

# Kansas Senate/House of Representatives 2020

Response ID:79 Data

## 1. Candidate Information

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### 1. Candidate Name

Randen Smith

### 2. Political Party Affiliation

Democrat

### 3. District Number of Office Being Sought

22

### 4. Address

Street Address/Apt/Suite : 8601 W 80th St.

City/State/Zip : Overland Park, KS. 66204

### 5. Phone Number

913-717-6858

### 6. Email Address

Randenkc1@gmail.com

### 7. Campaign Website

RandenKan22.com

## 2. Candidate Background

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

Small Business owner, current Diamond Painting and Construction. current Diamond Investments with investment properties. Real estate agent at Keller Williams.

### 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)

Precinct Committeeman of North Overland Park 1-14.

## 3. Issues and Policy

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

Medicaid Expansion, Education and Economy.

### 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)

We either raise taxes on the wealthy and corporations to pre Brownback days or we legalize Cannabis like 11 other states

and the Federal District of Columbia have with taxes and regulations like alcohol. The 11 states and DC have millions of dollars in increase revenue for funding without negative impacts. We must invest in renewable energy with large scale projects and in residential homes. These implemented policies would prevent cuts and would help balance the budget like legalized gambling did in the 1980s.

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

Tax cuts for the wealthy and corporations are bankrupting the state. These tax cuts did not create jobs or revenue for the state and the state of Kansas should raise taxes to pre Brownback days.

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

Today, we are funding schools at a bare minimum level because the Kansas Supreme Court step in. We must increase funding and create an equality funding system in schools across the state.

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

I support the Bill with the transparency in the bidding process. The driver education programs grants will help with above minimum wages jobs for the middle class.

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

I would support entrepreneur programs as these programs have better return for the state and employment than tax incentives to outside companies.

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

I support entrepreneur programs and certificate programs for skilled labor. Also programs built-in like in the Eisenhower Legacy Bill with driver grants are some of the best ways to have an able and willing labor force.

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**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)**

As mentioned earlier, certificate programs increase skilled labor and wages for an employed work force without expensive school debt. The state needs to support and educate people with this option to a college education.

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

The state should had passed medicaid expansion when the ACA was passed. The state should pass medicaid expansion today.

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**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)**

We must have government intervention to prevent discrimination and minimum wage requirements. Religious objection in public settings should not be honored as a reason to discrimination. We must protect the right to unionize.

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**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)**

State legislation should always hear from the experts in the field when trying to create laws and rules as the experts have the best outlook and expertise.

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

I bring small business experience and innovation to a stagnant economy and a losing revenue base. I can communicate effectively to help the middle class needs of district 22 which is often overlooked. Also I have lived in the district and for 25 years.

#### 4. Thank You!

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**Your response has been successfully submitted.**

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