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Page 1: With responses published for community leaders throughout your district

Q1

About Candidates

Candidate Name	Mary Wills Bode
District	North Carolina Senate District 18
Party Affiliation	Democrat
Campaign Website	www.bode4senate.com

Q2

Q1. Please tell us about your personal experiences with nonprofits. These may include experiences with any organizations that have served you and/or fellow residents of your community, or specific nonprofits for which you've served as a board member, staff person, volunteer, or donor. How do these experiences shape your policy positions? (Limit: 300 words)

I was the Executive Director of North Carolinians for Redistricting Reform, a bipartisan non-profit focused on redistricting reform. While leading this organization, I gained experience not only working in our state legislature to advocate for redistricting reform, but worked across the aisle and connected with various opinions and viewpoints. Before deciding to run, I was a founding member and chair of the board of the New North Carolina Project, whose mission is to make politics represent the needs of North Carolinians by investing in communities of color, expanding the engaged electorate and creating lifelong voters. In both of these roles, I have worked to make sure all North Carolinians are included in our government and have a voice at the decision-making table.

Q3

Q2. If elected, what would be your top three policy priorities? (Limit: 250 words)

Protecting Women's Access to Healthcare:

A woman's health care decisions should be between her and her doctor, not politicians. I will always stand up to extremist politicians who want to ban access to reproductive health care in our state.

Investing in Local Schools:

I will be a fierce advocate for paying our teachers well, making sure we provide mental health services for our students, and putting resources in place to help our children catch up from their learning loss due to COVID. I believe we need parents and teachers, not politicians, working together to educate our kids.

Supporting our Communities:

Wake and Granville Counties are wonderful places to call home. I will work tirelessly to ensure that local families are not displaced by rising home prices, that we have the full investment in roads and infrastructure that our area needs, and that we continue to recruit and retain quality jobs to help our communities grow and thrive.

Q4

The Center advocates on public policy issues that affect North Carolina's nonprofit sector and works with the NC General Assembly and North Carolina's members of Congress to develop laws and policies that save nonprofits time and money, help nonprofits operate more effectively, and preserve the public's trust in North Carolina's nonprofit sector. Our policy agenda includes:· Ensuring that all 501(c)(3) nonprofits are fully exempt from federal, state, and local taxes.· Promoting new and expanded tax deductions and credits that encourage individuals and businesses to give generously to support their communities through the work of charitable nonprofits.· Supporting policy solutions that will address the nonprofit workforce shortage, including increased funding to support jobs in the nonprofit sector and investment in accessible and affordable child care.· Seeking solutions to long-standing challenges that nonprofits face when they provide public services through government grants and contracts, including late contracts, late payments, overly complicated application and reporting requirements, and underpayment for indirect costs.· Promoting laws that will help nonprofits and businesses alike to provide affordable and high-quality health care and other benefits to their employees.Q3. If elected, which of these policy goals would you support most enthusiastically, and why? (Limit: 250 words)

"Promoting laws that will help nonprofits and businesses alike to provide affordable and high-quality health care and other benefits to their employees."

North Carolina must expand Medicaid so that we can lower all of our healthcare costs, provide access to quality, affordable healthcare regardless of zip code, and close the coverage gap for over 500,000 hard-working North Carolinians. Currently, our North Carolina federal tax dollars are going to other states to expand Medicaid there—in so doing, making their citizens healthier, their economies more prosperous, and their states better positioned for the future. We're not just leaving money on the table by not expanding Medicaid, we're hurting the health and well-being of North Carolinians across the state.
