

Focus® Middle Tennessee Candidate Survey 2018

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Q1

What is the name of the person answering this survey?

Michael J Shupe

Q2

If you are answering the survey but are not the candidate, by what authority are you answering this survey in the candidate's stead?

I am the candidate

Q3

What is the email address for the person completing this survey?

mshupe1959@yahoo.com

Q4

What is the candidate's name?

Michael J Shupe

Q5

Office for which candidate is running:

Congressman 4th Congressional District

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Q6

Candidate's email address:

mshupe1959@yahoo.com

Q7

What is the candidate's website?

www.facebook.com/mike-for-congress

Q8

Political affiliation:

Independent

Q9

Office and/or District(s) covered:

4th Congressional District

Q10

Has the candidate run for political office in the past?

No

Q11

For which office has the candidate run in the past?

n/a

Q12

Has the candidate held a political office in the past?

No

Q13

What political office(s) has the candidate held in the past?

n/a

Policy Questions

Q14

If a vote came up, would you vote to allow same-sex-couple adoption including joint adoption and second-parent adoption?

Yes

Q15

If given the opportunity, would you vote to fund more teacher education about youth LGBT+ issues and bullying of K-12 LGBT+ students?

Yes

Q16

If elected, will you make a point to work for the creation of genders and sexualities alliances (GSAs) and programs like GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network) in K-12 schools?

Yes

Candidate comments (optional):

I am not familiar with these programs, but would be interested in learning more.

Q17

If given the opportunity now, would you vote in favor of the Equality Act of 2015 including non-discrimination in employment, public education, housing, credit, etc.?

Yes

Q18

The United States has in the past joined other countries and recognized global human rights that protect LGBT+ individuals at risk for and/or seeking asylum from genital mutilation, imprisonment, and/or death. If a vote came up, would you vote to support these categories of global human rights and the asylum provided by the United States that would protect LGBT+ and Intersex individuals?

Yes

Q19

Some LGBT+ immigrants who are detained are not given access to appropriate healthcare and medications. Some transgender immigrants are misgendered and subsequently placed in incorrect populations. Support for these groups would include helping transgender immigrants obtain proper identification in relation to their gender identity. If a vote came up, would you vote in favor of immigration law that takes the special needs of these groups into consideration?

Yes

Q20

If a vote came up, would you vote to fully fund HIV/AIDS programs including education, research, and community outreach?

Yes

Q21

If a vote came up, would you vote to include LGBT+ questions/categories in the U.S. Census?

Yes

Candidate comments (optional):

I'm not sure if this would be necessary for strictly census purposes. I suppose it would depend on the specific questions. I would listen to reasoning for the questions.

Q22

There have been recent threats to reverse the decision by the Supreme Court requiring government employees to comply with the law to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples? If a vote came up again about this issue, would you vote to protect the Supreme Court's decision?

Yes

Q23

If given the authority, would you remove government workers from their jobs if they refuse to uphold the federal marriage equality law? For example, a county clerk who refuses to issue a marriage license to a same-sex couple.

Yes

Candidate comments (optional):

Any federal worker should be held to account for upholding any existing laws.

Q24

If a vote came up, would you vote to protect or improve nondiscrimination legislation that protects LGBT+ individuals in areas such as public accommodation, housing, and employment?

Yes

Q25

If a vote came up, would you oppose anti-transgender legislation including so-called "bathroom bills," nondiscrimination policies, healthcare policies, and workplace protections?

Yes

Q27

Many transgender/gender non-conforming individuals have difficulty obtaining updated birth certificates after transitioning because the state of TN prevents changing gender markers on birth certificates. This can affect their ability to get a voter ID card that best fits their new gender. Do you think that the law should be changed so that transgendered citizens can register to vote using the identification that fits their gender?

Yes

Q28

If a vote came up, would you vote in favor of allowing churches or businesses to continue the practice of gay conversion therapy?

No

Q29

If a vote came up, would you vote to support continuation of the DACA program?

Yes

Q30

If a vote came up, would you vote to provide financial support of Planned Parenthood?

No

Candidate comments (optional):

Depends on how the financial support was used. I completely understand the need for abortion in some circumstances, but I cannot condone abortion as a form of birth control.

Q31

Unlike the law in other states, Tennessee's Hate Crime Law (Tenn. Code §40-35-114(17): a) does not include gender identity/expression as a protected category, b) does not require that law enforcement collect and report hate crime data, and c) does not explicitly provide for law enforcement training on hate crimes. If given the opportunity, would you vote to revise the law and correct these three omissions?

Yes

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