

1. Please provide some basic information about yourself.

Name: Kelley Dragoo

Position you're running for: Lieutenant Governor

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

Politicians no longer listen to the will of the people, instead they are obligated to their corporate donors. It is time to take action on the things the people are asking for, Universal Healthcare, Labor Rights, and Climate Action.

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?

Small businesses should be helped in every way possible, especially those which are actively engaging in hiring from diverse populations. Grant funding paid for by taxes on any larger tech businesses wishing to come into our city.

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?

As Lieutenant Governor I would help the legislature to craft a budget that prioritizes education, both primary and secondary, with an emphasis on technology that can help us through the climate crisis we are now facing.

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?

Vocational training. Teach people the skills they need to create the future we deserve.

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.

Universal Healthcare

Labor Rights - Benefits to all workers

Public Transportation - Creating a robust public transit system will allow us to mobilize quickly, sending medicine, food, and supplies when our state experiences worsening natural disasters.

The technology sector will be vital in utilizing existing technologies to build this infrastructure in a way that will work for Missouri.

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?

STEM is how we're going to get out of this mess.

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?

Green public transportation.

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?

Missouri never seems to engage with technology in the way other states do. I don't think this would be a priority in our legislature, but if it did come to it, I would need to gather more information on what Missouri citizens want.

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?

We need to be focusing on educational and vocational training in our budget as well as grants for smaller businesses in STEM fields.