



MOBILIZE MISSOURI

State House of Representatives Candidate Survey 2018
Mike LaBozzetta – District 99



HEALTHCARE

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

I would push for a state-level Medicaid- or Medicare-for-all option at least. I believe the most efficient way forward is to transition to a single-payor system that is open and accessible to all citizens.

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

The first thing Missouri can do is to support programs like drug court. The legislature has already set up these systems and the legislature should promote their use. The legislature can also push legislation that expands medical care for addicts, and includes mental and addiction care.

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?

Missouri has significant wind resources and a shrinking coal industry. By promoting a shift from coal to wind, we can help to transition to a more sustainable energy architecture. We can also expand the economy by pushing our wonderful natural beauty as a source of tourism. In the process, we can protect our native flora and fauna.

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

ECONOMIC & LABOR POLICY

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

The legislature plays a central role in making Missouri attractive to employers. But we need to focus on things that expand opportunities for all like making education, including trade schools and community colleges, a funding priority. We also cannot tolerate discrimination and bills like SB43 need to be repealed.

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?

We already see these kinds of deals through employee stock option plans. These firms generally do better and have better protections for workers. I would be in favor of expanding support for these kinds of programs.

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

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?

Community-based policing should be made a priority and initiatives like the re-introduction of beat cops and other similar programs need to be supported. Laws that put an emphasis on local control and local relationship and community-building should be a priority.

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

Community-based policing tactics reduce crime while increasing trust between community and the police force. This would seem to be a very efficient way to reduce crime.

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

I do support legalization with a regime similar to cigarettes or alcohol with age limits and taxation. I would also support the use of marijuana or derivatives in prescriptions and treated like any other Schedule 2 drug.

If it were to made fully legal, I would also support legislation to expunge all prior offenders of marijuana laws.

Yes or no:

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

Yes___ No X___

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 X___ 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?

My view is that, while I could not counsel a woman to have an abortion, I cannot in good conscience make that decision for her. Access to safe abortion should be afforded to all women. Additionally, I would push any legislation that supports women's healthcare, children's healthcare, cash support, and any other support so that no woman would feel that having a child would be economically infeasible.

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?

The first things we should do is look to expand protections for whistleblowers on all kinds of discrimination and assault. The Missouri legislature has spent the past session gutting those protections, to the risk of women and people of color. We must support legislation that protects those who would speak out, regardless of the perpetrator.

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)

Our first priority needs to be fixing our bridges and motorways. Missouri is a transit state and our infrastructure needs to be able to support that part of our economy. We also need to expand public transportation options so that everyone can have access to economic opportunity.

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 support grid modernization and rate increases, if targeted to protect vulnerable populations, should be considered. But we do need to modernize our grid to support renewable sources of energy.

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 ___

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?

Perhaps I am mistaken, but HB 1301 from this session pertains to the state forensic laboratory account. In general, however I would be in favor of limiting lobbyists' ability to spend to influence legislators, while also increasing reporting transparency.

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

The state should expand early and absentee voting and do away with the voter ID law. The law is a barrier to voting the disproportionately affects people of color and the elderly.

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?

We need to increase teacher pay to remain competitive and to expand programs that support working families such as before- and after-school programs and school meals. Blind increases in funding should be avoided, but targeted increases in funding to programs that allow families to keep their children engaged in school and increase teacher quality and retention are measures that I support whole-heartedly.

Yes or no:

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

Yes ___ No

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

Yes No ___

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

Yes ___ No

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

Yes ___ No



GENERAL

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

My goal is to run a campaign to bring progressive ideas to the forefront and I believe Mobilize Missouri can help me do just that.

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

- 1) Increasing educational funding for programs that support working families and teachers.
- 2) Creating complete access to healthcare for all Missourians.
- 3) Invest in programs that support a diverse economy that creates opportunity for all.

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

My goal is to create a kind of personal legislative advisory council that brings together these diverse voices to evaluate legislative impact on various communities prior to the passage of any law.

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

I have no problem with passing bills with multiple topics, but we have seen such bills abused as ways to get other, less-desirable legislation passed. In circumstances where additional legislation is not germane to the core topic of the legislation, I would support the use of clean bills to force legislators to consider only one issue at a time.

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?

About 10 hours but I will soon increase that to accommodate canvassing.

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?

About 6,100

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 have reached out to colleagues in MATA and have already received the endorsement of my local labor club, the Rockwood Labor Club. This is my first foray into political campaigning so I have reached out to the local Democratic clubs as well. Many of my calls so far, have also been to Democratic supporters to introduce myself. I welcome any and all connections that can be offered.

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 truly believe that the left wing of American politics has better ideas that will support all Americans in defining and pursuing their own American dream. That is why I am running as a Democrat and why I look forward to presenting these ideas to all of my constituents, regardless of political party.