

## #12

**COMPLETE**

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**Q1** What is your name and Candidate Committee name?

**First and Last Name:** Harry Averett  
**House/Senate District:** House district 52  
**Preferred Email:** Purple55belair@gmail.com

**Q2** What is the role of state government in healthcare issues in Wyoming? Describe your top three priorities for improving the healthcare delivery system in the state?

1. **Certified care givers**
2. **Help with health education**
3. **Qualified doctors and retention**

**Q3** Wyoming's tobacco tax rate of \$.60 per pack ranks 8th lowest in the nation. The national average is \$1.72 per pack. Given the state's declining revenue and Wyoming's low tobacco tax, is increasing the tobacco tax a subject you feel worthy of consideration in the coming biennium? If you do support the tax increase is it primarily based in an interest to generate state revenue or as a method to de-incentivize tobacco use, or both?

**Yes I support increasing the tobacco tax.**

Please Explain:

I have had parents and friends die form complications with lung diese. It may not stop the use it will help with care for smokers if part of the money goes for education and care, in hopes of easing care givers.

**Q4** Physicians in Wyoming are required to attend continuing medical education (CME) to maintain their licensure in the State. Many physicians are now also taking part in maintenance of certification (MOC) programs to maintain board certification. MOC programs include more stringent continuing education requirements often at a higher cost, and generally involve high-stakes testing in order to maintain certifications. Wyoming physicians support continuing education requirements, but oppose mandates to maintain board certification. Do you support tying a physician's employment, reimbursement, or licensure to their participation in MOC activities?

**No, physician board certification should not be allowed to be tied to state licensure, employment, hospital privileging, and/or reimbursement.**

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Please explain.:

I would need to know who is pushing certification, the purpose for certification. As a former EMT continuing education was important and needed to help me do a better job. Good physicians are always continuing education along with good health care providers.

**Q5** With 32 percent of Wyoming’s population being covered by public payers (Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, Federal programs, etc), and current projected budget shortfalls, how would you prioritize reimbursement to physicians? Please explain.

There needs to be a way to get reimbursement to physicians timely. One way is to have money available from those sources that contribute to the health problems. We need to set precedent now for funding Medicare. Maybe make federal government give states more of the cut ,or have a small Medicare tax for Wyoming workers that is only used in Wyoming.

**Q6** WMS supports physician-led healthcare teams with each licensed provider practicing at the top of their scope. Do you support licensed healthcare professionals expanding their scope of practice or increasing the specific tasks they can perform, such as psychologists prescribing or optometrists performing eye surgery, through rule making or legislation without proof of adequate expanded education, training and curriculum changes?

**No, healthcare providers should only expand scope of practice when done through increased education, curriculum changes in training programs and stringent testing to determine proficiency.**

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Please explain:  
We do not need people who are not educated to health care judging physicians. We make guide lines for medicine let the health care community set values with oversight.

**Q7** The demand for mental health services in Wyoming is on the rise with involuntary hospitalizations increasing at alarming rates. Suicide also remains a concern with Wyoming ranking as the fourth-highest state in the nation. Between the increase in demand for state mental health services and recent overages in the state budget for Title 25 costs, what do you believe can be done to positively impact these trends?

Time to teach values to generation's present and past. Fast lane living is catching up with us. Values of people need to be brought back

**Q8** Would you support legislation to resolve the professional liability crisis in Wyoming? Specifically, would you support a cap on non-economic damages? Would you support other remedies such as adoption of the English rule, no-fault medical liability insurance or other such reforms?

- I support capping non-economic damages **Agree**
- I do not support capping non-economic damages **Agree**
- I support investigating all avenues to bringing meaningful liability reform to the state including capping non-economic damages. **Agree**
- I support investigating alternative means to achieving liability reform but do not support capping non-economic damages. **Agree**
- I do not support any efforts to bring liability reform to the state as I do not see there is a current need or crisis. **Agree**

Please explain: The way I read this question you are asking about liability responsibilities of care givers . This is how I answered your question

**Q9** WMS advocates for physicians to practice evidence-based medicine grounded in the latest research and safety standards. WMS opposes any legislation that attempts to unnecessarily insert government within the relationship between physicians and their patients as it hinders the ability for doctors to administer the most recent, evidence based, practices in medicine. Do you oppose legislation that unnecessarily inserts government between a physician and a patient?

**Yes, I oppose state legislation that inserts government between a physician and a patient.**

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Please explain:

Once again I do not feel I have enough education to question a doctors care. We are to set guidelines and oversite what happens not legislate them

**Q10** Do you support expanding Medicaid to provide state-based insurance to uninsured Wyomingites for 10% of the cost to the State of Wyoming?

**Yes,**  
Please explain:

I support expanding Medicaid coverage the method needs to be discussed not just a blanket 10 %.

**Q11** Please send me additional information about the following topics:

Certification information about health care .

**Q12** Does your candidate committee accept Political Action Committee (PAC) contributions?

I have not set up a committee. I have a hard time with the amount of money spent on campaigns.