

Kansas Catholic Conference Candidate Survey - Aric Hermann

Question 1:

Given this legal and cultural reality regarding abortion in Kansas, what is your position on the following questions? Check all that apply. Hodes Abortion Ruling Abortion Coercion Act Born Alive Infant Protection Act Abortion Pill Reversal and Right to Know Legislation Kansas Life Affirming Tax Package

Answer:

I oppose the Pregnancy Compassion Act that directs public funds to qualified Pregnancy Resource Centers (PRCs) as a way of assisting women with unplanned pregnancies who need help with the birth and care of their child.

I support the recently passed Abortion Coercion Act that makes it a crime to coerce someone into having an abortion.

I support the Born Alive Infant Protection Act which ensures that a child born alive, even after a botched abortion, will receive care like any other child.

Question 2:

Please provide your other comments/positions about abortion (100 words or less).

Answer:

I am pro-choice. I am not pro-abortion. I believe that abortion is a sin and not a crime. Because I believe in the separation of Church and State I cannot use the State to force a religious law onto someone. I am not opposed to legislation that limits access to late term abortion, but illegalizing abortion does not fix this issue anymore than gun control fixes gun crime.

Question 3:

What is your position on these issues? Fairness in Women's Sports Act Kansas Women's Bill of Rights Kansas County Jail Modernization Act Kansas Help Not Harm Act

Answer:

I support the Fairness in Womens Sports Act , which became law and ensures that Kansas girls and women compete only against other girls and women in athletics.

I support the Kansas Womens Bill of Rights, which became law that legally designates in statute what is a woman.

I support the Kansas County Jail Modernization Act, which became law, that requires sheriffs to ensure that male and female inmates are housed separately.

I support the Kansas Help Not Harm Act, which passed the legislature but was vetoed, that would have ended surgical and medical "gender transitioning" for children in Kansas.

Question 4:

Please provide your other comments/positions about pro-family legislation (100 words or less).

Answer:

Transgenderism is a mental disease. I will not support mental illness any more than someone would support diabetes or cancer. I understand the difference between fighting a disease and hating someone.

Question 5:

Regarding Medicaid Expansion:

Answer:

I oppose Medicaid Expansion.

Question 6:

Please provide your other comments/positions about expanded access to healthcare (100 words or less).

Answer:

Expanding Medicaid does not improve access to healthcare, it restricts it. The government is a monopoly controlling the system and getting the government out of people's lives and their health is an absolute must.

Question 7:

Regarding MHIT and other mental health funding:

Answer:

I oppose mental health services funding for non-public school students.

Question 8:

Please provide your other comments/positions about MHIT and/or mental health funding in Kansas (100 words or less).

Answer:

I should note that I oppose tax dollars being used to fund mental health services for public school students too. Parents should be working with their children for their healthcare not the government. Stop letting the government control your lives.

Question 9:

Regarding the issue of educational choice, sometimes referred to as "school choice," your position is:

Answer:

I support school expanding educational choice in Kansas through legislation known as Educational Savings Accounts (ESAs).

Question 10:

Please provide your other comments/positions about educational choice (100 words or less).

Answer:

I'm not sure what you mean by tax credit legislation. I believe in expanding education choice through student vouchers. Educational tax dollars fund students, not schools. Parents can use that money to send their child to any school, including religious schools, of their choice. It is up to that school to spend that money to provide for any and all services it provides students.

Question 11:

Regarding the death penalty, your position is:

Answer:

I support current law that allows the death penalty in Kansas.

Question 12:

Please provide any other comments regarding the death penalty in Kansas. (100 words or less).

Answer:

I do not believe that the death penalty is a sin nor governmental overreach. The death penalty is decided by a jury of your peers and wasting tax dollars on funding criminals is not my idea of a well functioning system.

Question 13:

Regarding Payday Loan reform, your position is:

Answer:

I oppose Payday Loan Reform—leave the law as it is.

Question 14:

Please provide any other comments regarding pay day loans in Kansas. (100 words or less).

Answer:

Why I believe payday loan businesses are sleazy at best, I oppose government controlling business. People who choose to take out bad loans made that mistake themselves, it is not the government's fault that mistake was made nor is it the government's responsibility to fix their mistake.

Question 15:

Regarding public policies addressing the complex needs of the poor, what is your position or thoughts on this issue? Please be as specific as possible (150 words or less).

Answer:

The best way for the government to help the poor is for a society to be prosperous with opportunities for personal growth. The best way the government can do this is by letting Capitalism flourish and get out of people's business. Student vouchers for education, improved healthcare through defunding, and maintaining infrastructure for business interaction will bring about a prosperous society. Homelessness and poverty are symptoms of the hopelessness and slothfulness.

Question 16:

What elements of public policy on the state level would you advocate for if elected? Please be as specific as possible (150 words or less).

Answer:

I believe in strong borders and safe and fair immigration laws. I oppose sanctuary cities and encourage legal immigration where people are vetted for criminal activity and have a skill set and financial opportunities that allow them to flourish in our country, not be a drain on it.

Question 17:

Please add any additional comments.

Answer:

I'm curious what you think of me. I answered the questions honestly even when I figured I was giving the wrong answer. I grew up Mennonite-ish so I grew up in a very conservative Faith. I've met a lot of Catholics while campaigning. I understand the Church's opinion on things like abortion or helping the sick and poor, and I appreciate having that an emotional or spiritual opinion on those issues. My stances come from a logical and legal approach. I do not want my constituents to look to me for moral guidance because I am not supposed to be their preacher. I believe in separation of Church and State. The State is too big and needs to be reduced, and in the process of reducing it things like Medicaid or free stuff for the homeless will need to be cut too. It sounds heartless, but people should not rely on the government for their prosperity. And for issues where the Church feels a certain way, then the Church should be out there helping on those issues not giving the government the power to fix those issues. Because next election cycle the government could use that power to do the complete opposite. Anyway. Check out John Hauer, JohnnyHowieSoldier@gmail.com, <https://www.hauerforcongress.com> He's a good friend of mine, running for KS House 2 and super Catholic. I plan on voting for him because we agree on a lot and where we disagree he cites his philosophy for justification.