

House District 42 includes much of west-central Laramie County, from Lodgepole Creek

in the north to Interstate 80 in the south and from Interstate 25 in the east to the county line

in the west. The seat is currently held by Rep. Jim Blackburn, R-Cheyenne.

Election 2016 Q&A

House District 42

The Wyoming Tribune Eagle also reached out to incumbent candidate Jim Blackburn, but he did not respond.



JULIET DANIELS (D)

Q: What do you think are the biggest issues Wyoming faces?

The greatest challenge Wyoming faces right now is meeting the diverse needs and expectations of Wyomingites while experiencing a severe financial crisis. This crisis will affect the ability of Wyomingites to provide for their families and will challenge Wyoming's infrastructure of both public and private support services.

Q: Do you support or oppose Medicaid expansion? Why?

I support Medicaid expansion. It will help about 20,000 uninsured Wyomingites directly. It will reduce the burden on our publicly funded hospitals. It will bring additional revenue into Wyoming and offset reductions in state revenues. It is money that Wyomingites have already paid and should be brought back to Wyoming.

Q: Do you support the development of alternative energy in Wyoming? How?

I support the development of alternative energy. Support for this and other targeted industries is done through creating an industry-friendly regulatory and tax environment while balancing Wyoming's other needs. Providing funding for research and technical support and ensuring we have a prepared workforce would also be needed.

Q: How should Wyoming compensate for lost revenue from the fossil fuel industry?

In the short run, we will need to make strategic budget cuts that ensure necessary services continue to be provided to Wyomingites. Simultaneously, we should strategically utilize the rainy-day fund to stabilize our revenues over the long run while ensuring that our spending does not jeopardize long term sustainability.

Q: How do you think the state should respond to major infrastructure issues, such as roads and building maintenance?

They should be prioritized by considering the threat to health and safety as well as the likelihood of disproportionately higher future cost due to lack of maintenance. They should also be prioritized compared to other needed expenditures in the state and postponed if necessary and prudent.

Q: Why should voters select you over your opponent?

I am committed to working to make Wyoming a better place to live and am willing to learn about and work on all the problems affecting Wyoming's citizens. I'm committed to finding solutions that best balance the needs of diverse interests through analysis and engaging people in solution development.

Q: Do you support or oppose a ban on discrimination in housing and employment for LGBT Wyomingites? Why?

Support ban. Discrimination is wrong and bad for all Wyomingites.

Q: What are your opinions about marijuana legalization, whether for medical or recreational use?

Legalization should be based upon science and potential for public harm or benefit, otherwise the state should not be involved.

Q: Do you think marijuana possession should be decriminalized for small amounts?

Yes. It's more cost effective to provide help than imprisonment.

Q: Describe your political views.

Moderate who recognizes that people on both sides of an issue have needs that need to be recognized and addressed.