

## Wood County Candidates for WV Senate and House of Delegates

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**Office** WV Senate Senatorial District 3

**Name** Donna J Boley

**Party** Republican

### Biography

Sistersville High School; WVU-P, Honorary degree, Thirty-five years and 5 months as a member of the West Virginia State Senate serving on a variety of Standing committees and interim committees as Well as Senate Minority Leader for 6 years and West Virginia Senate Pro Tem for the last six years, Standing in for President Mitch Carmichael.

### **1. How would you prioritize using the funds provided to WV by the CARES Act and other COVID-19 relief funds?**

I have reviewed Governor Justice's CARES Act funding and Probably would follow that. He has worked on this for several Months and knows the agencies and departments that need The money. Work with the counties as he is doing to get their Requests for reimbursements itemized, etc.

### **2. What changes in current election laws would you favor to make voting safer and more accessible?**

I would trust Secretary of State Mac Warner to make any Recommendations. I am not a fan of voting by mail but in This instance of COVID 21 I believe in the primary election This worked but would not want it for all elections.

### **3. Lack of broadband access limits employment and educational opportunities in many parts of West Virginia. What should be done to make broadband available statewide?**

Take advantage and make it a top priority to work with the Federal Government to expand broadband with the dollars They are providing so all students will have safe and secure Service wherever they might live.

### **4. Given COVID-19, how do you propose we protect our students, teachers and school service personnel while at the same time providing equal access to a quality education across the state?**

Governor Justice and the DHHR Secretary, along with the WV National Guard has set up a system of risk. It is important To maintain a safe school system as well as making sure our Students are getting back in the classroom with their teachers.

### **5. What experience, training or education do you have that would make you an effective state legislator?**

I believe that over the last thirty`five (35) years I have worked With other legislators to advance our economy and education System. I work and meet with constituents monthly in Wood County to discuss their problems and suggestions. I have expert Guests come in and address our breakfast group.

**Office** WV Senate Senatorial District 3

**Name** Travis Shultz

**Party** Libertarian

## **Biography**

Born: Parkersburg; Raised: Pleasant County; Owner of Wherewithal Resources, LLC and work part-time as a Lumber Associate at Home Depot. Husband, and father of four wonderful children, who are attending public school. Previously ran as an Independent in 2004. I still believe power unopposed continues to grow and to corrupt. [www.shultz4senate.com](http://www.shultz4senate.com) or search 'Shultz 4 Senate' on Facebook.

### **1. How would you prioritize using the funds provided to WV by the CARES Act and other COVID-19 relief funds?**

1<sup>st</sup> Would cover medical needs. (Hospitalization, testing, nursing homes) 2<sup>nd</sup> Would cover education. The children and teachers need a safe and productive environment. 3<sup>rd</sup> Would help small to medium WV based businesses, to avoid bankruptcy. 4<sup>th</sup> The remaining funds belong to you and not Charleston, because excessive taxation is legalized robbery.

### **2. What changes in current election laws would you favor to make voting safer and more accessible?**

With a system in place to help prevent fraud, I feel mail-in voting would improve accessibility. Additional measures can be taken at our poll locations to help provide safer service. Smartphone and online voting present too many cybersecurity issues and could be easily compromised if blockchain technology was not utilized. As for low voter turn-out, that is a different problem.

### **3. Lack of broadband access limits employment and educational opportunities in many parts of West Virginia. What should be done to make broadband available statewide?**

Best thing bureaucrats can do is, get out of the way. Government managed regulation has held back competition and modernization. Handouts to Frontier, Armstrong and Suddenlink will not fix anything. New upcoming technology has already solved this problem with SpaceX's Starlink and their competition. Well, that is if the government does not show up to 'help' out.

### **4. Given COVID-19, how do you propose we protect our students, teachers and school service personnel while at the same time providing equal access to a quality education across the state?**

We must provide resources and flexibility for our local county BOEs and Superintendents to provide the best education they can at this difficult time. What works in Wirt may not work in Wood. Just like the needs in every state are different from one another. It is much easier fixing a situation at home versus going to Charleston.

### **5. What experience, training or education do you have that would make you an effective state legislator?**

At age 84 our current incumbent has more experience. We both share many of the same conservative views when it comes to low taxes, fixing excessive regulation, improving education, infrastructure, second amendment and so many more. It is my passion and desire to bring these issues forward like no other. My experience has shown me to follow the Golden Rule.

**Office** WV Senate Senatorial District 3

**Name** Robert "Robin" Wilson Jr.

**Party** Democrat

## **Biography**

I graduated from Glenville State in 1988 with a degree in Biology and Social Studies Education. I've been a teacher and social worker for at-risk youth, worked on safe climate education and organizing, helped start small businesses, grown lots of vegetables, and installed our solar power. I feel blessed living with our good neighbors and beautiful hills. <https://wilson4senate2020.weebly.com/>

### **1. How would you prioritize using the funds provided to WV by the CARES Act and other COVID-19 relief funds?**

Priority for CARES ACT funds should go first to families in danger of being homeless or hungry because of eviction, unemployment or mortgage foreclosure. Second, to local agencies like our Helping Hand food pantry and small local businesses and nonprofits like our local Family Health Care. Often the politically powerful receive the funding which would not my priority.

### **2. What changes in current election laws would you favor to make voting safer and more accessible?**

Enact policy to enforce one person one vote. End political corruption by limiting campaign contributions by big corporations and ultra-wealthy individuals. To make our democracy work better make the general election day a holiday, extend right to vote by mail, use paper ballots and allow ranked choice voting where your second choice counts if no candidate gets over 50%.

**3. Lack of broadband access limits employment and educational opportunities in many parts of West Virginia. What should be done to make broadband available statewide?**

Net Equality so every West Virginian has access to high speed internet should be created with public utilities and cooperatives. Everyone supports universal broadband. Profits will not drive this expanded service. A progressive tax where those making over \$ 150,000 per year pay a higher tax rate is needed. Our students, businesses and average citizens need this service.

**4. Given COVID-19, how do you propose we protect our students, teachers and school service personnel while at the same time providing equal access to a quality education across the state?**

The tragedy of this pandemic can be used for good by expanding those involved with education. Local parents, neighbors, seniors and workers could have training to help them become better teachers for our students. In return students should be expected to help solve community problems. Working in smaller groups with masks, social distancing, temperature checks and periodic testing provides safety.

**5. What experience, training or education do you have that would make you an effective state legislator?**

My science education, research and personal experience with solar power and an electric car helps me work for policies for a safer climate future. Growing over half my own food gives me ideas for policies that would build on the past strengths of West Virginians' history. My Quaker values of simplicity, cooperation and sharing can be translated into better legislation.

**Office** WV House of Delegates District 8

**Name** Andrew Alvarez

**Party** Democrat

**No Reply**

**Office** WV House of Delegates District 8

**Name** Bill Anderson

**Party** Republican

**Biography**

Retired educator. Graduate: Williamstown High School, Marshall University BA, West Virginia University MA. United States Air Force Vietnam Veteran. Member: WV House of Delegates. Chairman: Committee on Energy. Member: Williamstown Presbyterian Church and American Legion Post 159.

**1. How would you prioritize using the funds provided to WV by the CARES Act and other COVID-19 relief funds?**

My first priority for Cares Act Funding would be for health support services for the treatment and prevention of Covid-19. Secondly, funding for the expansion of broadband must be given greater emphasis to help provide for the delivery of equal educational services for students in public and private schools as well as higher educational institutions.

**2. What changes in current election laws would you favor to make voting safer and more accessible?**

Present Election laws in West Virginia are meeting the needs of voters. Provisions for absentee voting, early voting, as well as election day voting, gives voters multiple options for casting their ballots.

**3. Lack of broadband access limits employment and educational opportunities in many parts of West Virginia. What should be done to make broadband available statewide?**

Making Broadband available is a difficult challenge given the rural nature and low population of West Virginia. We need to tap funds from the CARES Act when the provisions of this federal law permits. Given the present need for virtual instruction in public, private, and higher education I believe additional state funds should be appropriated to support expansion of Broadband.

**4. Given COVID-19, how do you propose we protect our students, teachers and school service personnel while at the same time providing equal access to a quality education across the state?**

Covid-19 presents unprecedented challenges to parents, teachers, students, and public officials. Students, teachers, and service personnel must dress to prevent the spread of Covid-19. The present combination of in-person and internet-delivered instruction reduces the chance of disease spread. Public officials must constantly monitor this dynamic situation and design and/or modify programs in light of scientific developments.

**5. What experience, training or education do you have that would make you an effective state legislator?**

My career as a teacher of American Government helped prepare me for service in the legislature. Prior to running for office, I helped in other campaigns. During my years in the House of Delegates, I have served on the Education, Finance, Political Subdivisions, Agriculture, Natural Resources, Pensions, and Rules Committees. Presently I serve as chairman of the Energy Committee.

**Office** WV House of Delegates District 9

**Name** D. Shannon Kimes

**Party** Republican

**Biography**

Born 1977, raised Mason County, WV. Graduated CWRU Cleveland Mechanical Engineering. Worked for Chrysler's and GM's vehicle design validation for engine cooling and HVAC, 1999-2003. Owns and operates family manufacturing business, started 1986, Kimes Steel & Rail a manufacturer of railroad construction materials. Rockport resident, wife Erica and two children, attends Vienna Baptist, enjoys flying and resurrecting old machinery. [www.dsk4wva.com](http://www.dsk4wva.com)

**1. How would you prioritize using the funds provided to WV by the CARES Act and other COVID-19 relief funds?**

Funds should cover gap in budget while cutting spending to counter the long-term budgetary effects of Covid craze. Make whole working families and businesses damaged by an unnecessary and ineffective shutdown. It is a government mandated infringement of constitutional right to freely associate. Its wrong abortion is choice but dismiss right of association. Enough depression, decay, and drugs existed beforehand.

**2. What changes in current election laws would you favor to make voting safer and more accessible?**

Elections are sufficiently safe and accessible. Citizens need to exert some effort to vote, the future of the Republic shouldn't be determined by indolent hands. Accomplish in person voting on election day with more technology and fewer workers but should remain a vital tradition. The election calendar certainly needs shortened. Better elections would entail less money and more idea exchange.

**3. Lack of broadband access limits employment and educational opportunities in many parts of West Virginia. What should be done to make broadband available statewide?**

Netscape launched in 1994. SpaceX with Starlink constellation, launching nearly 100 satellites monthly, will provide low latency affordable broadband worldwide. Over 600 satellites orbiting, and public testing commenced, service availability probably within a year. Twenty-six years after Netscape is not the time for a government bailout of failed monopolistic telecoms using working people's money. Government slower than rotary phone dialup.

**4. Given COVID-19, how do you propose we protect our students, teachers and school service personnel while at the same time providing equal access to a quality education across the state?**

Fatality rate of 0.00017, Covid is least worry for future of failing expensive education system. Stop spending 100 times more on special needs students as on gifted and talented. Rethink education's goals and help every student achieve their best. Fund schools based on attendance not enrollment. Expand vocational schooling while shrinking irrelevant subjects. Cease war on traditional two parent families.

**5. What experience, training or education do you have that would make you an effective state legislator?**

Pontification from Charleston about job creation is easy. Relocating a 93,000-pound forging hammer, last operated in the 1970's, and rebuilding it to operate on air not steam is hard. Volume

manufacturing a competitive product, to finally create an operator's job, is much harder. Experience in manufacturing business is the experience Charleston needs if jobs are a priority, not more pontificators.

**Office** WV House of Delegates District 9

**Name** Jim Marion

**Party** Democrat

### **Biography**

Graduated from PSHS, 1 year at WVU. I worked as a delivery driver for UPS for 27 years. Retired in 2005. Married, wife Jan, 2 kids, John and Jamie. 2 grandkids, Lauren and Zach. One great grandkid, Chloe. I have lived all my adult life in Wood County and West Virginia. I'm proud to be a Mountaineer!

#### **1. How would you prioritize using the funds provided to WV by the CARES Act and other COVID-19 relief funds?**

People out of work first, single parent families, low income families, schools and teachers, and then help small businesses in need.

#### **2. What changes in current election laws would you favor to make voting safer and more accessible?**

Vote by mail.

#### **3. Lack of broadband access limits employment and educational opportunities in many parts of West Virginia. What should be done to make broadband available statewide?**

By making more state money available until everybody can get access.

#### **4. Given COVID-19, how do you propose we protect our students, teachers and school service personnel while at the same time providing equal access to a quality education across the state?**

Masks, tracing, taking temperatures, and social distancing- 6 feet, but most importantly let each counties school board decide if and when we have school.

#### **5. What experience, training or education do you have that would make you an effective state legislator?**

By meeting a lot of people while working I knew some of their needs and issues. I know by experience that I can and I will listen to each and every person.

**Office** WV House of Delegates District 10

**Name** Roger Conley

**Party** Republican

### **Biography**

I am a lifelong resident of Wood County. Married to my wife Katherine for 46 years. We have three adult children and six grandchildren. I am the owner of Conley Fabrication. Currently serving on the Vienna City Council. I am Chairman of the Wood County Republican Executive Committee as well as a member of the West Virginia Republican Executive Committee.

#### **1. How would you prioritize using the funds provided to WV by the CARES Act and other COVID-19 relief funds?**

I believe a larger portion should be available to small business. Small business is the backbone of our economy. Allowing small business to survive means jobs. Jobs means money earned and not supplemented through the Cares act which is funded by our tax dollars. Americans by and large want to work. We do not want to be socialist type nation.

#### **2. What changes in current election laws would you favor to make voting safer and more accessible?**

Adequate steps have been taken. We now have mail in ballots and early voting as well as voting at the polls on Election Day. I feel very comfortable in voting at the polls. If I were to change anything it would be returning to the option of straight party ticket voting. Less time at the polls means shorter lines.

#### **3. Lack of broadband access limits employment and educational opportunities in many parts of West Virginia. What should be done to make broadband available statewide?**

Follow up / much work is being done. The following bills have all been passed to enhance broadband

capacity. HB 3093 – HB 4447 – SB 3 – HB 4015 & HB 4619. Next year a broadband loan insurance program will be considered. Also the Governor recently announced that \$50 million from the cares act will be deployed for broadband expansion. Follow up.

**4. Given COVID-19, how do you propose we protect our students, teachers and school service personnel while at the same time providing equal access to a quality education across the state?**

Protocols should be developed on a County by County / School by School basis based on data available to our Educators. I would change the schedules while on this two day schedule with Group A going Monday and Tuesday and Group B going Thursday and Friday. This would allow for cleaning and sanitizing on Wednesday as well as the weekend.

**5. What experience, training or education do you have that would make you an effective state legislator?**

As a small business owner I have created many jobs over the years . Job creation is not something I talk about, it's what I do . As a current member of the Vienna City Council I have a proven voting record of cutting cost , reducing spending while increasing efficiencies. This will be my plan at the state level.

**Office** WV House of Delegates District 10

**Name** Vernon Criss

**Party** Republican

**Biography**

Graduate of PHS and West Virginia Wesleyan. I am working with my family in our construction supply and river business.

**1. How would you prioritize using the funds provided to WV by the CARES Act and other COVID-19 relief funds?**

Continue unemployment and sole proprietor benefits. Also continue to provide funds to Schools and Public Colleges to keep students safe.

**2. What changes in current election laws would you favor to make voting safer and more accessible?**

Make Voter's registration books into a electronic format, so voters can show up at any polling place to exercise their right to vote.

**3. Lack of broadband access limits employment and educational opportunities in many parts of West Virginia. What should be done to make broadband available statewide?**

Continue working with the federal government on funding rural areas.

**4. Given COVID-19, how do you propose we protect our students, teachers and school service personnel while at the same time providing equal access to a quality education across the state?**

We must continue to bring "in school experience" to every student if possible. We must monitor outbreaks and adjust quickly if necessary.

**5. What experience, training or education do you have that would make you an effective state legislator?**

First appointed in 1987 and served until 1991. I served on the finance committee then and now, I serve as vice-chairman of the finance committee that plays a big role in the financial future of our State.

**Office** WV House of Delegates District 10

**Name** John R. Kelly

**Party** Republican

**Biography**

Educated Wood County Schools, Graduated Mountain State College, AAS; PCC (WVU-P), AAS; Glenville State, RBS. US Air Force veteran. Retired DuPont. Served on Council, 85-96, 2013-2014. Council President, 3yrs; held VP, Chairmanship of Public Works, Finance, and Personnel Committees. Five years on Area Roundtable. Elected to the WV House of Delegates 2014. Various Civic and Fraternal organizations.

**1. How would you prioritize using the funds provided to WV by the CARES Act and other COVID-19 relief funds?**



The congressional stimulus awarded to WV for COVID relief was \$1.25MM. The check came with specific guidelines. We have little leeway in appropriations to government entities, businesses, organizations, or residents. Caution must be taken to insure guidelines are followed. Appropriations outside those guidelines will result in a requirement to pay millions of dollars back to the federal government.

**2. What changes in current election laws would you favor to make voting safer and more accessible?**

Voting is the most important activity we have to protect our democracy. Safeguards are in place to protect the integrity of the ballot. Current laws provide safeguards and adequate opportunities for a fair election. Residents who are eligible for absentee ballots, scheduled early voting, and traditional election day voting are guaranteed that right to vote.

**3. Lack of broadband access limits employment and educational opportunities in many parts of West Virginia. What should be done to make broadband available statewide?**

In most cases, broadband systems are operated by phone or cable companies. Their franchises are controlled by the legislature. Mandating phone and cable companies to provide broadband services to every customer could be the answer. Tax Credits could be offered to these companies to defer the cost of installation. Installing these systems would provide better educational and business opportunities.

**4. Given COVID-19, how do you propose we protect our students, teachers and school service personnel while at the same time providing equal access to a quality education across the state?**

Eliminating unnecessary exposure will slow the spread of COVID. Children attending classes on a 5 day schedule are exposed to the same small group routinely. Students that attend classes 2 days per week, and the rest of the week in childcare experience 2 to 3 times more exposure and have a higher risk of spreading the virus to others.

**5. What experience, training or education do you have that would make you an effective state legislator?**

First elected to House of Delegates in 2014, re-elected in 2016-18. Vice-Chair of the House Energy Committee; and serve on Education, Veteran Affairs and Homeland Security, Political Sub-Divisions, and Senior and Family Issues Committees. I served 14 years on the Parkersburg City Council, and am an Air Force Veteran (67-71). Retired from DuPont.

**Office** WV House of Delegates District 10

**Name** Trish Pritchard

**Party** Democrat

**Biography**

A life-long Wood County resident, I graduated PHS, earning a BA-Wheeling Jesuit.

Married to Ron for 33 years, both engineer sons are PSHS graduates.

Church leadership and service organization roles give me insight into opportunities for improvement across Wood County. My 36-year DuPont career as an operator/mgmt. and in Human Resources provides experience I will put to work for you!

**1. How would you prioritize using the funds provided to WV by the CARES Act and other COVID-19 relief funds?**

Funding public health resources must be prioritized. Establish a funding oversight coalition to prevent waste. Strengthen public health response increasing testing capacity, purchasing PPE, and allocating funds to employ contact tracers. Providing direct assistance to people who are struggling to pay rent, utilities because of the economic crisis and fund childcare infrastructure. Provide additional funding for stretched counties and cities.

**2. What changes in current election laws would you favor to make voting safer and more accessible?**

Five states have successful mail-in ballot systems. Automatic voter registration and ballot mailing with drop boxes for easy collection. Protecting the integrity of voter registration systems, pollbooks, and election websites, as well as ballot preparation, voting machines, and tabulation systems will continue to evolve necessitating ongoing evaluation and improving WV election system security. Voting machines must have paper audit trail.

**3. Lack of broadband access limits employment and educational opportunities in many parts of West Virginia. What should be done to make broadband available statewide?**

Regulators will soon determine if “financially qualified” Frontier can bid on Federal \$766 million. Frontier should not be allowed to participate due to bankruptcy and mismanagement track record. New providers such as SpaceX Starlink must be considered when comparing costs with fiber cable. Strict oversight is critical to insure WV access to a fundamental utility without being fleeced again

**4. Given COVID-19, how do you propose we protect our students, teachers and school service personnel while at the same time providing equal access to a quality education across the state?**

Teachers/School Service Personnel must have input in ongoing COVID Response safety in our schools. The West Virginia color-coded map determines school status weekly. Officials have relied on outdated data, raised cutoffs determining county’s risk level, changing methodology determining the metrics for safety/risk. Transparency is critical and games with how cases are counted damage the credibility of WV DHHR/ Gov officials.

**5. What experience, training or education do you have that would make you an effective state legislator?**

Education and experience in management and human resources provides a unique blend of skills in problem solving and policy development. Training in problem solving methods like Six Sigma gives an advantage of data/science based analysis along with bringing people together to build support for opportunities to make better policies and laws for a fair and thriving WV for us all.

**Office** WV House of Delegates District 10

**Name** Luke Winters

**Party** Democrat

**Biography**

Lifelong Wood County resident. Graduate of PHS and WVU with a Bachelor’s of Science degree. With two years of experience in the Substance Use Disorder field, I am a Freelance Transportation Specialist for government entities and their clients. Over 3yrs of training and teaching Brazilian JiuJitsu with local Police Officers. Previous experience educating individuals on their options for Medicare/Medicaid.

**1. How would you prioritize using the funds provided to WV by the CARES Act and other COVID-19 relief funds?**

We deserve a bold, comprehensive, ongoing response to covid19 one that doesn’t force us to choose between our health and our small businesses, our lives and our bank accounts. Provide economic support to those suffering from employment or small businesses closures. Free covid19 testing available at every local health department.

**2. What changes in current election laws would you favor to make voting safer and more accessible?**

This campaign has signed a pledge to not take a cent of corporate PAC money. WV needs automatic voter registration upon your 18th birthday, ballot drop-boxes in every district, and an end to partisan gerrymandering. Permit ranked choice voting that would allow people to vote third party, without “throwing away their vote”.

**3. Lack of broadband access limits employment and educational opportunities in many parts of West Virginia. What should be done to make broadband available statewide?**

Broadband needs to be a public utility where we prioritize West Virginians and public good over price gouging monopolies that provide inferior service. Build the “middle mile” and lay over 2,000 miles of fiberoptic cable which would create over 5,000 jobs. Strengthen broadband connectivity standards to mitigate the gap in education and economic opportunities for distance workers, educators, and students.

**4. Given COVID-19, how do you propose we protect our students, teachers and school service personnel while at the same time providing equal access to a quality education across the state?**

Virtual learning is not an adequate substitute for physical classes. Our goal must be a return to in person learning by suppressing the transmission of covid19 to control state and local outbreaks. In order to protect teachers and students, until covid19 is contained, distance learning should be implemented and once we return to school, all necessary PPE should be provided.

**5. What experience, training or education do you have that would make you an effective state legislator?**

With the opioid crisis devastating WV, my experience in counseling those in recovery and studying addiction will allow me to draft effective legislation to help end the opioid epidemic. To combat WV’s daily decrease of 33 resident, I will push for: making the minimum wage a living wage, making teachers’ salaries nationally competitive, legalizing cannabis, and making broadband a utility.