

## Warrensburg Forum Questions 2018

- How do you plan to interact with your constituents and maintain an open channel for dialogue?

**The same way any office holder would – social media, email, local radio, and local activities, available times at the office. I'm surprised to see this question, a bunch of questions about ballot issues we'll decide in November, yet no questions about issues people care about, such as health care & school funding.**

- Do you support the ballot measure to increase the minimum wage?

**No. It hurts small businesses, especially those in food service, and cuts entry level job opportunities, especially for the young, minorities and women – see the studies. If it passes, enjoy fewer restaurants & higher prices, more ordering kiosks at your favorite fast food outlet, and more self-checkout lanes.**

- Where do you stand on medical marijuana?

**I support it as a means of relieving multiple conditions not covered by CBD, an alternative to opioids, a help for PTSD, and as a step toward full legalization to help break the power of drug cartels. Amendment 2 has its problems, but it's far superior to Bradshaw's self-serving Amendment 3. YES on 2, NO on 3!**

- The Supreme Court made a decision that states have the ability to collect sales tax on internet sales. What is your plan to pursue this issue so that Missouri is collecting these taxes and how do you plan to insure the money comes down to the communities?

**If we're going to collect sales taxes on internet purchases without a public vote, we need to reduce income and/or property taxes an equivalent amount. The state seems to be able to distribute local sales taxes to cities/counties; it'd take some tweaks to their computers to send the \$ to the right place. The big programming problem for on-line merchants is to protect rural residents from paying city sales taxes on internet purchases.**

- Where do you stand on Clean Mo and why?

**NO on 1! I support the gift limits, but the "competitive balance" requirement in the redistricting proposal could adversely affect both rural and minority representation. It also removes responsibility from legislators & gives it to a single partisan office. The current districts were drawn up by judges when the party reps on the independent commission couldn't agree – I bet they don't make that mistake again!**

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- If elected, what would be the first bill you would file?

**Since our state constitution supposedly requires bills to cover a single subject, here are 4:**

**Fully decriminalize possession of marijuana; expunge criminal records of those previously convicted. Allow farmers to grow industrial hemp w/o asking permission. Institute Ranked Choice Voting (so we don't see more nominees who get barely 1/3 of their own party's primary votes).**

- In your opinion, what are the biggest issues facing the legislature?

**Money: Excessive tax credits, too many demands for more, more money, more programs. Many programs are Federally-mandated, which needs to change. We need to build our reserves, in the expectation that interest rates will rise and bubbles will burst.**

- What can Missouri do to bring in more businesses such as the Dollar Tree Distribution Center and Nucor?

**I have a problem with giving away the farm to get new businesses. Warrensburg's still paying for the Hawthorne mistake. Let's take a good look at the regulatory environment to make sure we don't provide disincentives, and remove excessive licensing requirements.**

- Where do you stand on Proposition D and why?

**No. Too much, too quickly. It'd put our tax rate above many neighboring states and hurt those who commute to jobs or to shop. It's not the 2.5 cents the first year, it's the increase from 17 to 27 cents by the last year. And if you read the bill, that 10 cent increase starts at the beginning of year 4 – think about it!**

- Internet access is essential to commerce but many rural areas still lack sufficient access to broadband. How would you facilitate the expansion of broadband in rural areas?

**Yes, we do need cheap broadband out on Y Hiway. Let's look at what restrictions exist and remove them. If the demand is there, industry (for profit and/or our co-ops) will find a way to fill it.**

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●What can state legislators do to provide more direct support for military installations and public universities? How would you achieve that?

**Direct support for Whiteman? This state is about as military-friendly and retiree-friendly as we can get. We can't subsidize the military. Universities (& schools) need to trim their non-instructional staff/functions. Universities get massive donations for intercollegiate athletics; we should encourage rerouting these to academics.**

●In view of what has happened with school shootings in other states, what steps do you feel are necessary to prevent it happening here?

**Gun free zones are prime target for mass shooters. The police are minutes away when seconds count.**

- 1. Allow voluntarily armed faculty & staff.**
- 2. Controlled entry at K-12.**
- 3. Allow concealed carry on University campus**

**I firmly support our god-given right to defend ourselves, our neighbors, and our property by the most effective means available.**