

## 2024 North Carolina State Office Candidate Questionnaire

Name: Matthew Kordon

District or Office: NC House District 11

Party Affiliation: Libertarian

Current Occupation: Software Engineer, but this seems like an inappropriate question to ask me given how few questions you ask.

### Questions for 2024 Candidates for State Office in North Carolina

**1. The most rapid period of brain development happens in the first five years of life, laying the foundation for all future learning, health, and success in school and life. What are your views on the needs of young children (prenatal to age 5) and what steps would you take to address these needs?**

Children of a young age need their parents' guidance and belong to their parents rather than the State. I agree that this is a crucial time in their life which is why it is paramount that they not be forcibly ripped from the arms of their natural caretakers. Optional childcare and learning opportunities exist in the form of private options, and parents ought to earn a high amount of money to then afford such things if they love their child. But to do that, we need to deregulate and free the economy. ...Beginning the 17th week of pregnancy, fetuses are sentient beings worthy of a right to life. They therefore need to be protected from murder.

**2. Every county in North Carolina is considered a "child care desert" with not enough supply to meet the demand. When parents do find child care, the average cost is nearly \$10,000/year, which is higher than the cost of public college tuition. What steps would you take to ensure that families have access to high-quality and affordable early learning programs for their children?**

If we get government mostly out of child care/ pre-K education, we will better the quantity and affordability, as well as increase the quality from the competition. Likewise, we must make it easier to start a business.

**3. Currently, child care teachers in North Carolina earn an average of \$14/hour, less than most retail or service workers. Since 2021, federally-funded Child Care Compensation Grants have provided higher wages and bonuses to more than 40,000 North Carolina early educators, but that funding has expired. This summer, the NC General Assembly appropriated funds to extend the grants for a short time, while also recognizing the need to explore long-term solutions to attract and retain a qualified early childhood workforce. What steps would you take to stabilize and sustain North Carolina's early education system and child care workforce as we approach the end of Compensation Grant funding?**

The General Assembly made a mistake extending that Grant program. It subsidized wages which reduced accountability and motivation to innovate. It did more harm than good. Insofar as I would find myself in charge of childcare programs run by the Government, before ending them, I would choose competitive wages for the workers, with an emphasis on wages rather than benefits contributing to total value. The optimal way to attract child care workers in the short term is not a balanced approach because it impoverishes taxpayers whether by increasing taxes or money-printer-caused inflation, sending my children into child care in a slow, vicious cycle.

**4. Working parents depend on child care, and businesses in nearly every sector have identified child care as a critical factor in their workforce challenges. A new study from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation found that insufficient child care is costing North Carolina about \$5.65 billion each year. What are your views on how the issues facing our state's child care system impact the state's economy? What specific steps would you take to ensure that our child care system can keep up with the demand as more working families need child care?**

Morality is more important than greed. Tax payers morally deserve to keep as much of their money as can be reasonably allowed, not for the sake of their own greed but because stealing is wrong. Children would be better off if parents spend quality time with their children even at the expense of certain job opportunities or higher pay.

And likewise, this concept that workers depend on child care is merely a new-age opinion that ignores the long history of Humans allowing children to grow up largely unsupervised and thereby more self-sufficient. See also my previous answers to questions, as those views play a role in fixing this problem in the long-term.

***5. North Carolina currently spends approximately 1% of the annual state budget on early childhood programs, including Smart Start, NC Pre-K, and Child Care Subsidy Assistance. Nearly all early childhood programs in every county of the state have waiting lists and only serve a fraction of eligible children and families. What are your goals for overall early childhood funding and/or what types of early childhood programs would you support making an investment in at the state level?***

My goal, for the good of the people of this state, and without any personal bias of my own, is to defund all such programs and not fund new ones.

***6. If elected, what would be your top 5 priorities for 2025?***

(1) Shrinking government and moving power closer to The People, (2) Increase civil liberties for our citizens, (3) arrange for multiple increases of education choice whether within schools or in choosing between them (without increasing education spending on non-public schooling alternatives), (4) Environmentalism (both in the traditional sense and through free-markets), (5) Criminal Justice Reform.