

Johnson County Public Policy Council
2018 U.S. Congressional 3rd District Candidate Questionnaire

Name: Trevor Keegan

Phone: 913-205-1187

Political Party Affiliation: Republican

Email: trevor@betterforkansas.com

Street Address/City/State/Zip:

10016 Century Ln
Lenexa, KS 66215

Campaign Website:

<http://betterforkansas.com>

Campaign Video Link: None

Occupation/Work History (last 5 years – 25 words or less):

Project manager for an international IT consulting firm; own and operate a row crop farm in northeast Kansas; own a property management company in Lenexa

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

None

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

Executive Board and Vice President Kansas City Children's Assistance Network (KC CAN)

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

1) Balance the budget (including tax reform) 2) Campaign Finance Reform (reduce the influence of money in politics) 3) Education and workforce development (giving people the knowledge to succeed)

What are your views on the federal tax policy changes approved last December, known as the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act? (100 words or less)

While I do think there were some positive aspects of the tax bill, I would not have supported it in the form it was passed. The main reasons for this was the estimated \$1.5 trillion it will add to the budget deficit over the next 10 years and the fact that it seems to disproportionately benefit the wealthy. I feel that the main purpose of tax reform should be to simplify taxes while not adding to the budget deficit. One positive of the bill was the increase of the standard deduction, which is the kind of reforms I support.

What are your views on long-term funding solutions for transportation infrastructure? (75 words or less)

I believe that transportation is one of the most important services that the government provides, as it is a strong driver of our economic prosperity as a country. Long term I feel that we need to make improving and maintaining transportation infrastructure a priority, which means we need to determine how to fund it. I believe that revising the federal excise tax must be part of the solution, and it should be indexed to inflation.

What are your views on international trade and tariffs? (75 words or less)

I am a strong supporter of free trade, as I believe as a whole it benefits our economy and therefore our citizens. I believe the current policy of tariffs will have long term negative consequences and

should not be pursued. I believe Kansas farmers specifically benefited greatly from NAFTA and would have benefited from TPP also. I understand that certain segments can suffer from increased competition, but the overall impact of free trade is positive.

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

I believe the federal government does have a responsibility and authority to define a minimum set of standards for employment practices and benefits. This avoids a 'race to the bottom' where companies cut benefits to improve their bottom line, making it harder for companies providing benefits to compete.

What are your views on national environmental policy? (50 words or less)

Green energy represents the future and our country should work to be on the leading edge of green energy development. Kansas specifically is well positioned to benefit from wind energy. The withdrawal from the Paris Climate Accord may have short-term benefits but puts us at a disadvantage for long-term competition.

What do you see as the federal government's role in workforce development? (50 words or less)

Our government must have a role in workforce development as an alternative to unemployment and welfare. I believe that apprenticeship programs are a good way to re-train workers while benefiting both employers and workers. Government funding of apprenticeship programs will have long term benefits for our economy.

What are your views on national immigration policy? Do you support employment-based immigration reforms to assist with workforce shortages in specified industries? (50 words or less)

I support overall reforms to our immigration policy, including employment-based immigration. I believe that immigrants have an overall positive impact on our country and deserve empathy. Broad immigration reform would resolve many of the border issues while also having a positive impact on our economy and national security.

What are your views on the Affordable Care Act? (50 words or less)

We must take steps to fix our healthcare system as the increasing cost is not sustainable. Initially I was not supportive of the ACA because it was a partisan solution, but realize the positive benefits of the bill. We need a bi-partisan solution to fix it, not simply repealing it.

What do you believe is the appropriate balance between data privacy and national security? (50 words or less)

National security is very important, but we have to recognize the rights of individuals to privacy. I believe that requiring warrants to access data is the best approach and the intent of the constitution. If getting warrants is too time consuming, the process should be improved instead of bypassing it.

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

I have been most proud of the opportunity I have been given to get involved with KCCAN, as it is something that has allowed me to give back to the community. The focus on children and education as a way to improve their lives has been very meaningful to me.

What do you believe most distinguishes you from your opponent(s)? (50 words or less)

I have a uniquely diverse background that has given me experience and knowledge my opponents cannot match. I am a project manager for an international corporation, but am also a farmer and small business owner. This has given me first-hand knowledge of many of the issues facing our country.