

REPACCMO 2026 Candidate Questionnaire

Thank you for taking the time to complete our values questionnaire. Voters who rely on party affiliation deserve to know a Republican candidate's values align with their own, which is the purpose of this document. You will be presented with a series of statements. For each statement, choose either "Agree" or "Disagree". There is a comment box below the statement where you can add comments. Each statement is scored based on Republican Platform values, including the Amendments passed last year at the state convention. Comments can provide clarification, but will not affect your score. There are nine pages to this questionnaire with varying numbers of questions, plus a candidate statement at the end. Please allot approximately half an hour to forty-five minutes of time to complete the questionnaire. Also, if you are running for office at a local or county level, be sure to check with your central committee to see if they are doing any additional vetting. Obtaining a REPACCMO vetted logo does not guarantee the Central Committee's endorsement if they have an additional evaluation process.

Begin by providing the personal information requested below. Do not leave any information blank. All statements require a response, and the questionnaire cannot be submitted if there are omissions. Only Comments and the last page of Candidate Statement declarations are optional.

Name Philip J. Sherman

County Pettis

Please select one of the following options

I am/will be a candidate for state or federal office

If you are or will be a candidate for elected office, please enter the office you are seeking or type "none" if you are not seeking elected office.

State Representative for District 52

Healthcare

I support the following statements:

A1. Obamacare should be repealed, and we should move to a free market solution without government interference.

Agree

A1. Comment

Obamacare and it's 900 plus pages was only partially about healthcare to begin with.

A2. Abortion should be banned in Missouri with no exceptions.

Agree

A2. Comment

Absolutely, just like slavery used to exist, and the Democrat party was founded to keep it flourishing. Yesterday's slavery is today's abortion.

A3. As a first step towards banning abortions in Missouri, I would support the 2026 A3 Amendment which allows for exceptions in the case of rape, incest, and the life of the mother.

Disagree

A3. Comment

No, ALL human life is valuable. All babies are valuable ALIVE outside of the womb.

A4. Individuals who aid in abortion should be criminally prosecuted, including the mother.

Agree

A4. Comment

This is just another version of murder and it should be regarded as such under the law.

A5. Informed consent should be the cornerstone of all medical care choices, but may be suspended in cases of national or state emergencies.

Disagree

A5. Comment

Informed consent is never to be "suspended".

A6. Informed consent should be the cornerstone of all medical care choices.

Agree

A6. Comment

The patient must understand what kind of medical care is taking place. It's their body after all.

A7. Vaccine mandates are a necessary evil to minimize and lessen the chance of pandemics, but should also include exemptions for religious reasons.

Disagree

A7. Comment

Vaccine mandates are never the correct, especially if we believe in Freedom in this great country.

SECOND AMENDMENT

I support the following statements:

B1. All citizens should be able to own and carry firearms with no restrictions.

Agree

B1. Comment

"Shall not be infringed" is what the second amendment itself says. That is the very definition of what this question as a statement would mean.

B2. It is government's role to place restrictions on some types of weapons and accessories for the safety of all.

Disagree

B2. Comment

This goes against the actual language of the Second Amendment.

B3. It is necessary for government to implement licensing and restrictions to protect against crimes such as mass shootings and to control firearms sales.

Disagree

B3. Comment

“Shall not infringe” is pretty straightforward.

B4. Restrictions on magazine capacity is a reasonable approach to dangerous situations like mass shootings or confrontations with law enforcement.

Disagree

B4. Comment

“Shall not infringe” means don’t create any legislation that reduces this.

B5. I support all aspects of Missouri's SAPA law.

Agree

B5. Comment

100%

B6. Elected officials have the right to make and change gun laws as society's needs change.

Disagree

B6. Comment

“Shall not infringe”

B7. Red flag laws are a necessary evil to protect Missouri citizens.

Disagree

B7. Comment

This is how a slippery slope is started.

TAXATION & PROPERTY RIGHTS

I support the following statements:

National

C1. Any Change to the federal tax system should include a requirement for a balanced budget with caps on debt.

Agree

C1. Comment

100%

Debt is not a good thing.

The Bible says owe no man anything, but love.

That is my stance. I will go with what God says every single time.

C2. The IRS should be eliminated and taxation should be based on a national sales tax.

Agree

C2. Comment

I like this idea. I am very much opposed to the IRS, which was formed in 1913 at the same time as the Federal Reserve and that we changed how we get our U.S. Senators.

In Article I, section 9, the Constitution says:

"No Capitation, or other direct, Tax shall be laid, unless in Proportion to the Census or enumeration herein before directed to be taken."

C3. Any change to the federal tax system must include a repeal of the 16th Amendment that established the federal income tax.

Agree

C3. Comment

We don't need to leave any reasoning for something like the idea of the IRS any where in the Constitution.

C4. EPA regulations are necessary to protect our natural resources.

Disagree

C4. Comment

Nowhere in the Constitution will you find the idea for the EPA.

We should be able to protect our natural resources on an individual basis.

C5. To run the government, a progressive tax more fairly shares the burden of taxing the people.

Disagree

C5. Comment

Everyone should pay the same percentage on any and every tax.

Taxes need not discriminate against anyone.

State

C6. Only US citizens should be allowed to own property in Missouri.

Disagree

C6. Comment

Some people live here legally and are not yet citizens. They also deserve the same chance to own property, if they have the money.

But we don't have to let people who don't live here own property here.

And definitely say no to illegal immigrants trying to buy land.

People should have to be vetted.

C7. Eminent Domain is necessary to improve the community as a whole.

Disagree

C7. Comment

Eminent Domain is seldom necessary and is a last ditch effort to get land that the government

infrastructure believes is necessary.
The government can always pay a premium price, as long as the property owner is willing to sell. This goes to the heart of personal property rights, which are key to our rights in America.

C8. The Missouri budget is out of control. Real cuts have to be made, and we need more federal contributions to make up any shortfalls.

Disagree

C8. Comment
Yes, the Missouri budget is out of control, but no, we don't need to have a bigger reliance on federal tax dollars in order to feed our budget.

C9. It is necessary for government to grow as our population and its needs expand.

Disagree

C9. Comment
Government infrastructure should remain small and should be much smaller than those it represents.

C10. Real Estate and personal property taxes are necessary to fund government needs.

Disagree

C10. Comment
Personal property taxes are not necessary and is equivalent to paying annual rent on your vehicles.

C11. Real estate and personal property taxes should be eliminated and replaced with a consumption (sales) tax.

Agree

C11. Comment
This way, the more you buy, the more you pay.

C12. The elimination of state income tax is on the right track if it is coupled with spending cuts.

Agree

C12. Comment
Another tax we don't need. There's a school of thought that less is more.

C13. Missouri should have a state version of DOGE, with authority to recommend or eliminate state funded agencies, budget items, positions within government, and other wasteful spending items in the budget.

Agree

C13. Comment
We need to discover, expose, and expel any and all forms of fraud, waste, and abuse that we have here in the State of Missouri.

C14. Any elimination of tax burdens should prioritize real estate and personal property taxes before state income tax.

Disagree

C14. Comment

No, we just need to put an axe to all of these tax burdens at the same time.

GLOBAL ISSUES

I support the following statements:

D1. Organizations such as the UN and NATO are good because they provide a platform for global discussions.

Disagree

D1. Comment

We are a Sovereign nation.

D2. The EPA is necessary to control bad actors and safeguard an acceptable environment for everyone.

Disagree

D2. Comment

This is government overreach.

D3. Government regulations are an impediment to the development and growth of an economy.

Agree

D3. Comment

We need very limited regulations.

D4. Chemical spraying of our atmosphere must be completely eliminated.

Agree

D4. Comment

Absolutely, there is no need to poison people.

D5. Missouri should declare its sovereign rights over any global organization attempting control.

Agree

D5. Comment

Absolutely, we are a sovereign state.

D6. Missouri should work with global organizations for better economic and environmental outcomes.

Disagree

D6. Comment

No, Missouri should spread its wings as a Sovereign state.

EDUCATION & FAMILY

I support the following statements:

E1. School Choice & SSA accounts should be an option for education of our children.

Agree

E1. Comment

We should allow people to freely choose where their children are educated by allowing them to use the education tax dollars they pay to put their children in the best learning environment possible.

E2. School's must develop and publish policy on social issues and those are the rules that are to be followed for that school. Such rules must take into account students' unique backgrounds and individual needs to ensure all students feel safe and acknowledged.

Disagree

E2. Comment

Schools are there to teach the core subjects and facts so that the kids will become smart, responsible adults who contribute to the world around them.

E3. DESE should be eliminated. Curriculum should be determined locally.

Agree

E3. Comment

I absolutely 100% agree.

This is why we have school boards, which are elected by the people.

E4. To protect the privacy of the child, school counselors cannot always share information with the child's parents.

Disagree

E4. Comment

Answer: The children belong to the parents, not the school. The children should not have any privacy from their parents, while they are minors and are entrusted to their parents.

E5. Whether a child receives vaccinations is the right of the parents alone to decide.

Agree

E5. Comment

In America, we believe in freedom and liberty. The children belong to their parents.

E6. The Missouri Constitution should be amended to allow marriage between two consenting adults.

Disagree

E6. Comment

Our creator created us male and female.
This is stated both in Genesis 1:27 and Matthew 19:4.

E7. The Department of Education must be eliminated and national curriculum rejected.

Agree

E7. Comment

We the People have duly elected school boards representing each school district.
That is where the responsibility is supposed to be for everything our schools teach.

IMMIGRATION & CRIME

I support the following statements:

F1. Missouri should work with ICE as needed to remove all illegals from our state.

Agree

F1. Comment

Missouri shouldn't start there. Missouri needs to go ahead and take the first steps to get rid of any illegal immigrants who are in the state of Missouri.
That could also be the first step to discovering any fraud that's going on in the state of Missouri.

F2. Children born in this country are US citizens even if their parents are not.

Disagree

F2. Comment

The whole idea of "Birthright citizenship" came from a footnote in a U.S. Supreme Court case. Someone born here whose parents are not citizens has no legal standing in America; just like with any other country.

F3. Immigration amnesty should include people here illegally if they have not broken any laws.

Disagree

F3. Comment

The mere fact that they are here illegally means they have broken the law.

F4. Missouri voter roles must be purged so that only US Citizens can vote on any issue in Missouri

Agree

F4. Comment

Absolutely. There's enough fraud without making sure their all citizens.

F5. Employers who hire illegal aliens should face stiff penalties.

Agree

F5. Comment

All employees have to go through the I9 process in order to be hired.

F6. Missouri should welcome and protect all non-citizens regardless of how they entered the country, if they want to be part of the American Dream of freedom and opportunity.

Disagree

F6. Comment

No, America has the final say over whether people are allowed in this country or not.

F7. Cashless bail should be eliminated from our judicial and law enforcement process.

Agree

F7. Comment

Cashless bail is not constitutional.

ELECTION INTEGRITY

I support the following statements:

G1. All forms of electronic voting equipment must be eliminated.

Agree

G1. Comment

All electronic machines are able to access the internet and thereby can include fraud.

G2. All election results should be tabulated through hand counting by bi-partisan teams.

Agree

G2. Comment

This would help ensure fraud does not gain a foothold in our elections.

G3. Hand counting does nothing to ensure election integrity as people can cheat. Electronic is more secure.

Disagree

G3. Comment

Hand counting does not have access to the internet, which is absolutely necessary to the process and integrity of voting.

G4. Any hand counting of ballots must also be backed up by tabulator scans to confirm/audit totals and should be done by a separate team.

Disagree

G4. Comment

Tabulators have been used to add votes as well.

G5. Mail-in voting should be expanded to six weeks to ensure all who wish to vote have a chance to do so.

Disagree

G5. Comment

There are currently state statutes in place to ensure that nobody can be kept from voting by their employer.

G6. Voter rolls should be totally purged after each presidential election cycle and people required to re-register.

Disagree

G6. Comment

While the voter rolls certainly need to be regularly cleaned, you should never have to be removed as long as you're still living at the same place.

G7. Primary ballots should be available only to voters whose registered party affiliation matches the ballot they have chosen (closed primaries).

Agree

G7. Comment

We have primaries to ensure there aren't an obnoxious number of candidates in the general election. You should have to pick which party you are with, but of course, you should be able to later change parties.

G8. Mail-in voting should be eliminated except for overseas military.

Agree

G8. Comment

The only group of people I can see an exception being made for are the physical handicapped.

G9. Any mail in balloting must arrive before election day and remain sealed until counted on election day.

Agree

G9. Comment

Otherwise, fraud always comes into play.

STATE SOVEREIGNTY

I support the following statements:

H1. The 10th Amendment to the US Constitution only applies where Congress has not passed laws to the contrary.

Disagree

H1. Comment

The U.S. Constitution disagrees with this statement.

H2. Missouri's tax funded agencies perform valuable services to our citizens and should receive priority funding when the annual budget is prepared.

Disagree

H2. Comment

The state statutes and the state Constitution should be followed when constructing the annual state budget.

H3. Missouri's governor and attorney general have a duty to push back on federal overreach, especially when state sovereignty is threatened.

Agree

H3. Comment
Yes, they must work to represent Missouri First.

H4. We should legally challenge the federal government when mandates are issued that affect Missourians.

Agree

H4. Comment
We should not be in support of dollars from the federal government being tied to actions we must take in order to get the money.

H5. Federal and/or state mandates must be enforced to ensure the safety of all Missouri residents.

Disagree

H5. Comment
In America, we believe in freedom, which is contrary to mandates.

MISCELLANEOUS

I support the following statements:

Legislative & Judiciary

I1. The Missouri Plan for selection of judges for the MO Supreme and Appellate courts ensures quality candidates are considered for these two courts.

Disagree

I1. Comment
The Missouri Plan does not the governor to freely pick the best person for the job.

I2. Bills that are filed and final legislation that is perfected and passed must adhere to the single subject rule of the MO Constitution.

Agree

I2. Comment
This is in the Missouri State Constitution for a reason.

Party Values

I3. Candidates should only be allowed to file for office under a political party's name if the majority of the candidate's values align with the party's current platform that is in effect when the candidate filed for office.

Agree

I3. Comment

This is a must in order to make sure you don't have people falsely claiming to be of a particular political party.

I4. If the majority of an elected official's voting record does not reflect the party's stated platform values, the party should refuse to allow that individual to file with their party in the future.

Agree

I4. Comment

Parties are privately controlled.

They should have full freedom over who can represent their party.

I5. If elected, I pledge that I will abstain from accepting monetary donations or gifts from lobbyists.

Agree

I5. Comment

I don't even see a reason to take a meeting with most lobbyists.

CANDIDATE STATEMENT

You have indicated your desire to run for elected office as a member of the Missouri Republican Party ("Party"). By signing this Statement, you are attesting that the majority of your values are in alignment with the Party's, as enumerated by the Party Platform, together with the Amendments passed at last year's state convention ("Platform"). The affixing of your signature on this Statement is an affirmation to both Missouri voters and Party committee men and women that your actions, bills, and votes (collectively "Performance") as an elected official will honor the Platform values you are indicating align with your own.

You also understand numerous court rulings have indicated if a candidate files with a party whose values (s)he does not share, said candidate is committing a fraud and deceit upon the voting public. (See SCOTUS Justice Antonin Scalia delivering majority opinion in *California Democratic Party v. Jones*, 530 U.S. 567 (2000)) The oral delivery of the opinion can be heard at this link: <https://www.oyez.org/cases/1999/99-401>.)

Candidates wishing to represent the Republican Party through elected office are expected to check the boxes below that you agree with, and you must sign this Statement as part of REPACCMO's vetting process. If your Central Committee is doing mandatory vetting, they may have adopted a policy of rejecting the filing fee of those county candidates who do not successfully complete the REPACCMO vetting process. If your filing fee is rejected, that also serves as the Party's rejection of your ability to file as a Republican candidate at the county level. Therefore, you should check with your central committee chair to determine their policy. You can find your county's chair and contact information at this link: <https://www.repaccmo.com/cc> REPACCMO makes the results of your Candidate Questionnaire available to central committees.

If you are an incumbent with a voting record, as part of the REPACCMO evaluation, we will check that record. We utilize three independent scoring services, Freedom Principle of MO, Freedom Index, and CPAC. If you have at least a C- from two of the three services, at least a C- on this questionnaire, and no felony convictions in the State of Missouri, you will earn a REPACCMO VETTED logo which can be used on marketing materials. Your completed questionnaire will be placed on our REPACCMO website, and voters will be able to view your positions on the statements you have answered.

We thank you for your commitment to being open and honest with voters about your values and

positions. Good luck in your campaign for office, and thank you for participating in REPACCMO vetting. Together, we are building a Republican Party whose members and representatives support the values expressed by the Party's platform. Republican voters deserve no less.

Please check each statement below that you agree with.

I have read completely the current Platform, including Amendments, and affirm the majority of my values align with it. (The platform and amendments passed by the 2024 Missouri State Convention delegates can be found at this link: <https://www.repaccmo.com/mo-republican-platform>)

Agree

If elected or re-elected, I will adhere to the Platform tenets in my capacity as an elected official. I understand I am expected to support the principles of the Platform, and if my elected position casts votes, the Platform will be a guide for my voting decisions. My Performance will reflect my belief in the Party's values as enumerated in the Platform.

Agree

I understand being a Republican elected official means I am a representative of the Party's values. I will listen to my Party's input, and my Performance will reflect my support of Republican values over those of special interest groups, lobbyists, and/or my own desires for career advancement in politics or otherwise. I will ensure my Performance brings honor to my office and does not compromise any aspect of the duties required by my elected office. "Party interest" does not mean nor would it include compromising my legal responsibilities.

Agree

In my capacity as an elected official, I understand I am expected to honor the Platform by performing my duties in an impartial manner, without regard to race, ethnicity, or religion. I will favor equality over equity. If my elected office is judicial, I shall not legislate from the bench or use my authority to favor one party over another, but rather be guided by established judicial principles. This principle of equality under the law is in compliance with the Party's Platform.

Agree

I expect the Party will carefully watch my voting record (if my elected position casts votes) to monitor adherence to the Platform. If my Performance deviates from the Platform, I understand I may be contacted by members of the Party for an explanation. If my Performance continues to reflect my disregard for the tenets of the Platform I have said I support, I further understand the Party has the right to refuse to allow me to file as a Republican for any future elected office, regardless of the office sought.

Agree

I understand this Questionnaire is only one part of a multipart process the Party's vetting committee may utilize in determining my eligibility to run for elected office as a Republican. Signing this Statement offers no guarantee of acceptance of my filing fee for county level office. If my filing fee is rejected, I understand it is also the official Party rejection of my ability to register as a Republican candidate for the political office being sought. (I know I would still be able to file with another party or as an Independent.) Additionally, I understand there may be central committees who elect to offer speaking engagements for community events only to candidates who have gone through their vetting process.

I understand

Revised Statutes of Missouri (RSMo) 115.357 stipulates you cannot appear on any ballot using the Party's name until the appropriate Committee Treasurer has accepted your filing fee. Giving your fee to any other individual does NOT mean your fee has been accepted by the Party. Fees paid to any other individual, such as directly to the election authority, can be returned uncashed, and the Party can reject your candidacy which prevents you from filing as a Republican. For county offices, contact the central committee chair to determine their process which may include paying the filing fee ONLY to the committee treasurer. (See MO case law 24VE-CV00185)

I understand

By typing your full name below, you are acknowledging your agreement with the statements checked above.

Philip John Sherman

Add any final comments here.

Thank you for Vetting Candidates.

A3. As a first step towards banning abortions in Missouri, I would support the 2026 A3 Amendment which allows for exceptions in the case of rape, incest, and the life of the mother.

Disagree