

# U.S. Senate 2020

Response ID:18 Data

## 1. Candidate Information

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### 1. Candidate Name

Barbara Bollier

### 2. Political Party Affiliation

Democrat

### 3. Address

Street Address/Apt/Suite : PO Box 1647

City/State/Zip : Mission, KS 66222

### 4. Phone Number

8165609541

### 5. Email Address

zach@bb4ks.com

### 6. Campaign Website

bolliieforkansas.com

## 2. Candidate Background

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### 7. Occupation/Work History (last 5 years - 25 words or less)

Kansas Senator (2017-Present)

Kansas Representative (2010-2017)

### 8. If you are or have been affiliated with a chamber of commerce or other business organization, please list which organization(s) and any leadership positions you have held.

NA

### 9. Other recent political/community experience? (25 words or less)

Former Elder, Village Presbyterian Church

Board Member, Shawnee Mission Education Foundation

Lecturer, Kansas City University of Medicine and Bioscience

## 3. Issues and Policy

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### 10. As a candidate, what are your top three policy issues? (30 words or less)

1. Making health care accessible and affordable
2. Rebuilding the Kansas economy
3. Creating economic opportunity for Kansas farmers, ranchers, and rural communities

### 11. What are your views on the national economy? (75 words or less)

Our economy is in trouble and won't fully recover until we contain the COVID-19 pandemic. For the first time in my lifetime,

partisanship is preventing the kind of swift and deliberate economic response that helped Americans under George W. Bush and Ronald Reagan. Above all, the federal government must invest in the American people, taking a "whatever it takes" approach to funding coronavirus research, as well as supporting small businesses and the unemployed.

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**12. What are your views on federal tax policy? (75 words or less)**

Our tax code is too complicated, and creates incentives that do not benefit Kansans or our economy. It's time to close loopholes that reward everything from hedge fund managers to big businesses who get paid to outsource jobs. Congress should reform the tax code to invest in real people by cutting taxes for Kansas families, reducing the deficit, and investing in infrastructure, education, and health care.

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**13. What would you propose, if anything, to provide further relief to Kansas businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic to encourage recovery and economic growth? (100 words or less)**

Kansas businesses and workers need support until the pandemic is under control. For too many businesses, the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) was inadequate, and was burdened with too many confusing rules. As a result, record numbers of Kansans are unemployed with little hope of finding work. Congress must extend and simplify PPP to prevent further shuttering of businesses and job losses, and at the same time extend SNAP and unemployment benefits. Without help, struggling businesses will lose more customers, and working Kansans who have done everything right will lose their homes and be unable to feed their families.

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**14. What are your views on long-term funding solutions for transportation infrastructure? (75 words or less)**

Republicans and Democrats agree that infrastructure investment would yield significant economic gains that justify the spending in the long term, especially as Americans are in dire need of jobs. I would support partnership with the private sector so that Kansas businesses can assist in the up-front capital costs and provide technical expertise and share in the benefits of the long-term gains.

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**15. What are your views on the federal government's role in the health care system? (75 words or less)**

When Kansans have access to affordable care, all will benefit. The government has a responsibility to correct markets when they aren't working as they should, such as in the health insurance market. The federal government should provide an affordable insurance option for Americans to buy into. It should also take common sense steps to reduce the gratuitous cost of prescription drugs, such as authorizing Medicare to negotiate drug prices.

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**16. What are your views on international trade and tariffs? (75 words or less)**

Trade wars have no winners. An expansion of US trade will lead to opportunity for struggling Kansas farmers and leverage over our foreign adversaries to play by the rules and protect human rights. Tariffs should be used as they were intended – to protect national security and only then as a last resort. It's time to end our trade wars abroad so that Kansas farmers can sell their goods rather than rely on government aid.

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**17. What role should the federal government have in determining workplace employment practices and benefits offered to employees? What workplace changes, if any, would you support? (100 words or less)**

As a doctor, I have always held that the government has a responsibility to ensure safe and equitable workplaces. The federal government should moderate an equal playing field between employers and employees. Necessary changes vary sector to sector, but I will always be an advocate for safe workplaces, a living wage, and conditions that help small businesses innovate and thrive.

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**18. What are your views on the federal government's role with respect to ensuring access and affordability of post-secondary education? (75 words or less)**

Student debt has risen beyond sustainable levels and is a drag on our economic future. I support reinstating student loan forgiveness for public service, or providing needed services to rural and low-income communities. I would also support authorizing students to refinance debt to benefit from low interest rates. In the future, I support more investment in affordable two-year degrees that can expand opportunities in the trades and offer a path for those seeking four-year degrees.

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**19. What are your views on national environmental policy? (75 words or less)**

The science is clear: unless we address climate change, little else will matter. My commitment is to work towards reducing net carbon emissions by 50 percent by 2030, and reach net-zero by 2050. All stakeholders, especially farmers and ranchers who are too often ignored, should be at the table to form the policies we employ to reach these goals.

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**20. What are your views on national immigration policy? Do you support employment-based immigration reforms to assist with workforce shortages? (75 words or less)**

Our immigration system is broken and has been in need of reform for decades. I support a secure border, and I also support a fairer immigration system that grows our economy, reduces the deficit, and gives children raised in the United States a path to citizenship.

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**21. What do you believe most distinguishes you from your opponent(s)? (50 words or less)**

I'm running to bring a voice of reason to Washington. I have always worked with people with different views to get things done. I'm concerned by my opponents' partisan campaigns. As a doctor and a fiercely independent legislator, I promise Kansans that I will put their needs before any party.