

Kansas Senate/House of Representatives 2020

Response ID:119 Data

1. Candidate Information

1. Candidate Name

Jeff Shull

2. Political Party Affiliation

Republican

3. District Number of Office Being Sought

23

4. Address

Street Address/Apt/Suite : 7640 Long St

City/State/Zip : Lenexa Ks 66216

5. Phone Number

(913) 303-0237

6. Email Address

Jmshull12@gmail.com

7. Campaign Website

2. Candidate Background

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

Law Student from 2017-2020

Interned at Project for Innocence, JoCo DD, KS Legislature

Firefighter Paramedic from 2015-2017

Clinical technician in 2015 at On Call Surgical

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.

NA

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

Internship with Dan Hawkins spring 2020

3. Issues and Policy

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

Education

Economy/economic Growth

Criminal Justice Reform

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)

I believe criminal justice reform has the most potential to allow for cuts to the budget. Each year that an inmate is housed in prison it costs the state nearly \$25,000. This is in addition to the cost to society from having prisoners not working, and away from their families. Reform should prevent non-violent victimless offenders from serving time in prison. Any revenue enhancement would have to be from new streams such as allowing sports gambling. Any other revenue enhancements would be unacceptable given the current economy.

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

The fact that there was such a surplus prior to COVID hitting indicates we should not raise taxes. We were generating adequate revenue prior to the COVID economic problems. We need to ensure we are competitive with neighboring states in regards to taxes, education, and infrastructure in order to compete for new business and retain local businesses. We should also focus on lowering the grocery tax.

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

I believe strong schools are a necessity. They help draw business to the area and help educate the future workforce. We need to ensure that we are properly funding education. We also need to verify that the money is being spent in the best ways possible to make certain that taxpayer are being used to help students and teachers. Teachers should not have to set up go fund me's for supplies.

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

I believe that infrastructure is important in assuring business growth in the state of KS. We should focus on bringing structurally deficient bridges up to code.

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

I believe in smart tax policy for STEM industries looking to grow in Kanas is essential. We must guarantee that the jobs that are going to build the economy of the future, build here in Kansas.

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

I believe we need to remove barriers to starting a business. I believe that the cost of incorporating should come down for small business, and the non health and safety regulations should be reduced. We should encourage businesses to move to the state. Additionally, Kansas companies should be given preferential treatment when the State is spending money on infrastructure.

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)

The state of Kansas needs to look at how to control costs for universities. In 2005 the country shifted from controlling costs to attempting to ensure every student could borrow money to pay for college. In that time since tuition at the University of Kansas, my alma mater, has doubled. We need control costs so that University access is still affordable to all in our community.

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

I believe the one of the biggest obstacles for people climbing out of poverty is the welfare cliff. This gap prevents people from being able to afford transitions from government benefits to working. We need to address this problem before expanding Medicaid. Further my experience working as a paramedic-firefighter taught me that had serious flaws in that need to be address before adding tens of thousands to it.

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)

The role of state government should be more of helping employees get the benefits they are already entitled too, as opposed to increasing the regulation of the employee/employer relationship. I would not support any changes at this time. I would strongly advocate for modernizing how the state deals with benefits, as this crisis has shown it to be inadequate.

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 believe the fewer constituents an office holder has, the easier it is for the public to be heard. I always like to think of how easy it is to go to a city council meeting, the increasing difficulty to go to Topeka for a session, or even the extreme difficulty to go to Washington. The easiest place for the voter to be heard is the place that should have the most impact on their lives.

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

My connection to the community, I was born and raised in Lenexa. My wife and I attended Shawnee Mission Schools. My daughter will attend Shawnee Mission Schools. I have a deep understanding of the voter's issues having lived in this community nearly my entire life.

4. Thank You!

Your response has been successfully submitted.

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