

Johnson County Public Policy Council
2018 Kansas State Representative Candidate Questionnaire

Name: Cathy Gordon

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Political Affiliation: Republican

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District: 18

Campaign Website: N/A

Address/City/State/Zip:

Campaign Video Link: N/A

4920 Bradshaw Street
Shawnee, KS 66216

Occupation/Work History (last five years – 25 words or less):

Entrepreneur, Health Care Provider as Family Nurse Practitioner and Nurse Midwife

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:

Business I have founded: Mercy & Truth Medical Missions -Chamber member during my terms(Shawnee & Kansas City, KS chamber), and New Birth Company, Overland Park Chamber

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

CNM Council Member for Kansas BOHA Commissioner for the Commission on Accreditation of Birth Centers-2014-current AANP- KS State rep. Tyro City Council

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

Maximize KS efficiency in Health care spending Advocate for KS Families Support Small Business

What are your views on state tax policy, being as specific as you can? (100 words or less)

The KS Efficiency report identified many areas that could improve the states budget, reducing costs, and saving money---implementing many of these recommendation would relieve the burden to tax KS families and small businesses. KS families should not carry the burden to make the budget by increasing personal property taxes. Our taxes are among the highest nationally. Benchmark our state with others and learn creative ways to reduce this burden while balancing the budget.

With record low unemployment rates, what would you do to grow and develop the state's workforce? (75 words or less)

Attract business.

What are your views on funding K-12 education? (75 words or less)

KS policy Institute reports are funding as one of the highest nationally whereas our outcomes are low. There are educational disparities across county lines when the funding is the same. Benchmark with states like Florida and learn why they have lower funding with higher results. We can do the same!

What would your priorities be in any new statewide transportation plan? (50 words or less)

Gov. Graves implemented and incredible state plan for transportation. Ongoing transportation planning must include the demographics of the community it serve. Keeping families and health as a value, transportation can be guided access to work, parks & recreation etc.. I am in favor of increasing bicycle lanes, walking lanes, trails,

Do you support maintaining the current dedicated sales tax transfer to the State Highway Fund for the purpose of funding transportation infrastructure, or should transportation be subject to the appropriations process where legislators determine funding levels entirely? (50 words or less)

I support funds to be serviced to their designated purpose. I am concerned about appropriations process if funding sources are not clearly identified. The state needs to run like a business and only spend the money it has available.

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

I am very supportive of attracting business to our state. I support the current policies such as tax incentives however ongoing support necessitates an evaluation of the businesses who have received those incentive and the value they bring to our state. Where are we today?

What are your views on the state's role regarding immigration and do you support employment-based immigration reforms to assist with workforce shortages in specified industries? (50 words or less)

I am supportive of immigration policy. I am in support of not separating children, parents, and families. Workforce, employment-based immigration is very costly and time consuming for small businesses to complete. The process needs to be simplified.

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

To best respond, one need to truly benchmark outcomes of college education of the privately funded schools with the state funded school. It is my understanding, student debt is higher, job creation is less and actual benefit ratio is down when comparing funded schools with private schools.

What are your views on healthcare policy and Medicaid expansion? (50 words or less)

1.Designate KS Maternal Shortage areas (current federal bill) 2.Full practice for all APRN's to practice independently so that the Rural areas are better served 3.Certified Nurse Midwives (CNM) to be listed as first provider for all KAN CARE clients (reduce spending) as part of the KS efficiency Report.

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

None--this is determine by the business itself.

What do you believe is the most pressing issue or challenge facing Kansas today and how would you address it? (50 words or less)

Balancing the budget. *Stop allocating for expenditures without income. *Implementing several recommendations made in the Kansas Statewide Efficiency Report (2016) by Alverez and Marcel.

What project have you been most proud to work on? (50 words or less)

Development of woman owned business, in a male dominated occupation, health care. The creation of Mercy & Truth Medical Missions . Founded by a nurse, to serve the uninsured of our community.

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

I am an entrepreneur. One who meets payroll, balances a budget, offers jobs and maintains integrity in the workplace. I am constantly assessed by the health care community, as a woman, nurse practitioner, and business founder while upholding standards of excellence. I have the approval and acceptance of physician colleagues, hospital credentialing and community support. I make jobs, I don't just work for someone.