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Email: jws4414@aol.com
IP Address: 75.87.132.76

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Q1

Contact

Name	Jerry Stogsdill
Website	JerryForKansas.com
Email Address	jws4414@aol.com
Phone Number	913-579-9208

Q2**KS House**

Office Sought

Q3

District

21

Q4**Yes**

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?

Q6

Please expand on your answer to the question above.

While our national leadership seems to be downplaying the value of intelligence, experience and science, it is on us, as citizens, to choose between information presented to us based on wishful thinking and misinformation verses scientific fact and medical expertise. We should always rely on sound medical advice from our scientific and medical communities in making health decisions that impact our families and communities. We should also be particularly careful to choose leaders who will present us with information based on facts and science not political pandering, expediency or agendas.

Q7**Yes**

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

Q8

Please expand on your answer to the question above.

While voting is a right of citizenship, the proof necessary to prove citizenship and to participate in our elections should be based on common sense and easily obtainable documents such as birth certificates, driver's licenses and passports. As Legislators we should require legislation that ensures ALL citizens easy access to their right to vote and to participate in our elections. Same day registration, mail in ballots and easy availability to polling locations should all be mandatory. Our ongoing goal should be to find better and easier ways for our citizens to participate in our local, state and national elections.

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?

Q10

Please expand on your answer to the question above.

As a former Naval Weapons Officer I believe there needs to be common sense gun laws enacted to reduce the incidents of gun violence. I support "red flag" laws and I have introduced two other bills to address reducing gun violence. One bill would outlaw high capacity magazines in handguns and the other to add a 5% excise tax onto the sale of guns and ammunition with all proceeds from that tax going to improve our mental health programs and facilities. Both bills were denied even a hearing by the Republican leadership in the House.

Q11**No**

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

Q12

Please expand on your answer to the question above.

I voted against the bill to amend the Kansas Constitution that would have been an assault on a woman's ability to make her own reproductive and healthcare decisions. Those decisions should be made by the women themselves and I will always defend their ability and right to make those decisions.

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?

Q14

Please expand on your answer to the question above.

It is important to elect all Legislators based in part on their support for diversity representation and the human and civil rights of all Kansans. I think we are making some small strides in that direction in Topeka but we are far from eliminating discrimination and from electing a body that truly represents the diversity of the Kansas population. Encouraging and supporting more people from diverse groups to run for office and supporting ALL legislators who support non-discriminatory legislation will be critical in achieving better and more effective legislation that guarantees human and civil rights for ALL Kansans.

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?

Q16

Please expand on your answer to the question above.

Climate change is real and much of it is caused by human activity. That is simply fact based on science. I think Kansas is doing a great job in promoting the production of clean energy despite opposition from some factions in the Legislature. We should be supporting legislation promoting clean energy, water conservation, sustainable agriculture and cleaner forms of transportation. Kansas could and should be a leader in all these areas because it is good for the planet, good for the health and wellbeing of future generations of Kansans and good for the economic future of the state.

Q17**Yes**

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

Q18

Please expand on your answer to the question above.

I am against discrimination in all forms including discrimination based on race, sex, religion, gender or political affiliation. I fully support sexual orientation and gender orientation being included in that list and I will support legislation to see that it be made illegal to discriminate against a person based on their gender identification or sexual orientation.

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?

Q20

Please expand on your answer to the question above.

I believe public tax money should go to support public schools and only public schools. I oppose vouchers, tax credit "scholarships" and any other method of diverting public tax money away from our public schools. Public schools which are available to ALL Kansas students need to be fully funded because they provide a path to successful adulthood for our children and for future generations. They also provide a major economic stimulus for every town and city in the state of Kansas. Fully funded public schools simply make good educational sense and good economic sense.

Q21**Yes**

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

Q22

Please expand on your answer to the question above.

I am a solid supporter of Medicaid expansion and have voted for expansion every time it has come up for a vote during my time in the Legislature. Expanding Medicaid is the right thing to do for 150,000 uninsured Kansans, for our most vulnerable hospitals and for creating thousands of good paying healthcare related jobs, which will be critical as we emerge from the economic impact of the pandemic. Expansion will also allow us to utilize telemedicine and to expand the broadband technology needed to support telemedicine in the medically underserved rural parts of the state.
