

ISSUES (not necessarily in this order)

1. Eminent Domain reform – The reforms sponsored by the Farm Bureau were good, but didn't go far enough. We need an absolute ban on government seizing private property and turning it over to another private entity for “economic development.”
2. Drugs – Legalize cannabis as a step toward ending the war on drugs. The drug war has been a failure, has destabilized neighboring countries and made criminal gangs rich and powerful. It's responsible in large part for the slaughter in our cities. It's filled our prisons – **we save people from ruining their lives with drugs; instead we ruin their lives with felony convictions and prison records.** Look at Portugal – full decriminalization, lower drug usage rates, with some of the money saved going into rehab programs.
3. End Civil Forfeiture – The laws to disincentivize “policing for profit” by sending the money to schools just squeezed the balloon. Most forfeitures are now done thru the Federal “equitable sharing” program. We need to remove any incentive for police to seize property of people not convicted of a crime.
4. Nullification – We can oppose unjust or oppressive Federal actions by refusing to cooperate. Whether firearms laws or drug laws or whatever, the state government needs to forbid state and local agencies from participating in enforcement of such actions. This can be by the EPA, Dept of Agriculture, Dept. of Education, DEA, ATF, etc.
5. Firearms – I support full Constitutional Carry. I believe that the training requirement should be waived for veterans who have qualified Marksman and above. I oppose firearm and gun owner registration. I oppose expanding background checks to sales between individuals, as well as mandatory storage laws.
6. Crime - In view of incidents such as “Ferguson,” I support wide use of body and dash cameras; which can defuse such situations more quickly. Get rid of “victimless crimes” - see my comments on drugs & civil forfeiture.
7. Agriculture – I understand the economic pressure on farmers, but we really need to look at eliminating state subsidies – i.e., the ethanol mandate. We also need to allow industrial hemp, historically a major crop in this district.
8. Roads and Infrastructure – Whenever possible, government actions should be finance by user fees. Since toll roads are essentially forbidden, the options are pay based on mileage using some advanced technology, or fuel taxes. I'd support a small increase in fuel taxes as the least intrusive alternative.
9. Education – The money should follow the student, whether by public school choice, charter schools, or vouchers usable at private schools. We need to look at the non-core mandates foisted upon our K-12 schools, and the administrative overhead at all levels.
10. Regulations & Licensing – Business is over-regulated in many ways. We license far too many occupations, which restricts entry by qualified people. For example, we have rules that require African hair braiders to have cosmetology licenses, and equine tooth floaters to be Veterinarians.