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**COMPLETE**

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**Q1**

Contact

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**Q2****Kansas Senate**

Office Sought

**Q3**

District

11

**Q4****No**

Incumbent?

**Q5****Yes**

Do you believe that scientific fact and the advice of health professionals should be paramount in decisions regarding public health crises like the COVID-19 pandemic?

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**Q6**

Please expand on your answer to the question above.

Leadership means a willingness to face problems with courage and resolve. It means a willingness to face extremist, ideological opposition and call for shared sacrifice. Gov Laura Kelly is a Moderate leader with character. Keeping the schools closed is not the "easy" choice. It is not the "popular" choice. Gov Kelly's choice to keep schools closed is based on observed data - that COVID-19 is an incredibly virulent and pervasive disease that threatens our lives and our livelihoods. Kids and teachers are not able to safely interact in our schools while this wave of COVID continues to grow. Gov Kelly waited for the data to come in before making a decision. We can now project that schools will not be able to open without exposing kids, teachers, parents, and our entire community to a potentially-deadly virus. So schools cannot reopen.

This, of course, is a huge sacrifice for parents, children, and school personnel alike. But I know this is a decision that Gov. Kelly gave full consideration and wrestled for months. I trust in her common sense and scientific acumen. I will not be second-guessing her in this matter, because I know she is wise, candid and informed by the best data available.

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**Q7****Yes**

Do you believe that proof of citizenship should be required in order to register to vote?

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**Q8**

Please expand on your answer to the question above.

Yes, we should ensure that only citizens are eligible to vote. But, that doesn't mean we should demonize or marginalize people who don't have a photo ID. Surely we can have both secure elections and sensible processes to make sure that everyone who is eligible to vote is able to vote.

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**Q9****No**

Do you believe that laws covering the sale of firearms are sufficient? If yes, why? If no, do you believe they should be made more strict, less strict, or kept as they are now?

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**Q10**

Please expand on your answer to the question above.

My husband and I own guns, and we want to preserve their right to own a gun. However, easy access to guns has led to tragic outcomes for Kansans. There is a direct correlation between the loosening of gun policies over the past decade and the increase in death by suicide, domestic violence, and school shootings.

That's why I am in favor of restoring sensible gun laws, such as red flag laws, background checks, and waiting periods for purchasing guns. In addition, I support funding gun safety educational programs that include supplying gun locks to gun owners.

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**Q11****No**

Do you support amending the Kansas Constitution to eliminate the protection for individual reproductive freedoms contained in the Kansas Constitution?

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**Q12**

Please expand on your answer to the question above.

Over the past decade the Kansas legislature has passed no fewer than 11 bills to restrict abortion services. Today, 45% of all pregnancies in Kansas are UNPLANNED. American women are 3 times more likely than Canadian women to die while pregnant; 6 times more likely than women who live in Scandinavia.

The Kansas Constitution gives all Kansans the right to self-determination and autonomy. This includes the right to make decisions about our body, including those around pregnancy. Knowing that every situation is unique, I trust women to make decisions about their own health in consultation with their doctors and faith leaders.

Women face any number of situations that cause them to seek a safe and legal abortion. I trust women to make those very difficult and private healthcare decisions. And, I'm not willing to hand those decisions over to Kansas legislators.

Rather than stripping women of their constitutional rights, I will:

Invest in educational programs that reduce the number of unplanned pregnancies.

Ensure that Kansans have access to coordinated, comprehensive family planning and maternal care.

Invest in programs that support children and families, reducing abuse and neglect.

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**Q13****Yes**

Do you believe that diversity in representation is critical to effective governing? If yes, as an elected official what will you do to promote and engage leaders who more accurately reflect the diversity of members in our communities?

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**Q14**

Please expand on your answer to the question above.

The first thing we must do is to encourage and support people from all walks of life to engage in the political process, including running for office. This means supporting civic engagement at all levels of education and building a pathway to leadership opportunities for elected office.

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**Q15****Yes**

Do you believe climate change is real and caused by human activity? If so, what policies should legislators pursue to improve climate resilience?

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**Q16**

Please expand on your answer to the question above.

Global climate change is real and it's up to us to do our part to ensure we leave the planet as good as we found it so that future generations can breathe clean air, eat healthy food, and drink clean water. We know the science and we can mitigate climate change right here in Kansas.

We need leaders who are willing to invest in

- Clean, renewable energy sources like sun, wind, and water.
  - Conservation programs so we don't waste natural resources.
  - Farmers and the soil they tend for our food supply.
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**Q17****Yes**

Do you support amending the current Kansas Act Against Discrimination to include the same protections for sexual orientation and gender identity?

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**Q18**

Please expand on your answer to the question above.

There is no place for discrimination in Kansas. Period.

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**Q19****No**

Should public funding be available for private school tuition via tax credit scholarships, education savings accounts, vouchers or other methods? What is your opinion about the current funding for Kansas schools?

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**Q20**

Please expand on your answer to the question above.

I oppose tax-payer dollars being used for vouchers. The public school funding put into place prior to COVID-19 seemed to put us on the right trajectory across the state. The challenge now will be to ensure we maintain adequate funding as we navigate a challenging budget going forward. I believe that the far-right will do everything in their power to use this opportunity to strip public schools (at all levels) of the funding they need as their first order of business. I'll fight to make sure we take a very cautious and measured approach going forward. Without adequately funded schools, we simply cannot recover from the damage done by the pandemic. Education is key.

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**Q21****Yes**

Do you support Medicaid expansion at a time when pandemic-induced job loss has left thousands of Kansans without health care coverage?

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**Q22**

Please expand on your answer to the question above.

- The COVID-19 crisis has highlighted what we have known for years, access to affordable health care is critical to the well-being of every Kansan. Medicaid expansion would strengthen our ability to manage this public health crisis and save lives; there is still time to move that forward. I will continue to fight for Medicaid expansion to provide access to healthcare to all Kansans, while reducing the burden of uncompensated care for all of our service providers.
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