



## Wyoming Republican Candidate Profile Questionnaire

The questions here reflect current issues you are likely to face during a coming term in office and ask each candidate to provide, in their own words, their thoughts and opinions regarding a significant number of topics and questions. We appreciate your time and effort in responding to our questionnaire.

### 1) How would you describe the proper role of government?

Ronald Reagan said, “Man is not free unless government is limited”.

I feel strongly about the right to personal freedom, that we are all created equal, and the inalienable right to “Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness”. The right to personal liberty is perhaps the most important American value, and Republican Party value. I believe in a separation between church and state – leaving moral decisions to the individual, their God, and spiritual advisor—not to my neighbor or to my senator.

### 2) How would you describe your role as a Republican elected official in our constitutionally defined form of government?

I believe strongly in the constitutional role of a senator. Our current senator, along with many others, have forgotten that their primary role is to write legislation that can pass a senate with 60 votes, the House of Representatives, and then receive a signature from the President. That takes hard work, but it is the job. As a citizen and voter, I’m not impressed with speeches or TV appearances, I want to see results—and that means an immigration bill, a healthcare bill, an infrastructure plan, and tax simplification.

I also do not think the role of a senator is to pass responsibility off to the Executive Branch, and then try to take credit for all that President Trump has done. Because our senator has failed to pass legislation, President Trump takes up the slack through executive action, and then Senator Barrasso takes credit for his effort.

In a constitutionally defined form of government, we’d have a senator that spent less time in front of the cameras and more time doing the hard work of writing legislation that can pass through our system of government. It may not be as much fun as TV appearances, but it is the job we’re paying him to do.

### 3) Describe your core values.

As it pertains to the job of a U.S. Senator, it is to fully embrace the notion of “public servant”. A senator is there to serve the people of his community, and every day as I put on my tie, I want to be thinking about how I can serve my constituents, what it is they need from me that day, and how best can I represent them. As a candidate, I have described this as “Put Wyoming First” and then backed it up in Dave’s Plan – which is available on my web site where I put forth a very specific plan to accomplish what I am committing to do.

Personally, I am a spiritual person, always have been. But I follow the constitution and embrace with pride how we as a country created a system of government that honored religious belief but insisted on separation of church and state.



#### 4) Where do you place yourself on the political, ideological spectrum?

True conservative. That's why I use the phrase "Reagan Republican". To me that means small government, fiscal responsibility, adherence to the constitution—none of which is happening to any great degree in our current Senate. A big reason I'm running for office.

But for me, being a "good republican" is also about a person's political work ethic. Ideology is fine for speeches and kitchen table debates – but if a senator can't convert those values into legislation that can get 60 votes in the senate, a majority in the House, and a president's signature – they are of no use to the families of Wyoming. This is what I mean by "public servant" and so I add to the list a willingness to work long and hard hours, and someone that can work with like-minded Democrats to pass legislation. This is why I created "Dave's Plan to Put Wyoming First" – because in politics we have too much "talking" and not enough "doing".

#### 5) There is a nationwide push that has now come to Wyoming for the creation/expansion of protected classes in the form of additional anti-discrimination laws. Considering that Article 1, Section's 2 and 3 of Wyoming's Constitution respectively state:

“In their inherent right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, all members of the human race are equal.” and, “Since equality in the enjoyment of natural and civil rights is only made sure through political equality, the laws of this state affecting the political rights and privileges of its citizens shall be without distinction of race, color, sex, or any circumstance or condition whatsoever other than individual incompetency, or unworthiness duly ascertained by a court of competent jurisdiction.”

What, if anything, should Wyoming do in this arena?

Uphold the constitution as written.

#### 6) What are your thoughts about funding and cultivating Wyoming's K-12 education?

My spending priorities are first public safety (fire, police, etc.) and then education. I would far prefer to drive through pot holes than short change our kid's education. Not only is it our civic duty, but today's 6<sup>th</sup> grader is tomorrow's economic engine. My mother was a small-town school teacher, and I also know from watching her that it all begins with quality teachers. I am also a fan of arts and music, as they teach practical applications of concepts like mathematics, and how to "think".

#### 7) Are you familiar with, and do you generally support or oppose, the Wyoming Education Association's position statements and legislative platform?



Yes.

## 8) What is your position on federal management of public lands in Wyoming?

Wyomingites overwhelmingly oppose the idea of turning over federal land to the state government. Like most of you, I grew up in this part of the country, and wouldn't trade all I have for selling off land owed to my grandchildren. We love our open spaces, our wide-open land is the main reason we live in Wyoming, but it also comes with generational responsibility. More than any time in our lives, those lands are at risk. I am against efforts that cuts off access to thousands of acres of our hunting, fishing, and recreational land or disrupting migration paths for our abundant wildlife and our way of life.

Having grown up around here, I have strong memories I have of hunting, fishing, riding, and camping with my father, and feel a responsibility to make sure the next generations get the same opportunity. Furthermore, our state already struggles to fund essential needs like education, road maintenance, and pay raises for state employees. Imagine the temptation if we give them the opportunity to raise money by selling or leasing land to billionaires and corporations to solve short term problems. We already rank dead last in the nation economically, are 47th in the nation for internet access, and despite the importance to our nation's transportation system, 36th in infrastructure.

To manage the lands currently held by the federal government would require we hire nine times the current land management staff, an increase of 10x the budget. I'd rather see the state focus on creating a healthy economy, fixing our healthcare mess, and rebuilding our infrastructure – than waste a decade in litigation and spend tens of millions of dollars in legal fees.

## 9) What is your view on the Federal debts/deficits and Wyoming's budget gap between proposed spending and revenue as they impact on our nation and state, and how will you address them as an elected official. What do you think about raising taxes to meet our state's projected budget shortfall?

The answer is to get once and for all serious about creating a healthy economy, which will expand our economic and tax base and solve the long-term problem. In "Dave's Plan to Put Wyoming First", I go into detail ten steps that will grow our economy from within, building upon our natural resources. I am opposed to paying millions of taxpayer dollars to seduce a few companies to come into our state – instead we should be using those resources to build internal capability (all outlined in detail in Dave's Plan).

## 10) Do you support or oppose an income tax for Wyoming? Why?

No, instead I think we should roll up our sleeves and create a healthy economy. We were dealt a straight flush with oil, gas, coal, trona, pasture land, etc. and have managed to lose the hand. It's not acceptable. Don't tax hardworking Wyomingites, fix the economy. All outlined in "Dave's Plan", on my website.



11) Do you support continued state funding to cities, towns, and counties?

As I am running for federal office, am not familiar enough with the funding to have an opinion except to say that we have about the worst score for transparency on how our money is spent in this state. If that were fixed, I'm sure the answer would become obvious.

12) When it comes to the state budget, what are your priorities? For example, Transportation, Education, University of Wyoming, Community Colleges, Agriculture, Department of Health, Game & Fish, etc.?

My spending priorities are first public safety (fire, police, etc.) and then education. I would far prefer to drive through pot holes than short change our kid's education.

13) In what instance(s) should the federal, state, or local government restrict the right to carry arms?

The Second Amendment provides for the right at a federal level (as articulated by Justice Scalia), and then it becomes a state responsibility to interpret that within the U.S. Constitution. I support Wyoming's current laws regarding firearms and would not see occasion to add additional restrictions.

14) For many years now, federal bureaucratic and regulatory actions are often initiated against Wyoming residents for issues related to what have been standard agricultural or energy production practices for decades, but now deemed recently as incompatible with federal policy by administrative edict. How would you as an elected official respond to instances of federal overreach?

If it is "overreach" then as a U.S. Senator I would first try to work cooperatively with the agency that had committed the overreach to walk back from those actions. If I was unable to do so in a cooperative manner, I'd then consider assisting in litigation or legislation – but only after negotiation and cooperative efforts had been exhausted. I've found in life the fastest path to get where you want to go is often by talking, listening, and cooperating.

15) Have you reviewed the 2018 Platform and Resolutions developed at convention by the Wyoming Republican Party?



Yes.

16) It is the rare Republican who agrees with our Platform 100%. Article 1, Paragraph 3 of the *2018 Bylaws of the Wyoming Republican Party* defines the role of the Republican Party as:

*3. Role*

1. The role of the Wyoming Republican Party is: to recruit citizens to join the Republican Party; to establish the Platform of the Wyoming Republican Party; to achieve the election of Republican candidates who substantially uphold the platform of the Wyoming Republican Party and to conduct the business of the Wyoming Republican Party.

What is your definition of the word “substantially”? Are there planks in the 2018 Platform with which you oppose to a level of non-support in legislation? Will you identify those during your campaign if asked by constituents?

To quote Ronald Reagan: “The person who agrees with you 80 percent of the time is a friend and an ally – not a 20 percent traitor” – 80% of the platform more than qualifies in my case.

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Candidate: \_\_\_\_\_

Office Running for: \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate’s Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



**NOTE:** Your submission via e-mail (allda@gmail.com) will serve as a signature, or if you chose to send the hard copy back, please sign and return to:

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