



Clean Elections Compass Questionnaire – Submitted 7/2/2024

Arizona's Empowerment Scholarship Accounts allow students to use taxpayer money that would ordinarily go to a public school to attend a private school instead. Lawmakers opened up ESAs to all students in Arizona in recent years. Do you support making these school vouchers available to every Arizona (sic)

No. ESA vouchers reward wealthy families with taxpayer money to send their children to religious schools and private schools that do not have any oversight or academic requirements. These vouchers are breaking the state budget and forcing cuts in public school resources.

Do you believe Arizona lawmakers were right to repeal the territorial-era law that bans abortions in all cases except to save the mother's life?

Yes. However, the fall back to the 15-week abortion ban already the law in Arizona is not an acceptable alternative. The state government should not be banning abortion services.

Do you believe Arizona's K-12 public education system as a whole is adequately funded?

No. We rank near the bottom five in teacher pay, as well as classroom size. Voters in Arizona made it clear that public school funding was to be at a defined level which multiple legislatures have ignored over the last two decades.

Do you believe that deregulating city zoning laws is a crucial part of the solution to Arizona's housing crisis?

No. Zoning laws are on the books for a reason. Yes, there needs to be a rethinking of those laws with new solutions that increase density that will help lower housing costs. Deregulation will lead to overcrowding and abuse by developers. City governments are the closest to the people, they should make decisions on quality-of-life issues for their populations. I do think the state can help guide the conversation about how zoning changes can be one of the tools used to create density.

Do you believe there should be increased regulation and oversight of private schools, such as requiring background checks of teachers and other standards that public schools face?

Yes, with this qualification. If these schools receive taxpayer funds from ESA vouchers or tax credits, then they should be subject to regulations as to security, academic performance, as well as financial management that public schools have. However, private schools that do not receive taxpayer funds should be encouraged to follow guidelines, but not face the same regulation.

Do you have confidence in the accuracy of Arizona elections?

I'm appalled that this question even must be asked. Yes. Arizona elections have been accurate for decades. What changed? Donald Trump's loss in 2020.



Do you support a bill to allow state and local law enforcement to arrest migrants suspected of crossing the border and allow Arizona judges to issue order of deportation?

No. This is probably unconstitutional. Certainly unworkable, as well as an unfunded mandate. Who is paying for all of this? Where are the arrested individuals being incarcerated waiting for trial? Do we have the court capacity to try arrested individuals? What happens when a defendant is ordered deported. To where? How? Just drive them to the Mexican border and push them over? This is ridiculous performative politics.

Do you support a bill to declare the existence of two sexes, male and female and require public entities to provide “single sex” bathrooms and more?

No. Poorly worded question. What is “and more”? Arguments about “bathroom bills” cannot point to a real problem that state government needs to solve. We have more important issues for the state legislature to address.

Do you support a referral to allow property owners to apply for a tax refund if the city does not enforce laws regarding illegal camping, loitering, obstructing public thoroughfares, panhandling, and other nuisance laws?

No. What does enforcement mean in these cases? Who proves that the city is not enforcing laws? How are damages calculated? I get this is an idea for forcing cities to solve rather intractable problems such as homelessness and drug addiction. But I believe this will only lead to litigation.

Do you support a referral to require all citizen initiatives to collect signatures from all 30 state legislative districts in order to qualify for the ballot?

No. But I don't think you have correctly described the ballot referral. As I understand the language it would require a MINIMUM number of signatures from each legislative district. The percentage of registered voters in that district. This is an anti-democratic idea to give “veto” power to some areas of the state, by overriding big urban areas that may be trending more moderate.

Do you support a referral to require life imprisonment for an individual who is convicted of sex trafficking of a child?

No. I believe we let prosecutors ask for sentences and judges make the decision. Three strikes really didn't work. We have to trust our justice system to get it right.

Do you support HCR2060 – the ballot measure which would require employers to verify the immigration status of their workers and impact how migrants obtain public benefits?

No. You have incorrectly described HCR20609 which also includes arresting and deporting migrants found of illegally entering (as described above) I think the e-verify program is reasonable and worth discussion. The rest of bill has major problems. It is probably unconstitutional in its current form.



Do you support legislation to ban counties from using voting centers in favor or precinct-based voting system model.

No. There is no reason for this legislation. Voting centers are popular with the voting public. A small group of extremists want to go back to precinct based voting which is expensive, difficult to make secure and impossible to staff. There is no plausible reason for such a ban. Let counties make their own decisions on this issue.

Do you support legislation to ban school employees from using a student's preferred pronouns without parental consent?

No. A ban only makes teaching more difficult and complicated. Let teachers and students work it out, hopefully with consultation of the student's parents.

Do you support the Arizonans for Abortion Access initiative, which would establish the fundamental right to abortion that the state of Arizona may not interfere with before the point of fetal viability?

Yes. The government should stay out of reproductive healthcare.

Do you support the Emergency Declarations referral, which would allow the legislature to terminate a state of emergency or alter the emergency powers of the governor during the state of emergency, and require lawmakers to extend emergency declarations beyond 30 days?

No. Getting the legislature involved in emergency declarations will politicize any decisions made by the administration. We elect a governor to make these decisions. In an emergency, group think is the worst possible way to manage and is disruptive to success. I support the governor regardless of the party of the governor. Gov. Ducey had the power, which was fine with me.

Do you support the Make Elections Fair initiative, which would eliminate partisan primary elections and require all candidates to run in an open primary, among other changes?

No. Love the name. Definitely this doesn't make elections "fair". This does a couple of things; creates an open primary which I might be willing to support with some technical changes about the number of signatures required to qualify for the ballot. But it also isn't clear about the number of candidates that will move on the general election. It seems to ban ranked choice elections which might work with open primaries. I believe we have political parties for a reason and they should be able to ensure candidates registered to their party are on the ballot in the general election.

Do you support the requirement in Arizona's Groundwater Management Act that developments in certain areas prove a 100-year assured water supply before building?



Yes. I do have some concern about defining “100-year assured water supply”. But without this longstanding requirement we would have more wildcat developments that do not ensure water for home buyers, , as well as over development in areas that do not currently have adequate water supply.

Lawmakers passed a budget this year that cut more than \$1.4 billion to make ends meet. Do you believe the state needs to curb spending to prevent budget deficits?

Yes. Curbing spending is ONE of the ways to balance the budget. There are revenue side ways as well. How we curb spending is the question. We could curb spending by stopping the \$400 million plus spending on private school vouchers, for example.

Lawmakers passed a budget this year that cut more than \$1.4 billion to make ends meet. Would you be willing to raise taxes to solve the shortage?

Yes. If this is a yes or no question, then the answer is yes. My solution is to rollback the 2.5% flat tax that Governor Ducey rammed through in 2021 by adding another bracket for households with income over \$250,000. I would also consider rolling back many of the special interest corporate tax breaks awarded in the last decade. Current law makes all of this very difficult, but we need to start the conversation about tax policy if we hope to have sound budgets.

Lawmakers passed a budget this year that cut more than \$1.4 billion to make ends meet. Would you be willing to repeal some of the tax cuts to help solve the shortage?

Yes, as stated above. Every time a tax cut or special interest tax break is given, even to a deserving group, the tax burden is shifted. Often to cities and school districts that have limited abilities to raise revenue. Let’s have a serious discussion of tax policy and how to reform a broken system.