

# #51

**COMPLETE**

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**Q1**

Name

Mike Nickerson

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**Q2**

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

LD 17 Senate

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**Q3**

Email

info@mikenickersonforaz.com

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**Q4**

Phone Number

520-955-9161

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**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?

expand ACCESS and reduce limitations to eligibility

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**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?

By supporting full day kindergarten and providing funding for pre-school children whose families cannot afford child care.

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**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?

I do not feel informed enough to offer a reasonable solution to this ever expanding problem, but I will work with any legislators who offer programs that provide a safety net for all Arizona citizens.

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**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

Increase funding to public schools and limit the use of vouchers that drain tax money from our public schools to support for profit corporations running private and charter schools. Refine equalization formulas so that districts with a low tax base would have available funding similar to districts with a high tax base.

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**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?

Eliminate the sales tax on food which is essential for everyone. Reinstigate sales taxes on guns. There is no rational reason for that guns should receive special subsidies from the state.

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**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?

1. Improve our public education system so that high paying employers will view the Arizona labor pool as desirable. This will bring in more businesses to Arizona. 2. Legislate net metering and assist lower income people to put solar on their homes. This will benefit people for years with lower electric bills. This is certainly not a complete solution, but it will especially help our seniors who only have social security for an income. 3. As already mentioned eliminate sales tax on food.

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