

Jun 12, 2020 10:28 AM

1

Please confirm your name

Douglas Ervin

2

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) has provided protections for 2.8 million Arizonans living with a pre-existing condition and has provisions that extend care to former foster youth, school-aged children, and hundreds of thousands for Arizonans. However, the constitutionality of the Affordable Care Act is under review by the Supreme Court. Do you support efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act?

No

3

Comments on the Affordable Care Act

I am committed to improving our health care system by expanding access to quality, affordable care, and protecting people with pre-existing conditions. Also, we need to stop playing political games with KidsCare and other important health services in Arizona.

4

Medicaid is a major source of federal funds in Arizona, with every dollar of state investment drawing down \$3.20 in federal funds. The Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) projects a major state budget shortfall in the next state fiscal year (FY2021). Would you support cuts to Medicaid provider rates, member eligibility, or covered benefits in order to make up for state budget shortfalls?

No

5

Comments on Medicaid

As an accountant, I am working to restore fiscal responsibility to our state legislature by reversing unproductive special interest tax giveaways. This will help generate the revenue necessary to make up for budget shortfalls and invest in our community without cutting Medicaid or putting the burden on working families.

6

The Invest in Education Act is a ballot proposition that restores hundreds of millions of dollars annually in K-12 education funding to solve the teacher-shortage crisis, lower class sizes, hire aides and counselors, and expand career and technical education. It raises the state income tax rate for income above \$250,000 for individuals and for income above \$500,000 for households. Do you support the Invest in Education ballot proposition to raise new resources dedicated to public schools?

Yes

7

Comments on Invest in Education

Public education is critical to our state's economy and long-term growth, but Arizona schools have consistently been unfunded for years. We need a dedicated, dependable revenue source to help address our teacher shortage, overcrowded classrooms, and lack of counselors.

8

The Arizona Education Progress Meter recognizes that children with access to quality, early learning opportunities are more prepared for kindergarten. As they go forward in school and in life, they are less likely to need special education or be held back a grade. They are more likely to graduate high school and go on to college. But many children start kindergarten already behind their peers. Only 21 percent of Arizona preschool-aged children today benefit from quality, early learning in child care and preschool compared to the progress meter goal of 45 percent by 2030. Will you support using state and federal child care funds to connect more young children with quality, early learning in preschool and child care to move Arizona toward the progress meter goal?

Yes

9

Comments on early learning

As a volunteer tutor for second-graders, I have witnessed the importance of quality early childhood learning, so I am dedicated to expanding access to pre-K education that helps students and working families.

10

In 2018, 13 percent of children in Arizona (204,363) were being raised by their grandparents or other relatives. In many instances, these relatives have stepped up to care for children who were being abused and neglected, keeping them safe and out of the foster care system. Nationally, informal kinship caregivers keep millions of children out of the overburdened child welfare system and save taxpayers more than \$4 billion each year. Even prior to the COVID-19 crisis, these families faced barriers to securing adequate food, clothing, shelter, and medical care. Before the Great Recession, kinship caregivers were able to access "child-only" benefits through the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program (TANF), also known as cash assistance. These benefits helped these families meet the critical basic needs of the relative children in their care. Do you support restoring access to "child-only" TANF benefits for children who are being raised by kin?

Yes

11

Comments on kinship families

Children do best when raised they are raised by family members in a safe environment. We need to do our part to support relatives who step up to care for abused and neglected children.

12

The events over the last few weeks have brought widespread focus on the systemic racism that is deeply embedded in our society. If elected, would you hold your colleagues and other elected officials accountable to specific criminal justice and police reforms for systemic change.

Yes

13

A free space for your comments

Racism has no place in our society and should not be a reality for children, but sadly it remains. I continue to listen to people in our community calling for action. I support criminal justice reform and measures including de-escalation training for officers, body cameras to be worn by officers across the state, and having an outside independent group review deadly use of force cases.

14

To receive a record of your responses please provide your email

doug@ErvinForAZ.com