**Robert Nelson write-in candidate State Representative District 16**

 EDUCATION. In an age dominated by complex science and technology, how can we ensure that students receive adequate STEM educations?

Science Technology Engineering and Math curriculums in our schools must be legislated and fully funded. I support developing an education system that prepares our children for the 21st Century. We need a curriculum that teaches STEM as well as critical thinking; financial literacy as well as the arts.

 FOOD & WATER. How would you manage Kentucky’s agriculture so it provides healthy and affordable food grown in an ethical and sustainable way? What should government do to ensure access to clean water?

I support growing a state-wide local food system. We need to make sure family farms are profitable and that we can continue our state’s great farming tradition.  Update water treatment facilities. Strong control over what is released into our environment in regard to pollutants that harm water supplies.

 ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT: With nonrenewable resources [on the decline in Kentucky](http://energy.ky.gov/Coal%20Facts%20Library/Kentucky%20Quarterly%20Coal%20Report%20(Q4-2017).pdf), how do we create a sustainable Kentucky? What are your stances on: hydraulic fracturing, nuclear, and renewable energy sources? What are your views on climate change, and how would they affect your energy policies?

I am committed to getting 50 percent of our electricity from clean energy sources within a decade. Wind generators and solar panels could produce enough renewable energy to power every home in the country. We should  cut energy waste in Kentucky/American homes, schools, hospitals, and offices through energy efficient improvements; modernize our electric grid; and make American manufacturing the cleanest and most efficient in the world. These efforts will create millions of new jobs and save families and businesses money on their monthly energy bills. We can transform American transportation by reducing oil consumption through cleaner fuels, vehicle electrification increasing the fuel efficiency of cars, boilers, ships, and trucks. We can make new investments in public transportation and build bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure across our urban and suburban areas.

Climate change is an urgent threat and a defining challenge of our time. I support targeting financial reinvestment into coal communities. They should decide how this reinvestment is prioritized.

 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY: How do you balance economic stability with environmental health and conservation?

 I support investments in education, quality of life, and the things that make our Commonwealth unique. If you live in an area where jobs are disappearing, it’s our responsibility to help attract new jobs to the area.I also support job creation through investments in Kentucky’s roads, bridges, schools, and community centers. There’s no reason that we should have crumbling infrastructure *and* people looking for work

 SCIENTIFIC INTEGRITY. How will you foster a culture that respects scientific evidence and protects scientists? What role(s) specifically, if any, should government play in stimulating innovative science and technology so we continue to benefit from them?

  I support the manufacturing of new energy technology in our state. Our state’s labor powered the nation for over a century — and we must continue that tradition as technology advances.