



To: Arts Action Fund Members

From: Americans for the Arts Action Fund

Date: August 2, 2018

Re: Patrick Morrissey and the Arts, 2018 Candidate for West Virginia U.S. Senate



Name: Patrick Morrissey

Party: Republican

Occupation: 34th Attorney General of West Virginia (2013-present)

Incumbent: No. Challenger to incumbent Sen. Joe Manchin (D).

Born: December 21, 1967 (age 50) New York City, NY.

Previous Public Offices Held: N/A

Other Positions: Morrissey opened a private law firm in 1992. He practiced health care, election, regulatory and communications law at the lobbying group Arent Fox (1995 to 1999). Morrissey also worked as a lobbyist in DC (2004-2012).

Educational Background: Received his Bachelor of Arts in History and Political Science from Rutgers College. He also received his Juris Doctor from Rutgers School of Law–Newark.

Contact Information:

- Campaign Website: <https://patrickmorrissey.com/>
- Campaign Email: info@patrickmorrissey.com
- Campaign Mailing Address: Post Office Box 1005 Charles Town, WV 25414
- Campaign Phone Number: 304-729-4083

Social Media Platforms:

- Twitter: @MorrisseyWV 4.4k followers
- Facebook: @MorrisseyWV 25.9k followers
- Instagram: N/A

2018 General Campaign Prediction:

- Toss up (Source: [Cook Political Report](#))

Personal Arts Background:

- Morrissey's favorite musicians are: The Who, Billy Joel, Cold Play, U2, Bruce Springsteen and Vivaldi. (Source: [Vote Smart](#))

Notable Arts Quotes: N/A

Congressional Arts Report Card: N/A

Examples of Actions on the Arts: N/A

Arts Membership: N/A

Stance on Issues

- **Jobs and Economy**
 - Congress can help undo some of the damage by permanently repealing Obama's regulations and enacting comprehensive tax reform. (Source: [Issues](#))
 - A simpler, flatter tax system will kick-start economic growth and empower entrepreneurs to create new businesses and hire new employees. (Source: [Issues](#))
 - In addition to tax reform, Morrissey believes West Virginia must continue to invest in its infrastructure to meet the needs of its citizens and businesses. For West Virginia to reach its potential, it must improve its roads, bridges, dams, and high-speed internet capacity. (Source: [Issues](#))
- **Traditional Values**
 - Morrissey has been a champion for West Virginia conservative values. One hundred percent pro-life, Morrissey's advocacy helped lead to passage of the Pain-Capable law in West Virginia. (Source: [Issues](#))
 - Morrissey believes that government has a duty to protect innocent life and supports overturning Roe v. Wade. He opposes taxpayer funding for Planned Parenthood and has pushed the state legislature and Congress to end funding to this organization. (Source: [Issues](#))
 - Morrissey is a staunch advocate for religious freedom and was one of several Attorneys General to join the legal efforts supporting Hobby Lobby. Morrissey supports the nomination of conservative judges who will protect our constitutional rights and not legislate from the bench. (Source: [Issues](#))

Information on Arts and the Economy in West Virginia:

- In West Virginia, arts and culture was a \$1.5 billion industry—equivalent to 2.1 percent of the state economy—in 2015. There were a total of 17,212 arts and culture industry jobs.¹
- A 2017 analysis of Dun & Bradstreet data found 1,647 businesses employed 8,924 people in West Virginia involved in the creation or distribution of the arts—2.36 percent of all businesses and 1.12 percent of all employees.²

Sample Advocacy Questions on the Arts:

- Attorney General Morrisey, what is your personal background and experience in the arts?
- What arts activities have you attended, participated in, or supported in the last year?
- Currently, the creative economy is an impressive \$730 billion industry, representing 4.2% of the nation's Gross Domestic Product. Would you support federal legislation to strengthen opportunities for artists, nonprofit arts organizations, and small businesses in the creative sector to fully access economic development programs?

About ArtsVote2018:

- The mission of ArtsVote2018 is to advance the role of arts in the 2018 midterm elections by providing arts advocates, arts leaders, elected officials, and media with needed information to effectively advocate for the arts.

¹Arts and cultural production are defined as those industries that produce arts and culture related commodities and generally follow the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS). Employment estimates for ACP-related industries are for “direct” employment. [Arts and Culture Production Satellite Account](#) (ACPSA), 2015; U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and National Endowment for the Arts, 2018.

²Findings count active U.S. businesses registered with Duns & Bradstreet in the following categories: museums and collections; performing arts; visual art/photography; film, radio, and television; design and publishing; schools and services. [Creative Industries: Business & Employment in the Arts](#), Americans for the Arts, 2017.