



League of Women 2024 Voters Guide Questions

Submitted 6/10/24

Questions are in **bold**.

What legislation will you propose or support to protect every Arizona citizen's right to vote, guarantee access to flexible voting opportunities, and ensure that every vote is counted accurately to reflect the will of the voters?

The continued erosion of voters' rights in Arizona is a major concern of mine. I will not vote for legislation that restricts early voting, drop box access, and eliminates voting by mail. I am opposed to SCR1015 which would require a minimum percentage of yes votes in all 30 legislative districts for a ballot measure to pass. While it should not be required to say it, I believe our elections have been secure, accurate and fairly administered. Single day voting and hand counting of ballots is not required and is a huge step backward.

What role, if any, do you believe the government should play in reproductive health care, including abortion, contraception, and fertility treatment, and what policies would you propose or support regarding individuals' access to and choices about these forms of health care?

I believe that reproductive healthcare decisions should be made by women and their medical advisors. The State and Federal governments should stay out of regulating access to abortion, IVF or contraception services. I will oppose any cutback of state funds for healthcare providers that provide such services.

What will you do to provide adequate and sustainable funding for instruction and support services to ensure quality education for all Arizona students enrolled in publicly-funded pre-K, K-12, community college, and university programs?

Follow the law. Arizona voters have made it clear since 2000 that public school funding is the number 1 priority for the state budget. However, the state legislature and past administrations have refused to provide funding per the law. That needs to change.

I would also kill the ESA voucher the state legislature and Governor Ducey expanded against the will of the voters. This unrestricted program is the major cause of budget deficits at the state level as well as significantly reduced funding for local school districts.

More alternatives to 4-year institutions need to be supported by the state including expanding trade schools, apprentice programs targeted at rural areas of the state. In the past, I have advocated for free community college for all high school graduates within the county of graduation. I'm open to a discussion of this concept again.



What can be done to make housing affordable and accessible and reduce the unhoused population?

Immediately allow municipalities to regulate short-term housing. “Airbnb” short term housing has taken significant numbers of single-family houses off the rental market and forced up the prices of rental units.

I think the state should have a housing development commission that focuses on multifamily housing. For example, can we have more duplexes, triplexes and even two story quadplexes in certain areas. Only multifamily housing will begin to solve the high cost of housing in Arizona.

I am opposed to allowing greater density on R1 lots in most areas. This is a solution that will create more congestion on residential streets with limited parking and will negatively impact housing prices for property owners who decided to live in such a neighborhood because they wanted reduced density. I also think that the proposed legislation signed by the governor will not make more affordable housing available.

What laws would you propose or support to ensure that Arizona has a sustainable supply of clean water now and in the future?

Regulate groundwater pumping for those wells that pump more than 35 gallons per minute. Suspend any new well permits for industrial agriculture for two years and give the ADWR the power to monitor all wells in AMAs and INAs to see that no excess water is being pumped in those areas. Record any permits for drilling wells deeper than existing levels.

End all leasing of state lands to large industrial agricultural conglomerates.

Require new residential developments to provide water reclamation plants and/or recharge basins as part of their plans. If it is not feasible for them to create water reclamation processes, then a fee per lot or acre should be paid to city and county governments for such projects. I do not believe desalination is a cost effective or environmentally responsible solution at this time.

How will you address the budget shortfall and balance the budget?

For the short term, I support Governor Hobbs’ decision to request between 4 to 8 percent cuts to all state departments budgets. This won’t get the state to balance, but it is a start. We also need to immediately suspend the ESA voucher program or at least regulate it by not giving funds to parents who have not had their children in public schools in the last 100 days or the current school year.

Long term, roll back the 2.5% “flat” income tax by adding another tier for household income of over \$250,000 per year. I would also propose sunseting all special tax breaks given to businesses in the last 20 years. While this may not be feasible given current law in the state, we should begin the conversation about fixing our broken tax system that puts the burden on local governments, homeowners, and middle-class taxpayers while protecting corporate interests and high-income taxpayers.