

**Johnson County Public Policy Council**  
**2016 State Senator/State Representative Candidate Questionnaire**

Name: Willie Dove District: 38 Political Affiliation: GOP

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Campaign Website: www.williedove.com

Campaign Video Link:

Occupation/Work History (last five years - 25 words or fewer):

Insurance Sales.

Other recent political/community experience (25 words or fewer):

Leadership positions at Vista Baptist Church in Olathe.

If you are or have been affiliated with a chamber of commerce or other business organization, please list which organization(s) and any leadership positions you have held:

As a candidate, what are your top three policy issues? (10 words or fewer per issue):

1. Education Reform To Assure Stability in K-12 Funding
2. Reducing Overall State Spending
3. Job Growth and Agricultural Diversity Through Legalization of Industrial Hemp.

What are your views on state tax policy? (100 words or fewer):

I oppose repeal of the 2011 tax cuts. 400,000 low-income Kansans were taken off the tax rolls, along with the S-Corp and LLC filers. Re-imposing those taxes would be unfair to both segments of our economy. We don't have a revenue problem in our state; we have a spending problem.

If Kansas faces a significant revenue shortfall in meeting its budget, how would you proposed to balance the budget? Please be specific. (100 words or fewer):

More spending cuts; across-the-board for fairness.

What are your views on K-12 school funding? In anticipation of a new funding formula/process, what are your priorities?(75 words or fewer):

I believe K-12 is adequately funded. Kansas ranks #2 in the nation in the percentage of State General Revenue dedicated to K-12. I think more money should go to the classrooms and teachers' salaries instead of administrative expenses, but that is a local decision for the school boards.

What are your views on the state's role with respect to access and affordability of public higher education? (50 words or fewer):

Our colleges and universities are first-rate, But the legislature's responsibility is to appropriate the money; it is the individual institutions' decision as to how to spend it.

What is your position on individual tax credits and other voucher-like programs for private school tuition? (50 words or fewer):

I favor vouchers for private school tuition. Low-income children should have the same access to a quality education as those children who are more well-off. Requiring public schools to compete for students is a good thing.

What type of economic development policies will you support to encourage job growth and business expansion in Kansas? (50 words or fewer):

Legalization of industrial hemp, and the 25,000 products that can be made from it, will provide job growth along with agricultural diversity. We now import \$600 million a year in finished hemp products; primarily from Canada. Kansas, once a major producer of this amazing plant, deserves its share of that market.

Do you support or oppose maintaining the current dedicated sales tax transfer to the state highway fund for the purpose of funding transportation projects, or should transportation be subject to the appropriations process where legislators determine funding levels entirely? Explain. (75 words or fewer):

It is not truthful for the media and other Republican opponents to claim the state is "raiding" KDOT to fund government expenses. Sales tax revenue is invested in KDOT bonds in order to receive a higher interest rate. Then money is withdrawn for expenses. It's the same principle as having several income sources in our personal checking accounts.

What is your policy position on the state's role regarding immigration and do you support employment-based immigration reforms to assist with workforce shortages in specified industries such as engineering? (50 words or fewer):

Illegal immigration depresses wages and increases pressure on social services and education. We should not encourage lawlessness.

What role should state governments have in determining workplace employment practices and benefits offered to employees?(50 words or fewer):

Government interference in the private sector should be reserved for health and safety issues. Private companies are capable of setting employment regulations and benefits.

What do you believe is the most pressing issue or challenge facing Kansas today and how would you address it? (75 words or fewer):

Developing a new formula for K-12 funding to assure stability, and eliminate interference by the Supreme Court in a legislative function.

What do you believe most distinguishes you from your opponent(s) in this race? (75 words or fewer):

I am a small businessman who competes everyday in the real-world economy, and I see first-hand the oppressive hand of government and it's ability to do more harm than good. Government that governs least, governs best.