

Dubuque Area Chamber alignment responses:

Candidate Sean Schriver Iowa House District 71

- 1.) No, I do not have legislative experience and I would like to point out, most candidates do not prior to entering a political race.
- 2.) Yes, My wife and I founded and operate a small Urban Farmstead, ReEvolution Farms, Located in Dubuque's North End neighborhood. I have also operated 3 grass roots part time businesses including concert and event promotions, Custom woodworking and Laser Engraving/cutting and a startup small scale indoor mushroom production since merged with ReEvolution Farmstead.
- 3.) As a new Candidate without having the opportunity to engage with local constituents well prior to the open filing date, I am committed to seeing Clinical use of Psychedelics in mental health care in Iowa, Protection of 2nd amendment rights in Iowa, and both Parental School Choice and Universal School Access (USA) in Iowa
- 4.) I neither support nor oppose TIF or TID use. TIF and TID can be an appropriate tool to relieve Blighted areas or properties but can also be used to leverage an unfair advantage in marketplace competition and can be used inappropriately if not managed correctly resulting in leached workforce participation and appropriation of funds from civic allocated funds. I would approach each use with skepticism until vetted for appropriate use.
- 5.) I would encourage the assessment of our strongest features and capabilities and focus talent attraction towards those current businesses or attracting new businesses that would employ existing or developing talent. I would also look for businesses that were willing to invest in the local community and local workforce training and recruitment themselves, with sponsorship of local education or training programs to help foster quality employees and employees with skills they are looking for besides the opportunities in various industries Iowa can provide.
- 6.) I would encourage a thorough assessment of our top performing industries and potential for industries that our community and state can provide. I would encourage redirecting our training programs efforts towards those industries to ensure that the institution is capitalizing on those market opportunities for their students' successful integration upon graduation. I would also encourage partnership and investment in employee development by the industry participants to take an active role in support of our communities and institutions successful development of graduates that would assure a direct route to employment within those industries. This could be in the form of community investment to attract and retain new and transitioning workforce candidates and specifically, develop investment partnerships between employer and educator to help relieve the challenges of obtaining relevant skills training.
- 7.) I would encourage businesses seeking employees to invest in on-site child care or, provide discounts at partnering childcare providers to enable more successful participation. I would also encourage year round schooling to maximize the benefit of student retention and relieve the seasonal burden and resulting scramble as parents struggle to find temporary childcare during summer months. Regarding transportation, I would encourage employers to formulate ride share or carpooling options or, analyze the possibility of temporary vehicle rental much like you would find in larger urban areas to enable workers to not have to rely on common scheduling of other workers and to prevent the worker from having to invest in their own transportation. This would also encourage a more sustainable and environmentally sound answer to automotive pollution and unnecessary investment of critical household funds. Housing continues to be a

national issue with increased housing market costs, high interest rates, and inflation. This has resulted in fewer buyers and available options for workers to purchase single family homes and has enabled landlords the opportunity to further congest the housing market by absorbing available housing but still provides the opportunity to gain housing however that housing may or may not be “affordable” or of relevant value. Given our market based system, I do not believe government can or should intercede in a market based system. This issue is nationwide and market based. I do not see where government can intercede without further upsetting the balance but I would be open to engaging in discussions of proposed solutions.

- 8.) I don't believe the state has a role in this. If local business is not generating enough demand for local air services, the businesses need to utilize those services to create the demand for retention. It's also the responsibility of those air services to convince those business that local air services are a value to them rather than commuting to other larger or more capable services. I believe the city of Dubuque wisely created an educational campaign of connecting air service providers with local utilization and helped demonstrate the value of utilizing local air services. It's up to those two entities to reach the balance of provision and utilization.
- 9.) As previously stated TIF and TID can be a valuable civic improvement tool to attract private business development. However, it can also be used ineffectively, inappropriately, or counter productively when favoring a particular business, rather than the property or the district. Therefore, I would examine each application I was involved in with scrutiny to ensure the TIF or TID adhered to the definition in which they were developed to promote and benefit the community civic efforts rather than a private business establishment and potential negatives of business and workforce “relocation” rather than new development.
- 10.) As a new legislative candidate, I would seek to understand more of the available incentives, identify key opportunities and benefits of locating in Iowa and promote those to target industries, and demonstrate opportunities for business to invest in the mutual success of our communities to foster long term development and growth rather than short term economic viability competition. We've seen enough examples of business chasing the best “deal” and not investing in our mutual successes. I think the best way for me to help would be with exposure and understanding gained from interaction with vested parties, workforce participants, and economic development partners.
- 11.) Personally I support the lowest consistent business tax rates rather than short term tax advantages. I also support a “fair” tax or consumption based personal tax with pre-bates or exemption on common goods, disregarding the income tax. Income tax discourages workforce ambition and entrepreneurship as do short term tax incentives result in “deal chasing” and not investment.
- 12.) The less overbearing regulation, the better for business and all. Regulation should be aimed at discouraging unlawful or harmful practices, protecting the fair competition of business in the marketplace, the enrichment of the workforce, and the protection of the consumer and the marketplace. I do not believe in restriction unless an offense has been committed. The public and business have the right to engage in mutual, consensual, interactions and restrictions can inhibit their rights to a free market approach. Until a clear and present threat is committed, Government should focus on the redress of grievance and encouraging the health of a competitive marketplace and the positive evolution of the local or state economy.

13.) I believe I would personally like to be advised by the chamber on what they evaluate as avenues of value and then assess how I could assist in those efforts. Having not held office, I do not feel certain, at this time, of all the variables necessary to make a practical assessment of constituent concerns and community needs prior to formulating a list of areas of focus.