

Kansas Senate/House of Representatives 2020

Response ID:109 Data

1. Candidate Information

1. Candidate Name

Carl Turner

2. Political Party Affiliation

Republican

3. District Number of Office Being Sought

KS House District 28

4. Address

Street Address/Apt/Suite : 13001 El Monte St

City/State/Zip : Leawood, KS 66209

5. Phone Number

816-896-8929

6. Email Address

carlturnerforkansas@gmail.com

7. Campaign Website

carlturnerforkansas.com

2. Candidate Background

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

The past 5 years have been with;

- Genesis10 as a Technical Project Manager
- SAIC as a Senior Business Analyst Project Lead

9. 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.

No

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

- President of neighborhood Homeowners Association
- Rotary club board
- Volunteer for Heartland Honor Flight for war veterans; build electric cars for kids with movement limitations

3. Issues and Policy

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

Restore our economy and jobs

Reduce the tax burden (property, sales, food, income, excise, utility...)

Promote affordable & accessible health care

12. How would you propose to balance the state budget? What specific budget cuts would you support and what revenue enhancements would you consider, if any? (100 words or less)

The appetite for spending never seems to end. Every day, Kansas families must find a way to cover expenses with available income. They sit around the kitchen table, look at where the money is going, prioritize needs and make decisions of what to continue and what to stop. That's the process Topeka should follow.

Rather than ask for more tax dollars my first focus will be on how all the current dollars are being spent. What are the success metrics for those dollars? What do the users of those state services say about the efficiency and effectiveness of the service?

13. What are your views on state tax policy, being as specific as you can? (75 words or less)

As I've been visiting with residents in the District, I continually hear concerns with the high taxes in practically all areas. Income tax, income tax on pensions, sales tax...particularly on food, property tax and excise taxes on fuel, alcohol and cigarettes. Residents are willing to pay a bit more to support our higher quality amenities but we've about reached the breaking point for many, especially those on fixed income.

14. What are your views on K-12 public education funding? (75 words or less)

I am a strong supporter of education. Schools are one of the top things that attract people to District 28. Residents are understandably proud of our schools and pay a lot of tax dollars for them. About half of their property tax bill and half of the state general fund go to K-12 schools. My focus will be on ensuring those tax dollars are being used efficiently and are centered on the classroom.

15. What are your priorities in the new statewide Eisenhower Legacy Transportation Program? (75 words or less)

This is a 10 year, \$10 billion bill and gives broad authority to the KS Secretary of Transportation to select projects. The legislature must have close oversight.

Maintenance of existing roads should always be a top priority. We also must look to improve 69 highway which is an important road for many in my district. The K-10 corridor is another road I hear a lot about.

16. What types of economic development policies will you support to encourage job growth and business expansion in Kansas? (75 words or less)

I'm a numbers guy. Present me with a business case based on accurate data that shows an investment has a positive cost/benefit and a reasonable payback period and there is a good chance I'll support it.

17. What would you do to grow and develop the state's workforce? (75 words or less)

I support State programs to retrain workers to bring their skills to a level that makes them more prepared and employable, especially in times of high unemployment.

When unemployment is low and companies are competing for workers, I see this being better provided by business either individually or collectively as they compete for workers. Things such as apprentice programs or programs developing specific skill sets needed by that business or trade group.

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

Similar to the K-12 question above, I think the State has not only a funding role but an oversight role to see that taxpayer funding is being used efficiently and effectively and in student focused ways to achieve results. Doing so will both improve affordability and attract and retain the best students and faculty.

19. What are your views on healthcare policy and Medicaid expansion? (75 words or less)

I want to find answers to healthcare and don't want those answers to be expansion of inefficient government programs that burden taxpayers. The best solutions typically come from the competitive market. Customers then have choices which serves as a check and balance on the providers quality, cost, customer service and level of care. No checks and balances exist when the government is the sole provider.

20. What role should state government have in determining workplace employment practices and benefits offered to employees? What workplace changes, if any, would you support? (75 words or less)

Government should set and enforce basic standards of fair employment practices. Beyond that I'm open to consider changes but generally believe in business owners making choices for their business. The ultimate regulation of those decisions comes from consumers choosing to spend their dollars to support the business or not.

21. How control over decision-making is divided among the state legislature and local governments (including local school boards) on issues such as taxation, economic development, and education has been a matter of debate. What are your views on this issue? (75 words or less)

My general view is to make decisions closer to the consumer / user of the service. However, the level of participation and influence in decision making should be proportional to where the money is coming from. If funding is from the State then the State has the responsibility for decisions and oversight of that money.

22. What do you believe most distinguishes you from your opponent(s) in this race? (50 words or less)

I bring a career of business experience and teambuilding. On my website and in conversation you'll know what my views are on the issues and about my work ethic, education and career. Voters can see what makes me tick and who I am. I don't see that from my opponent.

4. Thank You!

Your response has been successfully submitted.

Candidate responses will be posted at www.VoteJoCo.com once advance voting begins.