



Longleaf Pine REALTORS[®]

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2020 Candidate Questionnaire State Elections

How do you propose to get the North Carolina economy back on track after COVID-19 and prepare for the upcoming hurricane season?

We cannot get the economy back on track until we contain the COVID-19 virus. Many businesses that are open are really struggling because the public health situation is keeping customers away. We need to continue strongly pushing social distancing, mask-wearing, and handwashing to bring our COVID-19 spread back under control. Only then will business activity begin to recover, and we can safely open the highest risk activities.

To prepare for the upcoming hurricane season I will work with state and local Emergency Management authorities.

If elected, what are your thoughts on passing a budget?

I have always worked with Republicans and Democrats and think the best State Budget is one that reflects the best ideas of both parties. In the past, the voters elected a Democratic Governor and close Republican legislative majorities. Last session we should have passed a consensus State Budget.

If the voters re-elect Governor Cooper and elect Democratic majorities in 2020, I will still work for significant input from all members into the State Budget. That is how we can have the best ideas rise to the top.

Now that we almost have the private road NCDOT database, how would you prevent new orphan roads from occurring?

I will support the present legislative on the current database and reject any future legislation to change it at this time.

What do you think the General Assembly needs to be paying attention next year?

- Medicaid Expansion which will increase health care access in my district and bring thousands of health care jobs to my area.
- Greater investment in public schools, both from the State Budget and from a statewide infrastructure bond.
- Investment in rural broadband.

How can the State fast track broadband to rural areas?

- Increase grant funding to the Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology (GREAT) program
- Expand GREAT program to underserved areas, not just unserved areas
- Expand Telehealth initiatives
- Pass FIBER NC Act to allow counties and cities more leeway to expand broadband in their areas

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