

**1. Please provide some basic information about yourself.**

**Name:** Bill Slantz

**Position you're running for:** Lieutenant Governor

**2. Please briefly tell us why you are running for public office.**

If elected; I will immediately propose legislation for the following:

Lieutenant Governor Abolition:

I tell people that if they want smaller government, get on board with us. If we start getting government too small, then hop off. Our train won't be moving fast. It's very hard to undo government. That's a train that just won't stop.

**3. (State & Federal) Over the past decade, Kansas City has started to become recognized as a midwestern technology hub. There are multiple programs in place to allow this to happen, which should lead to high quality, high paying jobs. If elected, what types of policies would you support or advocate to continue the creation of startups, growth of the industry, and/or attraction of technology companies looking to relocate or expand to the Kansas City area?**

Governments should keep their hands out of business other than the courts to sort out the protection of lives and property. Voluntary economic exchange is the only way. Government intervention is not justified. Further, government interference in business on behalf of some citizens at the expense of others is inherently unfair.

**4. (State Only) During the past few legislative sessions, education funding has been prioritized through new reforms to computer science and STEM education, allowing qualified courses to count as a high-school graduation credit. Due to COVID-19, funding proposals for computer science and STEM initiatives are in jeopardy. What, if anything, do you think needs to be done regarding education funding? How would you fund your ideas?**

Education and government must be kept apart the way church and government must be.

Protect the right of parents to acquire the education they desire for their children.

**5. (State & Federal) Finding talent is one of the most critical challenges that Kansas City technology companies face. Workforce development programs and STEM education are two ways in which the state can help address this concern. What do you believe can be done to fill the void to ensure companies can find the qualified workers they need?**

Government intervention is not justified. Voids will be filled when it is worth the while of a employee to seek that job.

**6. (State Only) COVID-19 significantly changed the budgetary landscape we faced at the beginning of 2020. Though we are all hopeful for a speedy economic recovery, funding will have to be prioritized in the meantime. What are your top three budget priorities, in order of importance to you? Please include a brief description of each priority.**

Cut 50% of the spending:

- 1) Education - Protect the right of parents to acquire the education they desire for their children.
- 2) Medicaid - If needed should be privatized. A better alternative is to allow local communities to build a support system for these needs directly as needed.
- 3) Healthcare - There should be a true free market in healthcare without government restrictions or excessive limitations. Consumers should be able to buy health insurance

**7. (State & Federal) Regarding the economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, how important is the technology business community to economic recovery, and which measures can speed the positive impact of this industry on the economy?**

Very important. Leave technology business alone. This is the most efficient way for them to prosper at lightning speed.

**8. (State & Federal) If the federal government makes additional funds available for infrastructure, where would you prioritize that spending? Alternative energy, repair bridges, increase freeway capacity, increase airport person and freight capacity, smart infrastructure, public transportation, or other?**

Infrastructure - I am a strong believer one of the government's primary roles is to promote and support a robust infrastructure. Providing tax dollars for power; roadways and highways, telecommunications, water supplies and many more of the "big ticket" "grand" projects that benefit us all.

**9. (State Only) In 2019, the California general assembly successfully passed the California Consumer Protection Act. This legislation regulates how companies can collect, store, and sell consumer data. Federal pre-emption is looming and will likely mirror similar legislation to the General Data Privacy Rights passed by the European Union in 2017. If more states continue to pass similar legislation, compliance could become a difficult and expensive task for any online business. Do you support state legislation on this issue or would you prefer a Federal privacy law to preempt states' laws and to cohesively protect American consumers and businesses? If you prefer a Federal law, do you support giving the FTC the resources and authority it needs to be the enforcer of the federal law, or do you believe plaintiffs' attorneys should be empowered to bring class-action lawsuits against companies?**

Privacy - The government should not engage in tracking or surveillance of citizens without a legal warrant. The Patriot Act should be repealed.

**10. (Kansas Only) The Kansas Angel Investor Tax Credit program was not renewed in the 2020 legislative session and must be renewed in the 2021 session to continue. The return on this investment has been exceptional and provides the necessary capital to grow new companies and attract outside investors to Kansas companies. What is your view on the Kansas Angel Tax Investor Credit and other economic development incentive programs?**

N/A

**11. (Missouri Only) In the last legislative session, funding for the Missouri Technology Corporation (MTC) was significantly decreased - allocating just \$1 million in this fiscal year. In 2016, MTC funding totaled \$17 million. MTC programs include MissouriTechLaunch (co-investment program), Seed Capital Co-Investment, and the Missouri Building Entrepreneurial**



**Capacity program (MOBEC Grants). These programs will struggle to remain, if at all, with the cuts in necessary funding. Would you support future funding increases for MTC, or do you have recommendations for policies the state of Missouri can adopt to support the future of new tech businesses and startup support organizations?**

No future funding!