

Kansas Senate/House of Representatives 2020

Response ID:67 Data

1. Candidate Information

1. Candidate Name

Representative Jerry Stogsdill

2. Political Party Affiliation

Democrat

3. District Number of Office Being Sought

21st House District

4. Address

Street Address/Apt/Suite : 4414 Tomahawk Road

City/State/Zip : Prairie Village

5. Phone Number

9133843393

6. Email Address

jws4414@aol.com

7. Campaign Website

jerryforkans.com

2. Candidate Background

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

Owner, JDB real estate investments

Owner, J. Stogsdill Fine Arts Photography & Digital Imaging

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.

NE Johnson County Chamber of Commerce Ex-Officio member of the Leadership Team

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

I have served the last four years as a member of the Kansas House of Representatives

Member, Board of Directors, InterUrban ArtHouse.in Overland Park

3. Issues and Policy

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

Medicaid expansion

Full funding for our public schools, colleges and universities

Maintenance, repair and expansion of our transportation and broadband infrastructure

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 think this is purely speculation until the end of the year when we will have a much better idea of what impact the pandemic will actually have on our state revenues. We also will have more information on what impact the decline of the aircraft industry in Wichita will have on the state economy. I would NOT be in favor of cutting the budgets for our public schools, colleges and universities as the money we send to those organizations provide the greatest amount of economic stimulus the state can provide to every city and county in Kansas.

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

As a member of the House Tax Committee I see a need for a complete review of the tax structure in Kansas. We are still recovering from the Brownback "tax experiment" which upset the balance we should have between property, sales and income taxes. I believe we have to rebalance these three sources as we presently rely too heavily on property and sales taxes to fund our state and local programs.

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

We should fully fund our K-12 public schools. Fully funded, nationally recognized public schools not only provide for the future of our children, they provide an economic incentive for businesses to come to Kansas and remain in Kansas. The funding for our public schools also provides a major economic stimulus for every city and county in the state. I also believe public tax dollars should go strictly to our public schools.

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

Kansas is in the unique position to be, literally, the crossroads of America. Being so, puts us in a position to attract and retain business in Kansas. Updating and expanding our transportation and broadband infrastructure while closing the "Bank of KDOT" will determine how successful we are in attracting and retaining those businesses. We need to plan how to go from gasoline taxes to alternative fuel taxes over the next few years to support transportation.

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

Expand Medicaid
Rebalance our tax structure
Fully fund our public schools, colleges & universities
Maintain and expand our transportation infrastructure
Expand and modernize our broadband infrastructure statewide
Work with our public schools, colleges, universities, trade schools, labor unions, chambers of commerce and businesses to accurately determine what our future workforce needs are and to then provide the educational resources necessary to train, attract and retain a quality workforce as determined by business.

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

All of the above in Question 16. Also, I would create a specific "Labor Committee" in both the Kansas House and Senate that would fully focus on the workforce needs of Kansas both now and in the future. To not have a specific committee in both the House and Senate that can focus on the incredibly important issue of workforce development is completely unacceptable. Those committees need to be established in the next session.

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)

Following this pandemic we need a total review of our higher ed system and how it can meet the future needs of Kansas citizens and businesses. We need to make sure that we are providing the best educational opportunities for our students, not duplicating programs, using our financial resources properly, modernizing our broadband infrastructure to allow more opportunities for distance learning and finding ways to make these institutions more affordable for our students.

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

We should absolutely expand Medicaid. It will facilitate the return of billions of our federal tax dollars which will allow us to provide better healthcare for some of our most vulnerable citizens. It will also help our most vulnerable hospitals to remain open to serve all parts of the state, it will create thousands of new, good paying jobs and it will provide a major economic stimulus which will be spread across the entire state.

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)

State government should work in concert with the business community, organized labor and our educational institutions to develop a strategic workplace plan that will outline the specific workplace practices and benefits necessary to attract and retain a quality workforce in Kansas. A workforce which is able to meet our present and future workforce needs in Kansas. This should be established through the efforts of new House and Senate Labor Committees fully focused on workforce needs.

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 in leaving as much governance responsibility as possible in the control of our local units of government. We have a very diverse state with diverse needs that can better be addressed through the efforts of local units of government. State government certainly has statewide responsibilities that it is better designed to handle but determining and implementing those needs can and should be in close concert with local units of government.

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

Experience. Along with serving the last four years as a State Legislator I have extensive experience in public education, economic development, entrepreneurship, coalition building and small business development. I have three degrees from K-State, I am a former Naval Officer, teacher, lifelong Kansan and 37 year resident of Johnson County.

4. Thank You!

Your response has been successfully submitted.

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