2020 GwinnettForum candidate questionnaire

NAME: Jason Shaw PARTY: Republican

SEEKING: Public Service Commission, District 1

1. Why are you seeking your office?

For nearly two years, I have served Georgians on the Public Service Commission. I have used my experience in business and in the Georgia State House to advance common-sense energy policies that have kept rates low, diversified our energy resources, and secured clean energy for future generations. I am running to continue that record. While many do not know what the PSC does, it is a complicated job where every decision has significant impact on every Georgian. It's important that we keep common-sense and effective leadership to protect ratepayers, keep the lights on, and secure a strong and clean future.

2. What do you expect to accomplish if elected?

I am proud of what we have accomplished on the PSC in recent years. We have maintained some of the lowest utility costs in the nation, protected Georgians from utility cutoffs during the pandemic, and diversified energy resources with biomass and solar. But there is still a lot to be done. With a recent law that places EMCs under the purview of the PSC, I will be working closely with them as we work to expand broadband throughout our state. I will also stand firm in opposing radical, California-style energy policies that will harm Georgians.

3. What distinguishes your candidacy?

I am doing the job. On the PSC, I have shown that I can take on big issues, bring my fellow members together, and do the right thing for Georgians. My experience in business, farming, and the Legislature give me the unquestioned experience to tackle complex issues like rural broadband, diversifying energy resources to ensure clean and sustainable energy for generations to come, and holding utilities accountable to protect ratepayers. More importantly, I have and will continue to stand strong against radical policies like the Green New Deal that would kill jobs and destroy our ability to deliver sustainable energy.

4.Pick any one issue. Expand on how you will address it.

Low-cost, reliable energy. We've seen recently how much high-cost, unreliable energy has cost state's like California. Make no mistake, liberal energy policies are the cause of rolling blackouts on the West Coast. I am committed to common sense policies that will keep rates low while making sure the lights never go out in Georgia. Electing an untested

unproven individual with no experience would be a dangerous precedent to set with our Public Service Commission.

5. Suggest ways to jump-start the economy after COVID-19.

Energy plays an important role in the continued success of Georgia's economy. Maintaining low rates and ensuring reliable energy will help keep Georgia as the #1 state in the nation to do business. By focusing on issues like expanding rural broadband, the PSC can play a vital role in growing jobs and opportunity in rural areas. In the State House, I championed efforts that led to record job creation and economic investment. I continue to apply the same common-sense business principles on the PSC to get our economy back on track and make sure it's stronger than ever.

6. Please give a 100 word summary on your background

Jason Shaw, a native of Lanier County, was appointed to the Public Service Commission in 2019. Commissioner Shaw lives on a farm near Lakeland with his wife Katy Miller Shaw and children, Anne Harvey and Slaton Shaw. Commissioner Shaw is the owner of Shaw Insurance Services Inc. and founder of Georgia Olive Farms. Commissioner Shaw earned a Bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Georgia and is also a graduate of the Leadership Georgia class of 2004. In 2011, he was recognized by Georgia Trend magazine's "40 under 40" list of young Georgia leaders in business and government.

© 2020, GwinnettForum. All rights reserved. | Subscribe today: www.GwinnettForum.com.