

NAME: William Haston
PARTY: Democratic
SEEKING: Congress, 4th District

1. Why are you seeking your office?

I'm running for office because I believe the people of the 4th Congressional District deserve a representative that will go to Washington and fight for them rather than their corporate donors. I want to help lead the charge toward taking our government back from corporate interests.

2. What do you expect to accomplish if elected?

My candidacy is built on five key principles: fighting for a Green New Deal, higher wages, college for all, Medicare for All, and an end to political corruption. I believe that it is important to be a voice in the fight for working people and supporting these five key issues will improve the lives of everyday people. I truly believe we can win the fight to provide healthcare, education, a living wage, and a sustainable planet for future generations.

3. What distinguishes your candidacy?

I am a totally uncorrupted candidate. I am not taking any corporate lobbyist or PAC money. I am grassroots funded by individual, small dollar donations from real people who believe I will fight for them when elected.

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

The Federal minimum wage was created to ensure all workers would receive fair compensation and a decent quality of life. While the House passed a bill raising the minimum wage to \$15, a gradual increase over seven years is too long. Minimum wage should be tied to inflation and national productivity. We must ensure that unions can collectively bargain, benefitting workers instead of corporations. According to the Economic Policy Institute, a new minimum wage tied to inflation in 2021 would be \$21.25. These are the bold changes we need to help change peoples' lives for the better.

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

Jump-starting the economy will require a massive investment in the American people. Unfortunately, due to the priorities of the current Administration, we are already behind. We should be sending monthly checks of \$2,000 per adult and \$500

per child until the economy recovers. Pumping money into the stock market does nothing if people cannot afford to resume their normal lives. The Administration's poor planning and lack of response have allowed this pandemic to spiral out of control, so now it is up to our legislators to do the right thing and pass a stimulus package that will benefit real Americans.

6. Please give a 100 word summary on your background.

William Haston grew up in a hard-working family in East Tennessee. In fourth grade, he knew he wanted to engage in politics to affect change, as he recognized that not all people were afforded the same opportunities. After graduating from college in 2008, William joined the Air Force, where he served for nine years. He separated from active duty in 2017 and moved to Decatur with his family. In August 2019, he earned a Masters degree in Public Administration from Clemson University. He is running for Congress because he wants to make a difference for working families in his community.