walter – District 95



HEALTHCARE

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

At this time I am not sure how I would expand healthcare access other than working to provide better access for those with mental health and opioid, etc addictions. I will certainly fight to protect basic healthcare for all citizens of Missouri.

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

First and foremost, I recognize that this is a disease and is killing more people than cancer. I know firsthand about this crisis. I look forward to sponsoring a bill to assist in this misunderstood crisis.

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?

We should continue on the path that we are on today with alternate ways to produce electricity, create more incentives for electric vehicles, solar wind mills, etc... We can also do more to control land waste. I am not certain where Missouri is on clean water.

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 – **But include Federal Support**

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

No – **Not in general**

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?

Not sure - Need more info



ECONOMIC & LABOR POLICY

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

Stop sponsoring legislation which intends to drive good quality craftsmanship out of our state (ex. Our state capital renovation policy is a crime!). More ideas for economic growth. This can cure many of our problems.

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?

Not sure, but these concepts are very successful! I would like to further explore what we as legislators can do to incentivize this concept. I just heard of an interesting concept on this topic.

Yes or no:

13. Do you support an increase to the state minimum wage? If so, what dollar amount?
Yes - **\$15/hr by 2023**

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?
Not sure – Need more information.

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?

Better communication and a sincere partnership. Training. This is a difficult challenge! However, it's a real issue.

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

Address mental health and illegal drug use. Provide training for current job opportunities. Publicize the programs which are presently in place. This is another complex issue.

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

I do believe that it is obvious that a degree of legalization is beneficial in many ways. Certainly for medical reasons. I assume we have received stats like Colorado, (maybe).

Yes or no:

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

Yes

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

It would depend on the circumstances

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

I believe there are already specific laws which apply to crimes against first responders as well as utility workers.

24. Do you support ending the death penalty?

No - To be honest, I really need to be more knowledgeable about this issue



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 will speak from the heart! I believe that life begins at inception. I believe there are reasons a woman would consider an abortion. I do not believe that the government should determine the woman's choice. I believe that Planned Parenthood is beneficial for many reasons.

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?

A woman should not fear reporting sexual harassment just like any other crime against her. Elected officials are not above the law. We are all accountable for our actions in life.

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?

No – People have died for many years from poor abortion conditions.

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

Yes - I fully support Planned Parenthood. I would not support tax dollars to support a program to deter woman from making their own personal choice.

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)

I honestly do not have a plan but support the absolute need for infrastructure improvements and much better public transportation. At this time I think the state should maintain all of their roads regardless.

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 am from the utility business and understand where we are in Utility infrastructure in the entire country. We cannot avoid these issues and our infrastructures are important to economic development, safety, etc... This is also a complex issue. Better incentives would help.

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

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

Yes



GOVERNANCE

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

We need to get money out of politics! We need to have campaign finance reform. I support Clean Missouri.

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

Increase voting opportunities (2 days).

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?

No

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

Yes – We need to make it easier for citizens to vote.



EDUCATION

Survey:

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

Proper funding

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?

I have always been an activist myself. We need more citizens and organizations like MoMo to make up society, G.O.T.U. We need to mobilize all Democrats.

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

- Education (Public) K-extended studies
- Workers Rights, min wage, repeal RTW, protect prevailing wage, etc.
- Mental Health / Opioid Crisis
- Common sense gun laws

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

I support diversity and full inclusion in all forms of government, organizations and communities.

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

Most times the attachments are unrelated to the objectives of the bill. It sometimes appears to be a favor to another legislator(s). I do not object but it should have some relationship to the original bill. Sorry again! Too much going on these days.

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?

No – I have a very committed and experienced committee chair



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

25+ hours 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

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

13,000

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 belong to all Union networks. I believe in full inclusion, young, seniors, progressive and moderate Democrats, male, female, married, single, LGBTQ, we are all in this together!

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 labeled my campaign "the campaign of hearts and minds". "I will speak from the heart and I want to know what is in the hearts and minds of all citizens in my district"