

OKLAHOMA PROSPERITY PROJECT

About our elections, our economy, our jobs!

For more information, visit our website at www.okprosperity.com

Voters' Guide for Oklahoma House District 1 Special Election

As the November 8th special primary election for House District 1 approaches, every candidate running says, "I am FOR economic development." But what will they do to help existing Oklahoma companies compete with other states and nations? How will they create an environment that attracts quality new companies, jobs and economic opportunities for Oklahomans?

The Oklahoma Prosperity Project is a partnership between our state's employers, The State Chamber, our local chambers of commerce, trade associations, and economic developers. To date, more than 2,250 organizations -- representing nearly 605,000 employees -- use the Prosperity Project to learn about election issues impacting our economy, our jobs, our wages and our families.

Our mission: To elect pro-jobs Democrats, Republicans and Independents who will grow our state.

The Prosperity Project is nonpartisan, and does not endorse candidates. The Project does not tell you how to vote or whom to vote for. Those important decisions are yours alone.

Four Republicans in this race – Kenny Sivard, Joe Silk, Kevin George, and Keith Bain – and two Democrats in this race – Donald Ray and Curtis McDaniel – will face off in the November 8th primary. The winners of these two primaries will run alongside two Independents – Bethany Farley and James Skipper – in the February 14th general election.

Use this Prosperity Project Voters' Guide to compare how these candidates say they will vote on economic issues that matter. Additional information about the candidates can be found at www.okprosperity.com.

Candidates for Oklahoma House District 1 Special Election:

Keith Bain (R)

Rt 2 Box 520 Baker Road
Valliant, OK
Phone:
Occupation:
Website:

Bethany Farley (I)

921 SE Van Buren St
Idabel, OK 74745
Phone: (580) 212-2589
Occupation: Part Time Legal Assistant
Website: N/A

Kevin George (R)

RR 1 Box 2905
Garvin, OK 74736
Phone: (580) 286-3161
Occupation: Business Owner
Website: kevingeorge.org

Curtis McDaniel (D)

HC 15 Box 4090 25-1-25
Smithville, OK
Phone: (580) 306-7565
Occupation: High School Principal
Website: N/A

Donald G. Ray (D)

Rt 1 Box 495
Idabel, OK 74745
Phone: (580) 245-1885
Occupation: Retired
Website: donald-g-ray.blogspot.com

Joe M. Silk (R)

Lucian Sorrel Rd Hochatown
Broken Bow, OK 74728
Phone: (580) 236-2875; (580) 494-6116
Occupation: Business Owner
Website: www.beaversbendgetaways.com

Kenny Sivard (R)

Rt 1 Box 596
Broken Bow, OK 74728
Phone:
Occupation:
Website:

James Skipper (I)

HC 62 Box 372
Smithville, OK 74957
Phone: (580) 244-3593
Occupation: Construction
Website: N/A

Answers are as submitted by the candidates in response to the Candidate Survey. "FTR" means a candidate failed to respond to the survey. '-' means a candidate did not respond to this survey question.

Issue One: Develop a healthy, educated and skilled workforce that will grow Oklahoma's economy for generations to come.

Will you vote to:

1. Enhance tax incentives for certified employee training and re-training expense costs?

	Bain	Farley	George	McDaniel	Ray	Silk	Sivard	Skipper
	FTR	Yes	--	Yes	--	Yes	FTR	--

	<u>Bain</u>	<u>Farley</u>	<u>George</u>	<u>McDaniel</u>	<u>Ray</u>	<u>Silk</u>	<u>Sivard</u>	<u>Skipper</u>
2. Encourage physical fitness and health/wellness education in our schools?	FTR	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	Yes	FTR	Yes
3. Enhance access to on-line education programs and technology?	FTR	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	Yes	FTR	No
4. Provide funding for high school dropout and credit-recovery programs?	FTR	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	Yes	FTR	No
5. Incentivize investment in quality childcare that assists parents in low-income families to lay the foundation for future educational success?	FTR	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	Yes	FTR	--
6. Support greater efficiencies by streamlining the administration of Oklahoma's common education system?	FTR	Yes	--	No	No	Yes	FTR	Yes
7. Allow more local control over methods of instruction in our common education system while maintaining college and career ready education standards of performance?	FTR	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	Yes	FTR	Yes

Issue Two: Promote a healthy and productive workforce.

Will you vote to:

8. Require an actuarial-based cost-benefit analysis prior to considering any health insurance mandates?	FTR	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	Yes	FTR	Yes
9. Provide financial incentives to better enhance the utilization of wellness programs and preventative care services?	FTR	Yes	--	Yes	--	Yes	FTR	No
10. Oppose "any willing provider" laws that require insurance carriers to reimburse out-of-network physicians or hospitals for services rendered?	FTR	No	--	No	--	--	FTR	No
11. Support private-sector free market based initiatives designed to enhance access to affordable health insurance?	FTR	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	Yes	FTR	--
12. Support the identification and utilization of a sustainable and permanent funding source for the state's <i>InsureOklahoma!</i> Small business premium assistance program?	FTR	Yes	--	--	--	Yes	FTR	--

Issue Three: Create and maintain a competitive business environment in Oklahoma.

Will you vote to:

13. Find a permanent funding source to grow the EDGE (Economic Development Generating Excellence) Endowment Fund, established to help fund the commercialization of innovative research and development projects that will significantly impact and diversify the Oklahoma economy and create high paying jobs?	FTR	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	Yes	FTR	--
14. Retain economic development incentives that create jobs and investment to ensure the continuing competitiveness of our state?	FTR	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	Yes	FTR	--
15. Support policies that keep Oklahoma a leading energy -producing and refining state?	FTR	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	Yes	FTR	Yes
16. Fund a workable state "closing fund" to help finalize deals that create jobs and bring investment into Oklahoma?	FTR	Yes	--	--	--	Yes	FTR	No

Issue Four: Make Oklahoma's tax climate more competitive.

Will you vote to:

17. Cut state expenditures before raising fees or taxes?	FTR	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	FTR	Yes
18. Oppose tax increases disguised as fees that are to be used for general government or other expenses not related to the administration or regulation of programs for which they are collected?	FTR	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	FTR	Yes
19. Lower the individual income tax, thereby giving Oklahoma taxpayers more income?	FTR	Yes	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	FTR	Yes
20. Exclude Oklahoma individuals and businesses from an intangible personal property tax on items such as customer lists, goodwill, contracts, patents, trademarks and software?	FTR	Yes	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	FTR	Yes

Issue Five: Lower the costs of conducting business and growing jobs in Oklahoma.

Will you vote to:

	<u>Bain</u>	<u>Farley</u>	<u>George</u>	<u>McDaniel</u>	<u>Ray</u>	<u>Silk</u>	<u>Sivard</u>	<u>Skipper</u>
21. Require Senate confirmation on all judicial appointments made by the Governor?	FTR	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	FTR	Yes
22. Continue working on Oklahoma's workers' compensation system through significant, comprehensive reform legislation and move toward a more administrative and less adversarial system?	FTR	Yes	--	Yes	Yes	Yes	FTR	--
23. Reform Oklahoma's product liability laws so that plaintiffs can recover damages only upon proof that the product was defective and that the defect was the cause of the harm?	FTR	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	FTR	Yes

Issue Six: Build and maintain a strong transportation infrastructure to ensure safety for our families and efficient movement of our commerce.

Will you vote to:

24. Protect and expand the funding gains achieved for transportation infrastructure?	FTR	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	FTR	No
25. Dedicate funds from motor vehicle license fees (road-related taxes and fees), now used for general government spending, to transportation programs?	FTR	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	FTR	Yes
26. Upgrade facilities at Oklahoma's regional general aviation airports?	FTR	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	FTR	--

Issue Seven: Provide quality water for Oklahomans and our economy.

Will you vote to:

27. Oppose legislation that significantly changes water law prior to the completion of the update of the Oklahoma Comprehensive Water Plan?	FTR	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	--	FTR	--
28. Oppose legislation that sets aside water in our streams and rivers for fish and other aquatic life at the expense of the needs of people, agriculture, energy, or business and industry?	FTR	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	--	FTR	Yes
29. Oppose any significant changes to groundwater law pertaining to private property ownership of groundwater?	FTR	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	FTR	Yes