

Johnson County Public Policy Council  
2018 Kansas State Representative Candidate Questionnaire

**Name:** Jim Eschrich

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**Political Affiliation:** Republican

**Email:** j.eschrichresearch@gmail.com

**District:** 17

**Campaign Website:** N/A

**Address/City/State/Zip:**

**Campaign Video Link:** N/A

8041 Hall Street  
Lenexa, KS 66219

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

Principle occupation is that of a market researcher. Self-employed for the past 22 years.

**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:**

No affiliation.

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

None.

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

Education reform, that in combination with increased spending will help ensure academic results show meaningful academic improvement. Debate and implement select efficiency recommendations from 2016 report.

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

There's little appetite for making significant cuts in taxes. And with significant conservative majorities in the House and Senate we failed to make meaningful cuts in spending. Reforming how the state goes about its business is the one thing we haven't tried.

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

So much emphasis has been placed on preparing kids for college that I think we might be in danger of shorting vocational training. It's worthy of a look.

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

At a minimum, the 32nd wealthiest state in the union should be the 32nd in education spending. Anything more than that must come from the people and their representatives in the House and not 7 soothsayers dressed in black robes.

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

Safe bridges, followed by safe & smooth roads.

**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)

The latter. To do otherwise is to create a slush fund that encourages undisciplined spending habits by politicians.

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

Work with the federal government to allow small businesses to band together to procure affordable healthcare coverage.

**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)

Support cooperating with ICE. Support an aggressive E-Verify system. Support aggressively promote temporary work visas as in past years.

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

State and federal governments have flooded this sector with so much liquidity that we've created rampant sector inflation. Growth of administrative personnel needs more oversight from the legislature. Significant cuts should be possible.

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

Medicaid is broken... and yet some want to expand it. This doesn't make any sense. Reform our healthscare system, and Medicaid while you are at it and then we can discuss expanding it.

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

Let the marketplace do its magic. With social media significant inequities will be called out.

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

Judicial activism. More specifically, the legislature must not repeat acquiescing to the Court's crooked timber (or encroachment) again or risk drifting into irrelevance.

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

Raising my two daughters.

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

Tom Cox is anchored to the teacher's union and their doctrine of more money is never enough, while I'm interested in the kids and making sure we get the most out of every tax dollar.