

Kansas Senate/House of Representatives 2020

Response ID:35 Data

1. Candidate Information

1. Candidate Name

Wendy Budetti

2. Political Party Affiliation

Democrat

3. District Number of Office Being Sought

23

4. Address

Street Address/Apt/Suite : 17446 W 161ST ST

City/State/Zip : OLATHE

5. Phone Number

8163051839

6. Email Address

wendy@wendy4kansas.com

7. Campaign Website

www.Wendy4Kansas.com

2. Candidate Background

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

Substitute Teacher for the Olathe School District

Office Assistant

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.

None

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

Board Member for GLSEN GKC

Co-founder /co-chair of Johnson County Pride

JoCo Democratic Precinct & Senate District leader

Active volunteer for Moms Demand Action

3. Issues and Policy

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

Funding Public Schools

Expanding Medicaid

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)

Balancing the budget will be an important but difficult task in our current economic environment. I would support a sales tax for online purchases and online streaming services. I would also support sports wagering and medicinal marijuana. Before looking at budget cuts, I would work on a comprehensive tax plan.

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

I think it is necessary for there to be a standard expectation of state tax policy so that there are no surprises for tax payers and businesses.

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

Public education funding is a top priority. The legislature has a duty to make sure our schools are adequately funded and providing educations that allow student to pursue post-secondary education or proper training to enter the workforce. Public schools are the foundation of strong economic development in both the attraction of a strong workforce and good businesses and also in the development of future workers.

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

As a potential state senator from Olathe, I would prioritize projects that help our residents in Johnson County get around safely. I would also oppose any transfers out of the highway fund. We must make sure our infrastructure is modernized and sustainable.

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

I am in support of medicinal marijuana which would bring jobs and business expansion to Kansas.

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

I would support any initiatives that help fostering a relationship between our public educational institutions and local businesses.

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)

Kansas needs to continue to invest in post-secondary education. This needs to encompass a variety of methods to include workforce training programs as well as technology training and higher education. Ensuring a strong economic future relies on having an educated, well-trained workforce. Any barriers to access opportunities for students to explore career and post-secondary opportunities need to be eliminated so that all students can prepare for their futures.

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

I am in support of expanding Medicaid and receiving federal funding that Kansas is currently missing out on. Healthcare needs to be more affordable for both businesses who supply insurance and for consumers.

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)

I believe that the Kansas Act Against Discrimination needs to be expanded to included sexual orientation and gender identity.

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 are times when local control is important and necessary. Other times it is important to have a consistent expectation across the state. I would approach each situation with an open mind and an understanding for how local vs. statewide control

would be enacted. Local control is extremely important and should not be dismissed.

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

I believe my commitment to transparency and open communication sets me apart from my opponent.

4. Thank You!

Your response has been successfully submitted.

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