# #25

# COMPLETE

Collector:	Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started:	Tuesday, June 21, 2022 4:50:02 PM
Last Modified:	Tuesday, June 21, 2022 6:10:20 PM
Time Spent:	01:20:18
IP Address:	192.34.166.150

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# Q1

Identity-Please fill out the indicated fields.

Candidate Name:	Kevin Carpenter
Office Seeking:	House of Representatives
Party Affiliation:	Democrat
District:	63

# Q2

Contact Info-Please fill out the indicated fields.

Address	po box 33
Address 2	n/a
City/Town	Sutton
State/Province	WV
ZIP/Postal Code	26601
Country	United States
Email Address	kevincarpenter4wv@gmail.com
Phone Number	3047655960

# Q3

Education & Experience-Please fill out the indicated fields.

High School Attended (Ex: School name, city, & state)	Braxton County High School, Sutton, WV
Colleges Attended & Degrees Obtained (Ex: Marshall, MBA)	Glenville State University, BS; West Virginia State University, MA
Current Employer & Job Position (Ex: WVMA, Director of Operations)	Retired from West Virginia State Tax Dept.
Describe your current job & responsibilities	Finalizing all debt, ensuring due process through tax assessment, and establishing state tax liens. Administering voluntary disclosure program. Point of contact for US Treasury.
How long have you worked for your current employer?	29

# Q4

Describe your overall philosophy toward the role of state government as it relates to business and industry.

Provides the framework for businesses to conduct commerce.

#### Q5

What do you bring to the office you seek? Specifically, what have you built, improved, or changed for the benefit of your community or business?

I have made proposals that have ultimately become law, saving West Virginia businesses and taxpayers millions of dollars.

#### Q6

Please list any groups, associations, or non-profits in which you are an active member or volunteer such as civic groups, labor organizations, advocacy groups.

N/A

# Q7

West Virginia is facing many challenges. What do you consider to be the most important and critical challenge that threatens our state and what is your plan to alleviate this threat?

Population decline. Investing in infrastructure, inviting high-quality businesses, and attracting general investment in the State.

#### **Q8**

Do you support the passage of Amendment One on the November 2022 General Election ballot? The measure provides the legislature with the authority to repeal or phase out tangible personal property in the future, this includes tax on personal vehicles, small business inventory, and tax on manufacturing inventory, machinery, and equipment.

Yes

#### Q9

What ideas do you have to help build our state's economy and improve West Virginia's position in competing for investment and job growth?

Infrastructure, infrastructure, and infrastructure.

#### Q10

Use of and addiction to opioids in West Virginia and our region have reached crisis levels. This is a problem being recognized not only at the state level, but at the federal level. What ideas do you have to help stop this devastating trend in our state?

An investment in proven rehabilitation methods using scientific and cost-effective treatments to reintegrate folks back into the workforce. It has been accomplished in programs in several States and in Europe and can work here.

#### Q11

Racial justice and equity, LGBTQ rights and gender equity are important factors for many current West Virginia employers, companies that consider moving to our State, and employees who may consider relocating to West Virginia. How would you address these issues to recruit and retain companies and employees for whom this is a priority?

Ensure that everyone's rights are upheld. The United States was founded on the self-evident notion that all people are created equal. We should endeavor that all people feel welcome, and no one is left behind.

#### Q12

What are your specific ideas for addressing workforce skills gaps in industry? Specifically, with the growth of manufacturing jobs in the state and need for diverse and skilled labor, what are your ideas to prepare the state's current and future workforce for manufacturing jobs.

Working with manufacturers to develop a comprehensive educational system that directs high school students and displaced workers into programs that will ready them for the workforce. Encouraging those in need of advanced credentials to enroll in our free community and technical colleges.

#### Q13

What are your ideas for improving outcomes in the state's K-12 public education system?

Analyze the most successful educational systems in the world and adapt them to our economy.

#### Q14

What ideas do you have for incorporating a focus on STEM education in our public schools and how could industry engage to support increased workforce learning models in middle and high schools, as well as career and technical education centers (vo-tech)?

Introducing STEM careers such as computer coding and electrical engineering as part of the vo-tech block.

#### Q15

Please describe policies that you believe may be helpful in balancing state regulations and environmental rules while maintaining a competitive atmosphere for industrial job growth and investment?

Ensuring regulations are science-driven, and that industry professionals have a seat at the table in the decision-making process.

#### Q16

What do you think West Virginia could do to promote energy diversity including the growth of renewable energy sources in the state?

Providing incentives for investment and use of renewable resources.

#### Q17

Many corporations have established environmental, social, and governance criteria. How would such goals impact your decision making on relevant policy issues as a member of legislator?

It depends.

#### Q18

If you could work on a single piece of legislation to help support manufacturers with in the state of West Virginia what would it be? and Why?

Legislation that would rejuvenate manufacturing by utilizing resources within the State to encourage a strong economy statewide.

#### Q19

Would you be available for an interview remotely or in person?

Yes

#### Q20

Where may the WVMA follow you on social media? Please list social media handles including Facebook, Twitter, and others.

@kevincarpenter4wv on Facebook; kevincarpenter4wv.com