

## GCAP 2018 Candidates' Questionnaire

*Economy: Everyone benefits from a strong economy. How can your priorities grow the economy in Pennsylvania?*

Since my election to the House of Representatives and now as a State Senator, my priorities which include job creation, job retention, job training and creating a business friendly Commonwealth, have been consistent and I have and will continue to build on progress. I have been a strong supporter of initiatives that benefit our economy in Pennsylvania and continue to review how my votes or legislation effect future growth. As a supporter of Act 89 of 2013, providing for increased and growing long-term funding for Pennsylvania's transportation system, including highways, roads, bridges and mass-transit among other things, I have observed how my vote supported the construction industry, created jobs, allowed our economy to grow and most importantly allowed us to continue to show why we are referred to as the Keystone State.

*Workforce Development: The construction industry workforce in Pennsylvania is currently facing some challenges to attract workers. How would you address this issue?*

I have been a very strong supporter of workforce development including, advocating and spearheading the creation of a full-day vocational and technical education program in my legislative district. We have to continue to support workforce development through funding initiatives and partnerships with the public and private sector.

*Additionally, it appears every legislative session that Prevailing Wage is under attack. Lowering workers' wages may not be an ideal approach to attract future workers. Where do you stand on Prevailing Wage?*

In many states that repealed "prevailing wage" laws, wages fell and project costs grew after prevailing wage was eliminated. Prevailing wage keeps money local and more times than not, those dollars are spent in the community. In addition, prevailing wage contractors are more likely to hire apprentices and in doing that, we are building our future workforce. A strong economy builds a strong and vibrant economy. In looking at any future legislation, we need to look at how we can help contractors, keep project costs low and create an environment where prevailing wage can continue to provide benefits to all construction industry stakeholders. Benefits of prevailing wage include competitive wages, increased apprenticeship and access to healthcare. I support the benefits of prevailing wage and would not be in favor of elimination.

*Construction Practices: GCAP believes in having the freedom of choice concerning construction delivery method. The Separations Act is an archaic mandate enacted in 1913 that only allows for one delivery system--Multiple Prime Delivery. Due to the inefficiencies of Multiple Primes, this delivery system is only required in three states; meanwhile 47 states, the federal government, and the private sector all benefit from choice in construction delivery. What are your thoughts on the modernization of the Separations Act? (Since this is such an industry-specific question, please do not hesitate to contact GCAP for additional information on this topic):*

As with any law that is archaic, modernization is most often necessary in order to effect a positive impact. In the construction industry, time is money and delays in project completion results in those jobs being over-budget. While in some cases, multiple prime delivery can be a good option, the construction industry has evolved dramatically since 1913, and there are other delivery options which might be more suitable depending on the project.

I support modernization of the Separations Act **including increasing thresholds for multiple-prime delivery and/or** allowing the Pennsylvania construction industry to have more choices in project delivery. **Ultimately, I am willing to sit down with the industry on any suggestions they might have.**

*GCAP members are renowned for having a safety-first mentality. Due to the opioid epidemic, workers and the general public are put in harm's way. How can you help on this issue?*

I have supported and continue to support legislation to address the opioid epidemic. GCAP members are on the ground and as a legislator, I believe it is important to listen to those who are on the ground and provide the tools necessary to ensure their safety. We must collectively work together to address the opioid epidemic.

*General: If you win this election in 2018, what will your legacy be in 20 years from now?*

As a legislator, you will find that I am very hands-on in my legislative district when it comes to bringing people together to execute projects, create jobs and support economic growth. This hands-on approach is something I take great pride in and I hope to continue to establish myself as a legislator who has vision for the future, modernize our laws to support future growth and continue to cultivate a business friendly environment here in the Commonwealth. Passing legislation and or reforming regulatory red tape to offer more efficiency within the construction industry would not only be valuable for GCAP members, it would have a positive chain reaction across all business sectors. As mentioned earlier in this questionnaire, my priorities of creating jobs, ensuring job retention, offering job training and creating an economy where businesses (especially in the construction industry) can thrive is the legacy I would like to leave behind.

