

# MNSCC Candidate Questionnaire



## Kenneth Bush Running for MN House District 25B

This questionnaire is for educational purposes only. MNSCC does not endorse any specific candidate for the Minnesota House or Senate.

### Public Safety Issues

Do you feel safe in the communities where you live, work, and play? Why or why not?	yes
What does the phrase “public safety” mean to you? What builds safety? What detracts from it?	public safety for me is feeling protected when an emergency situation. Building communities builds trust and detracting is crime.
What is your understanding of the diversity of opinions around public safety in your district?	As a black man in my community diversity has been lacking in some areas but I think the effort put forth by many is working.

How do your constituents think about what builds safety and what detracts from it in your district?	
What changes do you think would help prevent violence and other undesirable behavior in your district? How will you go about making those changes?	if people respected one another's differences we could all be a better society
<b>Police Issues</b>	
What are your thoughts on the general culture of the police departments in your district?	Great
* What police reforms, if any, do you think would help your district or the state? Please elaborate.	We should and will continue our community engagement efforts along with looking a more transparency in our mental health areas and how to de-escalate situations more efficient, more empathy and compassion from others and all lives.
* What changes to police budgets, if any, would help your district or the state? Please elaborate.	NONE to budgets.
Are there any bills around policing that you would join or champion? What are they and why?	Criminal justice reforms
<b>Criminal Court Issues</b>	
Do you notice any inequities in the courts in your district? What do you see as the driving force in those inequities? How can we count on you to respond to any inequities?	Absolutely we need a responsible and passionate representative with real life experience and not just text. You can count on me 100%
Diving into topics like bail, services for crime survivors, court fines and fees, special prosecutors, and sentencing and probation guidelines can illustrate how public policy has immense and diverse impacts on Minnesotans.	I am open to listening and learning more.

<p>Are there any bills around criminal court practices that you would join or champion? What are they and why?</p>	
<b>Incarceration Issues</b>	
<p>In your opinion, what is the purpose of incarceration? Do you believe that incarceration accomplishes those purposes well? If not, why not, and what would you do about it?</p>	<p>Incarceration is institution when not properly regarded and it can create a repeat offender easier than not so I will have dialog around this area.</p>
<p>What do you know about alternatives to incarceration and how they address violence and other undesirable or criminalized behavior? What incarceration alternatives do you support and why?</p>	<p>I support drug courts for non-violent offenders</p>
<p>* Every district in Minnesota is home to people who have experienced incarceration. How do you think issues like access to health care, visits/phone calls/emails, education, and other programming while incarcerated affect your constituents?</p>	<p>Anything to help recover, heal and emotional support is always needed so one can relate to real life when or if released.</p>
<p>* For purposes of drawing legislative districts, should incarcerated persons be counted as part of the district where they are incarcerated, or should incarcerated persons be counted as part of the district where they had their last residential address? Or something else? Why?</p>	<p>I would feel more transparent of last residence if any.</p>
<p>Are there any bills around incarceration or probation that you would join or champion? Which ones and why?</p>	<p>I am always open and I am looking at a few and will work to fix inequalities as I believe the system is set up to fail in many ways and with those not knowing how to fix it.</p>
<b>Reentry Issues</b>	

<p>* People return from incarceration to every district in Minnesota. How do you think issues like access to housing, employment, health care, recovery resources, mental health supports, basic needs, and voting or civic engagement affect your constituents?</p>	<p>YES 100%</p>
<p>What, if any, changes would you make to re-entry policies? And what investments, if any, would you make to re-entry supports in your district? Why?</p>	<p>I support reentry programs like Teen Challenge, Damascus Way, Network for Life all located in Rochester.</p>
<p><b>Public Health Issues</b></p>	
<p>What are your thoughts about how the Department of Corrections has responded to the coronavirus pandemic?</p>	<p>We need to do much much better but they have been sustainable thus far.</p>
<p>* What, if any, public health crises do you think have inequitable impacts on people who are involved in the criminal legal system, and how can we count on you to respond to these public health crises?</p>	<p>I will be there always when needed I have spoken with many effected and others and I want to change it for better outcomes work, family, faith should all be one to create a healthier environment in our communities.</p>
<p><b>Personal Connections</b></p>	
<p>* Are there any ways in which you feel personally connected to issues in policing, criminal court, incarceration, and/or re-entry? What is personal about these issues for you, and how will that impact your priorities and/or stances?</p>	<p>My family has been effected by the system and know we are working to better the criminal justice system.</p>
<p>How can your constituents support you in accomplishing any changes you've outlined here?</p>	<p>My life's story tell it all. Grateful!</p>

