

Johnson County Public Policy Council
2018 Kansas State Representative Candidate Questionnaire

Name: Patty Markley

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Political Affiliation: Republican

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District: 8

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Address/City/State/Zip:

Campaign Video Link: N/A

12312 Nieman Road

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

For the last 18 years, I have been a full-time mom and community volunteer.

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:

N/A

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

Kansas House-currently serving Precinct Committeewoman-currently serving Prairie Village City Council-Member 1999-2002, Various community boards/leadership positions.

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

1. Increased state budget stability 2. Adequately funded public schools 3. Local Control for municipalities

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

Being a good steward of our tax dollars remains my top priority. In 2017, I voted in favor of and to override the Governor's veto of SB 30, repealing key components of the 2012 tax plan. They were hard but necessary votes to restore basic state services, avoid future lawsuits and help Kansas begin the process of filing in the large hole we created, all while ensuring that every Kansan paid lower rates than they did prior to 2012. I believe our state works best when we have income, sales, and property tax in line.

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

It is vital we help our state and local communities find ways to grow. Economic incentive programs such as HPIP, Star Bonds, and the Ad Astra Rural Jobs Act can be good economic tools to help our communities get the help they need to spur job growth.

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

moved from Missouri to Kansas 23 years ago because of the schools. Support for K-12 education is one of my top priorities. As all of us in Johnson County know, good schools are the backbone of good communities. I have consistently voted in support of funding formulas and school finance

plans that fulfil our constitutional duty, provide accountability and transparency, and do so within existing resources.

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

The two biggest traffic bottlenecks in Kansas: 135th and 69 highway and northbound 69/35 highway merge must be addressed as well as plans to widen 69 to 6 lanes. I will follow closely the newly established Transportation Task Force recommendations for our next long term plan.

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)

While we have made great progress these past two years, we still borrow from this fund to pay for general operating expenses. Since we are unable to show in good faith that we can fund other state programs with general fund dollars, this fund must remain dedicated.

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

In addition to low taxes, businesses want safe and vibrant communities with good schools for their workers. Broad focus on these "quality of life" components is critical. Also, programs such as HPIP, Star Bonds and the Ad Astra Rural Jobs Act should be considered next session.

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 support employment-based immigration policies if they can aid in workforce shortages. Any immigration reform rightly should and will be determined at the federal level.

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

The state's portion of funding for our colleges and universities has steadily declined for several years. In return, the cost in tuition has gone up dramatically. I sit on Higher Ed Budget, and we must continue to expect our schools to use tax payer money efficiently.

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

I support Medicaid expansion, voted in favor of it and to override the Governor's veto. Kansans hard earned federal tax dollars are going to other states for their programs instead of helping our own—over \$2 billion so far. A primary way to help rural communities is to keep hospitals open.

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

Our state government should be very careful to not dictate to employers their workforce employment practices or the type of benefits offered. States can have a role making sure businesses follow laws

for safety, non-discrimination, etc. but should not be in the business of determining their employment practices.

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

We must to make our State an attractive place people want to stay and raise a family. Low taxes are an important part, but they are not the only part. This means investment in good schools, safe and attractive communities, and leaders who see and understand the big picture.

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

This past session, I co-sponsored a bill that became law. HB2581, the "SWATing bill" puts in place tougher penalties. I'm proud because it's good law, but even more so because I worked closely with Reps. Whitmer and Carmichael. This unlikely trio worked well together. Perhaps a larger message in this.

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

I've lived in District 8 for 14 years, Kansas for 22, and am a third generation metro-KC resident. I love Kansas, chose to raise my children here, hope to help raise my grandchildren here. I'm involved in our community. I made tough votes for our state's future. My opponent moved to this district less than three months ago. He is backed by groups that want to overturn the good work of 2017 and 2018.