

Kansas Senate/House of Representatives 2020

Response ID:116 Data

1. Candidate Information

1. Candidate Name

Tom Cox

2. Political Party Affiliation

Republican

3. District Number of Office Being Sought

Senate 10

4. Address

Street Address/Apt/Suite : 13510 W 72nd St

City/State/Zip : Shawnee

5. Phone Number

9135937464

6. Email Address

tom@tom-cox.org

7. Campaign Website

www.tom-cox.org

2. Candidate Background

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

Small businesses Owner (4 years)

VP of Operations/Marketing Self Storage Industry (1 year)

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.

Regularly attendee of Lenexa and Shawnee Chamber events

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

2-term KS House Member

Lenexa Rotary Club

3. Issues and Policy

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

Sales/Property Tax Relief

Economic & Job 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)

To enhance revenue: Support sports betting and medicinal marijuana

Budget cuts must focus on state agencies. I am optimistic we will weather the covid storm without having to make any more significant cuts

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

I think we need to lower food sales tax as well as decouple from the federal tax code. This would restore itemization for more individuals but also needs to include removing taxing international corporations on their foreign earned income.

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

That we must fully fund our schools and are on a healthy path that we must continue down. Our schools are our economic lifeline.

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

Ensuring that our district gets all the fair funding we need for local projects. Fixing 435, expanding 69th highway, adding a lane on I-35.

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

Look at more public-private partnerships. Create competitive incentive programs to bring out of state businesses to Kansas. We also must look at programs to have rural Kansas develop and thrive.

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

Education. Education. Education. We must diversify our K-12 education to include for more trade and speciality options instead of this "college or bust" mentality. Then we must make sure to continue to support our higher education institutions so they are producing students who can compete for highly sought after jobs and help bring more companies to the KC area.

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)

They less money the state helps higher-ed with, the more the burden falls on the students. The higher costs, the less competitive we become. We are just exporting our students to other, more affordable states.

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

We need to focus on data driven healthcare policy that will keep great coverage while aiming to reduce costs. A lot of this is regulatory and opening what kind of insurance programs are offered in Kansas. I support Medicaid Expansion since it will bring in nearly \$900 million in federal funds to our 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)

The state should work to ensure there are not discriminatory practices happening.

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)

There is a fine balance that has to be maintained when tax incentive programs are being offered locally. I believe in more local control but do believe there are limits when it's directly impacting other governments potential income streams as well.

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

I believe compromise isn't a dirty word. That I will always make sure to have a seat at the table and to listen to all sides before

making a decision. I have 4 years of building relationships in Topeka and learning the process.

4. Thank You!

Your response has been successfully submitted.

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