

Kansas Senate/House of Representatives 2020

Response ID:29 Data

1. Candidate Information

1. Candidate Name

Chris Lengquist

2. Political Party Affiliation

Republican

3. District Number of Office Being Sought

23

4. Address

Street Address/Apt/Suite : 14220 S Locust St

City/State/Zip : Olathe, KS 66062

5. Phone Number

913-568-1579

6. Email Address

chris@chrislengquist2020.com

7. Campaign Website

<https://www.chrislengquist2020.com>

2. Candidate Background

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

Real Estate and Property Management with both Keller Williams Realty, Diamond Partners, Inc and Ad Astra Realty, Inc, respectively.

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.

n/a

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

Board of Directors with Inclusion Connections.

3. Issues and Policy

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

Putting our families and small businesses first in regards to tax policies.

Mental healthcare reform.

Getting our Kansas economy back on track.

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)

As a first time senator and small business owner I am very interested in diving into the budget and learning the ins and outs of where we can balance and reprioritize our budget.

I'm not looking to raise taxes since the Brownback tax cuts have been rolled back. I do believe there should be an efficiencies review of our government and a modernization of systems.

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

The tax I am most interested in reducing and/or eliminating is the grocery sales tax.

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

Strong schools lead to an educated workforce as well as higher property values. And strong property values are one of the leading sources of personal wealth. Strong schools lead to healthy communities. Ask any realtor. So I am for funding our schools and equipping them to make a reinvestment into the communities they serve.

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

As someone with ties to central Kansas, I know how important broadband access can be for businesses, schools and families. And as an avid bicyclist I more than appreciate further trails/lanes development.

Still, the deterioration of our bridges and highways must be addressed and highway funds should be staying in the highway department.

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

First and foremost Kansas businesses (and those that would become Kansas businesses) rely on a steady, consistent tax policy. The whipsawing of tax policy this past decade has only hurt Kansas' business reputation.

As a small business owner myself, I want Kansas government to stay out of my business but be able to answer my questions when asked. A few of my past experiences tell me this hasn't always been possible.

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

I'm a huge proponent of entrepreneurship. Public/Private partnerships offering basic business training and financing pays dividends.

For each new business there is at least one job created. Supporting business creation will always lead to job creation.

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)

Our businesses are looking for educated, well-rounded employees. There are many businesses today with a lack of quality employees... even post COVID!

State universities are here to serve our Kansas population which in turn supplies our businesses with an educated work force. The state, our population and our businesses are all in this together.

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

Prescription drug costs absolutely must be tackled, as well, as should full medical billing transparency.

Depending on what is brought to the floor I would look strongly at voting for Medicaid expansion so long as there is a sunset provision should the federal government pull back their funding.

Look, we are already funding emergency rooms and we deal with bad medical debt in the form of bankruptcies, etc.

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)

As far as benefits are concerned, that is a marketplace issue. My business offers 401Ks to our employees so that we hire and retain the best.

As far as employment practices, so long as federal guidelines are met I'm not too crazy about states adding on another layer.

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)

I'm a proponent of the more local the government, the more in touch with their community's needs.

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

I'll stand for our families and our small businesses each and every time. Our current senator voted for the largest tax increase on families... ever... in 2015. Meanwhile, he is a champion of tax breaks for big insurance, big banks and big business. Check the voting record.

4. Thank You!

Your response has been successfully submitted.

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