

Answers from Eric Weaknecht

1.) Do you believe the state election system is secure as is, or if not, what changes would you want to make?

Answer: While our state election system has key safeguards in place, there's always room for improvement to ensure it remains secure and trustworthy for every voter. As a strong advocate for election integrity, I believe we should implement common-sense measures to protect against any potential vulnerabilities. This includes expanding voter ID requirements, ensuring that our voter rolls are accurately maintained, and increasing transparency in the process. These reforms will give Pennsylvanians confidence that their votes are counted fairly, without any doubt.

At the end of the day, it's all about preserving the integrity of our democracy and making sure every legal vote counts while preventing any opportunity for fraud or abuse.

2.) What 3 steps would you take to put our state on a better financial footing-ie- property tax reform, attracting businesses or a skilled and talented workforce?

Answer: To improve Pennsylvania's financial footing, I will focus on three key steps. First, I will advocate for property tax reform to eliminate burdensome taxes that disproportionately affect families and seniors, seeking alternative funding solutions for schools and services. Second, I will create a more business-friendly environment by reducing unnecessary regulations and taxes, implementing incentives to attract new businesses, boosting job creation, and enhancing our tax base. Finally, I will invest in workforce development by prioritizing vocational training and apprenticeship programs to ensure a skilled workforce for high-demand jobs. Together, these steps will strengthen our economy and secure a brighter financial future for all residents.

3.) What are your top 3 priorities if elected/re-elected to office?

Answer: As your next State Representative, my top three priorities will be protecting the Second Amendment, supporting small business owners, and eliminating property taxes. I will always stand firm against any attempts to infringe upon our God-given right to bear arms because I believe in empowering law-abiding citizens to protect themselves and their families. Additionally, our small businesses are the backbone of our economy, and I will work tirelessly to reduce burdensome regulations, cut unnecessary taxes, and create an environment where our local businesses can thrive, ultimately creating jobs and stimulating economic growth. Finally, property taxes place an unfair burden on hardworking families and seniors. I will advocate for reforms to eliminate property taxes and explore alternative funding solutions for our schools and local services. Together, we can create a stronger, safer, and more prosperous Pennsylvania for all!

Answers from Neil Young

What is your view on the current immigration status?

Unacceptable. HB 2 passed the house in 2023 but was watered down in the Senate. A secure border means asylum seekers remain in Mexico or present at port of entry, Employers use e-verify, border patrol is increased, and a wall is built. It does not mean we negotiate how many people can illegally cross until we decide to shut it down.

What is your plan to deal with our dept crisis with the interest of the being \$1B a day?

Spend less money, promise fewer handouts, increase American manufacturing, unlock energy potential to generate revenue, ensure only legal immigrants come into our country.

What agenda or policies would you like to achieve elected/re-elected to office?

I would like to oversee the passage of a parents bill of rights in education so that if public schools fail, parents have viable options to ensure their kid's academic needs are being met.

Answers from Stacy Garrity

1. What qualifies you to be the top financial officer in the state?

I bring to this office a combination of discipline and mission-forward focus developed during a career in the U.S. Army Reserves, including three tours of duty in Iraq, where I was awarded two Bronze Stars and the Legion of Merit. At home, I developed business and financial skills as one of the first women to rise to the rank of vice-president at Global Tungsten, a Pennsylvania-based metals firm doing business around the world.

My experience in office has been guided by a taxpayer-centered policy of maximizing earnings on state investments while respecting the values of our commonwealth. As such, I have worked with members of both parties to reform the investment policies of our two state pension boards, established new records for the return of lost and abandoned property, reduced fees for participants of our PA 529 college savings program while earning its first-ever Gold rating from Morningstar, the investment ratings agency.

2. What are your top 3 priorities if you are elected/re-elected?

My priorities are to build on my office's success in returning unclaimed property, characterized by my advocacy for legislation that allows Treasury to proactively return this property to its rightful owners. Additionally, I plan to continue expansion of our PA ABLE Program which allows Pennsylvanians with special needs to earn income without losing benefits - a program that provides both a higher standard of living and the dignity of work for those who are able to participate in the workforce. It is also my plan to intensify the laser focus Treasury now has in maximizing earnings on investments of the approximately \$50 billion in discretionary revenue overseen by Treasury.

3. What are a couple practical ways to help struggling citizens in this economic climate?

The State Treasurer doesn't have a vote on laws in the legislature. However, I make it a priority to speak with Pennsylvanians in every corner of Pennsylvania about their concerns and ideas for how to strengthen Pennsylvania's economy. I have visited all 67 counties every year, and these conversations have provided invaluable insight that I am eager to share with members of the state house and senate.

One practical way my office helps folks cope with the current economic climate is through the return of unclaimed property. Typically in the form of money, this influx of cash can help to mitigate the effects of inflation. While this is money that belongs to the folks that it is being returned to, it is one practical way that my office can help get additional funds into the hands of my fellow Pennsylvanians. And we have done an extraordinary job in doing so: last year, my office broke the record for the most amount of unclaimed property returned in a single year - \$273 million.