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Q1

About Candidates

Candidate Name John Anderson

District Senate 49

Party Affiliation Republican

Campaign Website www.JohnAnderson4NCSenate.com

Q2

Q1. Please tell us about your personal experiences with nonprofits. These may include experiences with any organizations that have served you and/or fellow residents of your community, or specific nonprofits for which you've served as a board member, staff person, volunteer, or donor. How do these experiences shape your policy positions? (Limit: 300 words)

Starting in high school and in early college, I was a YMCA camp counselor at a summer mountain nature camp. We supported our children's development through years of boy and girl scouts. The last 20 years of my career were with CMTC, a 501(c)(3) with a mission to improve manufacturing, reduce environmental footprint, maintain and increase hi-paying jobs for the workforce and work with Community Colleges to improve skills and effectiveness of the workforce. As Director of Operations at CMTC we formed a network of 23 partners ranging from nonprofits, government agencies, economic development agencies, Community Colleges and Universities to collaborate to serve small-to medium size manufacturers in rural and urban areas. Results were measured quarterly for manufacturers served (500) cost savings (\$22 million) and job impact (8,000). Currently I volunteer at MANNA Food Bank and United Way as an avenue to give back to our community. I have a clear understanding of how beneficial nonprofits are to a community, region, state and nation. Because of this understanding, I am supportive of nonprofits because of their economic benefits, resources made available to communities and services provided to citizens.

Q3

Q2. If elected, what would be your top three policy priorities? (Limit: 250 words)

Education is the backbone of a society and a foundation of our future. Teachers need to be treated with respect and fairly compensated. I would actively support higher starting pay, annual step increases, with credit for advanced degrees. I also support funding for support staff such as, nurses, teaching assistants and councilors. Having student taught High School science, I am well aware of the demands on teachers and their dedication.

Infrastructure is the basics of what is needed to run a country; in order to thrive, North Carolina must be a leader in having and maintaining a first-class infrastructure. It includes, but is not limited to broadband access, roads, bridges, clean water, sewers, facilities such as schools and public safety and the environment. As an example of broadband need, the FCC reported:

- 70 percent of teachers assign homework requiring broadband
- 50 percent of students are unable to finish schoolwork because of no connection

Besides education, lack of broadband has also hurt telehealth, tourism, small businesses, and remote workers.

Environment and its protection is my life's work. As a mountain community, it's part of our values to keep our water and air clean. As a career environmental scientist, I have developed systems to combat pollution for the government, and worked on a national EPA effort which reduced energy consumption, minimized carbon footprints, and reduced pollution. With my degree in Biochemistry and a successful career in improving the environment, I bring a unique set of skills and knowledge for protecting our environment.

Q4

The Center advocates on public policy issues that affect North Carolina's nonprofit sector and works with the NC General Assembly and North Carolina's members of Congress to develop laws and policies that save nonprofits time and money, help nonprofits operate more effectively, and preserve the public's trust in North Carolina's nonprofit sector. Our policy agenda includes: Ensuring that all 501(c)(3) nonprofits are fully exempt from federal, state, and local taxes. Promoting new and expanded tax deductions and credits that encourage individuals and businesses to give generously to support their communities through the work of charitable nonprofits. Supporting policy solutions that will address the nonprofit workforce shortage, including increased funding to support jobs in the nonprofit sector and investment in accessible and affordable child care. Seeking solutions to long-standing challenges that nonprofits face when they provide public services through government grants and contracts, including late contracts, late payments, overly complicated application and reporting requirements, and underpayment for indirect costs. Promoting laws that will help nonprofits and businesses alike to provide affordable and high-quality health care and other benefits to their employees.Q3. If elected, which of these policy goals would you support most enthusiastically, and why? (Limit: 250 words)

Nonprofits are a valuable part of our economy and provide services that are unique and sometimes specialized to a disadvantaged community. I would support solutions to the issues outlined in the question. Removing administrative challenges would be a priority. I would also seek input from your organization and nonprofit entities for solutions. I would support removing barriers and impediments to operational excellence of the nonprofit community and efforts.