



For Arizona State Senate

## League of Women Voters 2020 Campaign Guide

### **What, if any, specific steps will you take to address inequalities facing women in our state?**

Support state ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment to the US Constitution. Continue to support repeal of restrictions on women's right to choose, as well as provide adequate funding for healthcare clinics in rural and under-served communities in the state.

What should government do, if anything, to provide an equitable, quality public education for all children pre-K through grade 12?

The best solution is for Arizona state government to agree to fund public education at the level that was mandated by law and the voters of the state. The state should also consider selling municipal bonds to replenish and expand funds disbursed by the Arizona Schools Facilities Board to make capital improvements on buildings and school infrastructure. The legislature should stop its attempts to expand private school vouchers and provide better oversight and financial accountability to for profit charter schools.

### **In building a vibrant economy in our state, would you emphasize reforming tax policies, addressing income inequality, or something else?**

I have previously stated that I am not in favor of tax breaks and tax credits to corporations and special interests and will not vote for any proposed through legislation. I would also work to roll back or sunset all tax breaks as well as revisit the income tax brackets at the top for individuals and corporations. The economy has been fairly "vibrant" in the Phoenix and Tucson metro areas, while the rural parts of the state have struggled. It is time to focus resources on improving the economy in rural areas through such devices as community development grants. I am a big fan of micro-loans to small local businesses for startups.

### **What steps, if any, should be taken to curb gun violence in our state?**

The best solution is to pass reasonable comprehensive gun control legislation at the national level because it is easy to move guns across state lines. At the state level we can try to close the gun show registration loophole as well as attempt to regulate high capacity magazines. While I am not a fan of the so-called red flag laws because I'm not sure they are effective, I do think they should be considered. State elected officials can lead on these issues and lobby their federal elected officials to support federal legislation.

### **What is your position on current U.S. immigration policy and what, if any, changes do you propose?**

State legislators have little impact on U.S. immigration policy other than their voices to support or oppose current federal policy. I strongly support a policy that allows DACA recipients permanent resident status with a path to citizenship. U.S. policy is changing every day with at this writing even more draconian restrictions on LEGAL immigration, so it is difficult to know where to begin with proposing changes. There is a need to speak out that immigration is one of the foundations of our country that make us stronger. Let us make it fairer (particularly in how visas are granted) with clear rules and requirements as well as humanely handling asylum requests. It is part of our American character to have an open door to those who have fled the repression and fear of their home countries. We are better than the current policy of fear and punishment.