



For Arizona State Senate

2020 Clean Elections Compass Guide

Do you believe Arizona’s healthcare system needs to be reformed?

Yes. The expansion of Medicaid (Access) was the correct first step. The requirements for participation need to be revisited. Let’s also work to get increased funding for rural hospitals and clinics.

Do you believe charter schools should be held to the same laws that govern public schools?

To be clear, charter schools ARE public schools. Therefore, they need to be held to the same laws and standards as government run public schools. Additional financial and academic oversight is needed.

Do you believe development should be curbed to protect Arizona’s water supply?

The term “development” is overly broad. I do believe that large industrial agriculture operations, particularly in rural sections of the state, should be regulated. The ADWR should be given more power to enforce water requirements based on science.

Do you believe that fraudulent voting is an issue in Arizona?

No. This claim is utter nonsense.

Do you believe the Arizona Legislature should adopt ethics rules governing personal relationships with lobbyists?

Yes. How sad this question is asked. I would add not just lobbyists, but employees and members of the legislature. Most businesses now have rules regarding this sort of thing.

Do you believe the current system of drawing legislative and congressional districts should be changed?

No. The Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission should be allowed to do its voter mandated work without interference from the Governor or Legislature.

Do you believe transgender student athletes should be able to participate in gender specific sport the student identifies with?

It is appalling that this question is even asked. The answer is Yes. Allow the affected organizations to make decisions. They have processes in place to do so.

Do you support “red flag” laws (laws that allow the temporary confiscation of firearms from people who are deemed by a judge to be a danger to themselves or to others)?

Yes, depending how they are written. I’m not convinced they are effective, and the idea of red flag laws are being used as an excuse to not do something more significant in reducing gun violence.

Do you support a tax increase to provide additional funding for K-12 education in Arizona?

Depends on the structure of the tax increase. I do not support increasing sales tax for this purpose. I would support rolling back corporate tax breaks and special interest income and sales tax credits for special interests BEFORE a general tax increase.

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Do you support an increase in the fuel tax to fund construction and maintenance of new roads, streets And highways?

As much as I am opposed to a general sales tax increase, I am in favor of gas tax increase because it is a targeted user tax. I have proposed a 5 cent increase per year for five years with the understanding that none of this increase in funds can go into the general fund, it must all be allocated to the areas in which it was collected.

Do you support corporate tax incentives as a way to attract more jobs and new industries?

No. I don't believe there is any proof that they work. They might attract new business to Maricopa and Pima counties, but not to the rural counties that need more jobs.

Do you support expanding the Empowerment Scholarship Account program?

No.

Do you support jurisdictions (such as a county or city) becoming 2nd Amendment Sanctuaries?

No.

Should the Arizona Legislature develop strong regulations to govern short term rentals (AirBnB)

Yes. Absolutely. As a member of the Sierra Vista Planning & Zoning Commission in 2018-2019 I warned that state preemption would lead to changing the character of residential areas in cities as well as create housing inventory dislocation. That has come to pass. The best outcome would be to repeal state regulations and allow local governments to regulate short term rentals as they see fit.

Should the Arizona Legislature legalize recreational marijuana

I opposed the 2018 initiative because I wanted to see how Colorado and California implemented laws. After a few years we have some data on how it works. I am in favor of the legislature creating law to legalize recreational use of marijuana rather than doing it through the initiative process. It is important the implementation allow the industry not to be dominated by a few large national corporate interests.