

This candidate information is brought to you by the League of Women Voters of West Virginia as a public service. Candidate responses are printed exactly as received, including spelling, grammar and content. Candidates' responses were limited to 60 words

Office US Senate
Name Larry Eugene Butcher
Party Republican
County of Residence

No Reply

Office US Senate
Name Shelley Moore Capito
Party Republican
County of Residence

No Reply

Office US Senate
Name Richard N Ojeda II
Party Democrat
County of Residence Logan

Biography

I am a Retired US Army Major with a BA from WV State University. I also hold a MA from Webster University. I'm a Graduate of the US Army Command General Staff College and a Former WV State Senator. I'm Married to Kelly Ojeda and we have two children that are both attending college in Charleston. Voteojeda2020.com

1. What suggestions do you have for improving bipartisanship and cooperation in Congress?

Both parties need to find common ground. I will push legislation that both parties want to deal with such as infrastructure. By doing so, we can unite our country around an issue rather than a political party. By doing this, we can create a bipartisan caucus that can allow friendships with one another, creating more opportunities to get things done.

2. What new measures would you support to help middle class families deal with the rising costs of health care, housing, and higher education?

For starters I support Medicare for all and free public college tuition. If other countries can provide these capabilities to their citizens than surely the greatest nation of earth can do so as well. I will sit down with experts and find ways for middle class families to be able to afford quality housing.

3. What should be the role of Congress in addressing the challenges of climate change?

Climate Change exists! We must educate people about it and ways in which we can become better stewards of the environment. Coming from an energy state, we must create better job opportunities so that when we cease fossil fuels, our working class citizens can still find employment in roles that allow them to continue taking care of their families.

Office US Senate
Name Richie Robb
Party Democrat
County of Residence Kanawha

Biography

Married 43 years to a school teacher with two children and one grandchild. Graduate of Marshall University and Capital University Law School. Practicing Attorney. Mayor of South Charleston, West Virginia's 10th largest city, from 1975-2007. Elected member of West Virginia

State Democratic Party Executive Committee and active in various community endeavors.

1. What suggestions do you have for improving bipartisanship and cooperation in Congress?

In nearly fifty (50) years of public service, most of which have been in elected office, I have always worked well with persons of all political persuasions through an issue-based approach as opposed to personal differences or superficial categorizing. I would do likewise in the United States Senate.

2. What new measures would you support to help middle class families deal with the rising costs of health care, housing, and higher education?

My goal is to bring good jobs to West Virginia like former US Senators Robert Byrd and Jay Rockefeller once did. I support a public option for medical insurance available to all that is affordable and user friendly. I support increased investment in education before college.

3. What should be the role of Congress in addressing the challenges of climate change?

Congress should pass laws and make available financial incentives which will allow individuals, businesses and all other entities to adopt measures to combat climate change. While having this as their goal these measures should do this with minimum harm, financial and otherwise.

Office US Senate

Name Paula Jean Swearingin

Party Democrat

County of Residence

Biography

I'm a coal miner's daughter and granddaughter. America was built on the backs of Appalachians. Like so many, my family paid a steep price for coal. I lost many of my family members to cancer and black lung. West Virginia's most valuable resource is our people. We are determined, hard-working and smart. PaulaJean.com

1. What suggestions do you have for improving bipartisanship and cooperation in Congress?

We've seen representatives from both parties who are bought and paid for by big corporations. We have to work together to get things done, but, we also need a Congress that will do what's right, even if that means breaking with the party. It means working with others to find real, lasting solutions. And it also means putting people over

2. What new measures would you support to help middle class families deal with the rising costs of health care, housing, and higher education?

I support Medicare for All, a federal jobs guarantee, and federal funding for our community colleges, state universities, and trade schools so that all West Virginians can live healthy and productive lives.

3. What should be the role of Congress in addressing the challenges of climate change?

West Virginians have been impacted by pollution for years. The industrial revolution was built on the backs of Appalachians. Our waterways, mountains and health have paid the price.

Climate change is impacting us now. Congress needs to take it seriously by supporting the Green New Deal, and the Reclaim Act. I'll fight for federal funds to support states like ours.

Office US Senate

Name Allen Whitt

Party Republican

County of Residence Jackson

Biography

Whether during his beginnings on a dairy farm, his time as spokesperson for Dr. Billy Graham, or as the President of the Family Policy Council of West Virginia, Allen Whitt has lived conservative values his whole life. He's a prominent conservative leader in West Virginia. And he believes "68% conservative," isn't nearly good enough for our U.S. Senator. www.WhittforWV.com

1. What suggestions do you have for improving bipartisanship and cooperation in Congress?

I firmly believe that no matter our differences, one ought to treat every human being with respect and charity. I will always strive to extend the spirit of friendship towards my colleagues. Unfortunately, the Progressive Left currently has a stranglehold on the Democratic Party, making bipartisanship impossible. Until reasonable voices in the Democratic Party prevail, cooperation remains very difficult.

2. What new measures would you support to help middle class families deal with the rising costs of health care, housing, and higher education?

A thriving middle class is of utmost importance to our economy. I favor a competitive free-market healthcare system, which would lower costs for everyone. I also favor many of Sen. Josh Hawley's ideas for relieving the student loan debt crisis and holding universities accountable.

3. What should be the role of Congress in addressing the challenges of climate change?

I believe in striking a middle way between conserving the beauty of God's creation and refraining from unnecessary regulations that harm the businesses we rely on for resources and job creation.