

2018 ELECTION QUESTIONS – LEGISLATURE

Top priority: If elected, what is your top priority for the 2019 Legislature? Why are you running for office?

Gridlock: The 2018 Legislature adjourned without addressing key items including a tax conformity bill. End-of-session gridlock is becoming a recurring theme at the Capitol. What specific measures do you support to increase the transparency and reduce the increasing partisan deadlock of the lawmaking process? Do you support reforms that would prohibit consolidating multiple subjects into a single omnibus bill?

Budget: The 2019 Legislature will be tasked with passing a tax bill to update to the federal changes passed in 2017. Should Minnesota just conform to the federal law, or should the Legislature take the opportunity to provide some tax relief?

Education, K-12: Is the K-12 system adequately funded? If not, how would you pay for more funding?

Education, higher ed: Many employers remain frustrated in their ability to find qualified workers for the available jobs. What role does higher ed play in addressing this problem?

Health care: Should a fee be assessed against pharmaceutical companies to help combat the opioid epidemic?

Workplace regulations: The 2018 Legislature considered but did not pass new legal standards for workplace harassment. Should the 2019 Legislature take action?

Transportation: What is your preference for raising additional money for roads and bridges: Dedicating transportation-related money from the general fund, such as the sales tax on auto parts, or raising the gas tax? Or is current funding sufficient?

Energy: Should Minnesota increase its renewable energy mandates on utilities, or is current law sufficient?

Public notices: Some local government bodies continue to push for eliminating public notices from newspapers and moving them to government websites, even though independent research continues to show that far more people see the notices when they're published in newspapers and on newspaper websites, and that removing them from newspapers would in fact save very little money. What's your view on permitting important public notices to be disseminated only by local government bodies by means of their own websites?

Elections: Do you support moving the primary election from August to June in an effort to increase voter turnout?

Other issues: Are there other issues you want to address?

Briefly summarize your personal background and qualifications.