

#49

COMPLETE

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Q1

Name

Sarah Liguori

Q2

What race are you running in? (LD? House? Senate?)

LD 5 State House

Q3

Email

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Q4

Respondent skipped this question

Phone Number

Q5

Children who have year-round health Insurance do better in school, are more likely to graduate from high school, are healthier, and earn more in adulthood. There are approximately 161,000 uninsured children in Arizona. If elected, how would you help ensure that all children and families have access to the health care that they need?

I will advocate and sponsor legislation for the expansion of healthcare coverage to children of all ages, negotiate that funding is included in the budget to ensure financial backing is there, and strategize ways to increase access to healthcare for families in the community by removing barriers and increasing equity.

Q6

We know that a child's earliest years, birth to age 8, are the most important for the development of their brains. High-quality early childhood experiences can enhance that development. How can the state take a role in helping parents give their children the best start in life?

The first 40 days of a child's life have the most impact on the first 40 years of their life. The state plays an important role to ensure the necessary support and systems are in place so that families can access and afford care that they seek. We need to ensure healthcare is accessible to all families, that adequate childcare coverage is available, and that families are supported in all the ways they need. The state needs to fund programs that work with families in our community. We need to expand post partum care and paid family leave.

Q7

Many families in Arizona are struggling. Housing is becoming increasingly unaffordable, nearly one in four children live in poverty, and resources that used to be available to help families are no longer there. Research shows that when access to safety net resources are low, foster care populations are high. What is your plan to help children and families get the resources and services they need to keep them out of the child welfare system?

Housing is human right. Our state is undergoing a massive shift as demanded has greatly exceeded our housing supply. Rental rates have increase 30% YoY and yet wages are stagnant and industries need help recruiting and retaining employees. I would like to find ways to increase wages so that families can afford to stay in their homes, provide rental assistance to those that seek it to keep them from sliding into homelessness, providing free or low cost childcare to keep that from being a financial barrier for working families, and ensure we can adequately continue to fund these through the state's ongoing budget.

Q8

Arizona has been among the bottom states in per pupil K-12 funding for the past decade which has resulted in severe challenges including teacher shortages, crowded classrooms, and insufficient student support services. How will you ensure that students in every neighborhood have access to quality, well-funded education in Arizona

We need to listen to our school districts individual needs to determine a best course of action plan to meet them. We need to bring our schools public education funding up to a level it needs to return to after years of defunding. We need to increase teacher salaries and salaries for all school employees so that they can recruit and retain. If we water the garden that is public education, our children's future will flourish.

Q9

Arizona's elected leaders have created a tax code that is upside down and regressive— meaning that those with low incomes pay a much higher share of their income in taxes compared to Arizona's highest income earners. If elected, what will you do to make sure that wealthy and corporations pay their share of taxes?

I have adamantly fought back against the regressive flat tax - carrying petitions for the three referendums and being outspoken on the guaranteed economic harm this will cause our state. I will continue to push back on this and encourage my colleagues to do the same. If we want to retool the tax code we need a progressive scale so that the people who have profited the most the past 2 years pay an equal portion in taxes on their gains.

Q10

As the cost of living is rising faster than wages in Arizona, many households are struggling to afford basic needs. If elected, what are three ways that you will improve economic well-being for Arizonans?

I will push for an increase in wages to keep up with the real cost of living in this state. I will advocate for measures that provide ancillary, wrap around support to families, whether that is through free schooling, childcare, or healthcare assistance. I will make sure that their voices and needs are amplified to our government, not diminished and dismissed. I will do this by spending time with communities in need and listening to stakeholders that are on the front lines helping our Arizona families. I will fight for increase equity to support programs to ensure no one is left behind.
