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Q1

Identity-Please fill out the indicated fields.

Candidate Name: James Willis
Office Seeking: House of Delegates
Party Affiliation: Republican
District: 3

Q2

Contact Info-Please fill out the indicated fields.

Address 2199 West Liberty Road
Address 2 N/A
City/Town Bethany
State/Province WV
ZIP/Postal Code 26032
Country United States
Email Address jimmywillis1124@gmail.com
Phone Number 3042150155

Q3

Education & Experience-Please fill out the indicated fields.

High School Attended (Ex: School name, city, & state) Brooke High School Wellsburg, WV
Colleges Attended & Degrees Obtained (Ex: Marshall, MBA) Attending West Liberty University

Q4

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

State government should have a hands off approach when it relates to business and industry. Allowing the workers and companies to succeed with little to no government interference.

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?

A new perspective and an understanding of what the people truly want and need. I can bring this understanding to a seat that honestly hasn't had it in many years. As for lasting changes being 21 years old I haven't had the opportunity to do so yet.

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.

Brooke County Republican Party

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?

The challenge I consider most important is the continuing overreach of the federal government since the beginning of the Biden Administration. My plan would be to put forth legislation to curb any federal overreach.

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.

I do support the passage of Amendment One. I believe this amendment could help the businesses of WV.

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?

I have several ideas

1. Pass legislation to help small businesses be founded with being taxed out of business by the government.
 2. Invest in our trade programs within our states high schools so students can graduate certified to go to work in the trades.
 3. Help fund more road projects to help improve our state roads.
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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?

For me it would be a several pronged attack.

1. Help create and further expand after school activities for students to do. Also help there be more for kids to do outside of school, ex. Arcades, movie theaters, etc.
 2. Look into ways the legislature can help find addiction clinics and psychiatrists who help people cope with addiction.
 3. Further find accountability for the victims of the epidemic and hold big pharma accountable for this
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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?

By showing them how great and inclusive West Virginia is, and promising them that if they work hard they will be protected from hate in the work place based on race, sex, sexual orientation, or religion.

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.

As stated in question 9, advance the trades programs in schools to help kids graduate ready to go to work.

Q13

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

Preferably by being able to shift the curriculum so the students are being taught the material and not being taught just how to pass state testing.

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)?

Again I would refer back to my plan to invest in our vo-tech programs, but if business would also help invest that would be even more beneficial to the programs

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?

Simple emissions standards better than other countries; however, with enough room so that we don't take ourselves out of the competition.

Q16

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

West Virginia could look to slowly ease in renewable energy the smart way. By doing it slowly enough that it doesn't mess up the power grid as the technology advances.

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?

Obviously, I would be thrilled to work with companies as a legislator and if there goals help advance the interests of the people of this I would gladly work with them.

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?

It would have to be the before mentioned legislation of funding our schools trade programs. I believe in this legislative goal because what would better support manufacturers then ensuring they have an able bodied and trained workforce?

Q19

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

Yes, remotely would be more likely but it would have to be scheduled ahead of time

Q20

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

Jimmy Willis for House of Delegates on Facebook
