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Please confirm your name

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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

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Comments on the Affordable Care Act

The three objectives of the Affordable Care Act are accessibility, affordability, and quality.

Accessibility – Healthcare is available where and when you need it.

Affordability - Going bankrupt because of an illness needs to become a thing of the past. Healthcare needs to be affordable.

Quality - The care you receive will help you to be healthy and stay healthy.

Many people tell me that they want to keep the ACA because they need their pre-existing conditions to be covered and their insurance company should not discriminate against them on costs.

Further, removing the ACA without any replacement could take billions of dollars out of the Arizona economy.

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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

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Comments on Medicaid

These are the rates paid to people like your family doctor and nurse practitioner. Arizona already has a shortage of healthcare workers in many specialties, and cutting the provider rates would only make it worse. Especially during this pandemic when so many of our healthcare workers are putting their own lives at risk to help their patients, it would be a terrible time to cut their pay.

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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

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Comments on Invest in Education

Arizona has still not restored education funding from the last recession, and now we are facing another one. We've got to stop balancing the budget on the backs of children and teachers. No more cuts to education!

Aside from this initiative, we need to reduce the sales tax rate and close loopholes to provide tax relief to those with lower and middle income.

The Invest in Ed Initiative is the right choice for our children. It places a surcharge on the income a couple makes over \$500,000 in one year. If a "mom and pop shop" earned \$500,100 in a year, the surcharge would only be on the \$100, and it would be \$3.50.

For a single, small business owner who earned less than \$250,000 in one year, the change is ZERO.

Invest in Ed is an opportunity to raise funding that is desperately needed in our schools. Our schools must buy PPE, and reduce class sizes if our children and teachers are to be safe in classrooms again.

Because Arizona has a very regressive tax system, we are already asking those who make the least to pay upwards of 10% of their income in state and local taxes. Meanwhile, people and corporations making the highest incomes pay zero to 5%. Invest in Ed is an opportunity for those with high-income to step up and help our children now, when it is desperately needed, as those in lower income brackets have been doing for decades.

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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

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Comments on early learning

Quality childcare benefits all of us, not only the family that receives the childcare. Parents who have access to dependable, high quality care for their children have a better chance of improving their job skills and their productivity. We have a moral and an economic imperative to help every child get a great start!

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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

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Comments on kinship families

Of course we should help grandparents and other kin who reach out to help children in need.

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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

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A free space for your comments

I have listened to the community and in consultation with colleagues in the House of Representatives, we added a new work group, "Racial Justice Work Group" to make changes to stop systemic racism. It is not a one-time event. The way to make changes that matter is to confront the problems with determination to act now, and to keep taking steps forward.

The Racial Justice work group has worked with many people and organizations to develop 5 specific bills to address police reform, including mandatory body cameras and outside oversight on the use of force. The work continues.

By making changes to our criminal justice system, Arizona can improve safety and save money. Other states are addressing earned release credit reforms and compassionate care changes that have had good results. We need to examine what works and act on it.

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To receive a record of your responses please provide your email

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