

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 Shelly Moore Capito
Party Republican
County of Residence

No Reply

Office US Senate
Name David Moran
Party Libertarian
County of Residence

No Reply

Office US House of Representatives District
Name Paula Jean Swearengin
Party Democrat
County of Residence Wyoming

Biography

Paula Jean Swearengin is a working class daughter and granddaughter of coal miners. Her campaign is rooted in the love she has for the people of West Virginia, and her conviction that no one should die or go bankrupt because they don't have health insurance—and that no family should be collateral damage in the corporate quest for profit.

www.paulajeans.com

1. What changes would you recommend for responding to any future national emergencies such as COVID-19 which would increase overall preparedness and assist those affected by the emergency?

Right now we need relief like the HEROES Act, which has been languishing on my opponent's desk for months. To prepare for future pandemics, we should draw on our current experience to plan coordination of supply chains, create guidelines for what equipment (like PPE) should be stockpiled, and streamline the process for approving tests during public health emergencies.

2. What do you believe should be the role of the United States in global affairs such as trade, immigration, and the environment?

Our role should be creating the same relationship we strive to have with neighbors at home: we want a neighborhood of justice, compassion, and respect. It's not our place to judge private affairs as long as everyone is safe. And we'll lend a hand to help feed hungry kids or less fortunate neighbors, if our own family is well-fed.

3. Do you support recent weakening of EPA regulations concerning air and water quality? Why or why not?

First, let's not call them "regulations." They are protections. Second, no one should remove the protections and safeguards that keep your family safe. The only reason this happens is that our corrupt politicians are for-sale to the highest bidder. It's their job to protect us, but they're more interested in keeping their jobs than doing their jobs.

4. Considering the issues raised by COVID-19, what changes need to be made at the federal level to make affordable healthcare available to all Americans?

I support Medicare for All. Anyone who wants something incremental is someone like Capito who has never watched a loved one suffer without proper healthcare, or someone who's never been worried about being unable to afford healthcare for themselves.

5. What changes to current election laws would you recommend to make voting safer and more accessible?

We need automatic voter registration, universal vote-by-mail, and we should make Election Day a national holiday. If we care about democracy, we need to fight to make sure everyone can participate in it.