

2018 BNC CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Basic Information:

Candidate Name:

Candidate District (if applicable):

Poverty Overview

1. **What work (if any) have you done to address poverty? Please list legislation you've supported or provide other examples.**

- i. Comments box

2. In Arizona, 46 percent of workers are employed in jobs that pay *less* than \$15/hour, yet research shows full-time Arizona workers must earn an average of \$18.46/hour to afford a modest two bedroom apartment. This makes public assistance a necessity for many working families. Recent proposals would require the government to enact expensive new reporting requirements that would likely shut hard working people out of healthcare, child care and access to food.

If elected, would you support work requirements/ reporting requirements for programs like Medicaid, housing, childcare assistance, and SNAP?

- i. YES
 - ii. NO
 - iii. UNSURE
 - iv. Comments box

Housing

3. More than 1/3 of all U.S. households are cost-burdened: meaning they spend more than 30 percent of their income on housing costs. Phoenix currently ranks the 9th most unaffordable city for renters in the United States. Lack of affordable housing places many households at risk of homelessness.

Do you believe the government should play an active role in addressing housing affordability issues?

- i. YES
 - ii. NO
 - iii. UNSURE
 - iv. Comments box

Hunger

4. Nearly 1 in 6 adults and 1 in 4 children in Arizona struggle with food insecurity. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the nation's most effective anti-hunger program, has been a focal point of the Farm Bill reauthorization process in Congress this year. SNAP helps working families, older Arizonans, and others struggling to make ends meet purchase groceries while also having a demonstrated positive impact on the local economy.

If elected, would you support changes to SNAP that increase or decrease participation?

- i. I would support changes that INCREASE participation
- ii. I would support changes that DECREASE participation
- iii. I don't know
- iv. Comments box

Access to Healthcare and Behavioral Health

5. Access to affordable healthcare plays a vital role in the lives of Arizonans. Currently 1.8 million people are covered by Medicaid (AHCCCS) in Arizona with almost 80 percent of adult AHCCCS enrollees working full or part-time. There have been many Federal proposals for block grants and other changes that have the consequence of cutting people off coverage.

If elected, would you support any changes that remove Medicaid coverage?

- v. YES
- vi. NO
- vii. UNSURE
- viii. Comments box

6. Recent attempts have been made at the federal and executive level to change requirements for Title X, the federal government's only dedicated funding source for family planning and reproductive health. Proposals have been made that would restrict Title X providers from counseling or referring patients to all available pregnancy options.

If elected, would you support restrictions on providing medically accurate information to Title X patients?

- i. YES
- ii. NO
- iii. UNSURE
- iv. Comments box

Addressing Gender-Based Violence

7. The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) and Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) fund vital services and responses to victims of domestic and sexual violence.

Will you vote to support and ensure programs and appropriations remain as priorities for Congress?

- i. YES
- ii. NO
- iii. UNSURE
- iv. Comments box

Will you support expansion of the rape prevention and education fund?

- i. YES
- ii. NO
- iii. UNSURE
- iv. Comments box

Federal Budget and Taxes

8. According to the Congressional Budget Office, the 2017 federal tax changes will increase the federal deficit by \$1.9 trillion over the next decade and shrink revenues that support national needs. Research from the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy shows that the tax changes gave larger tax cuts to the wealthiest individuals instead of low- and middle-income families.

If elected to Congress, what would your priorities be for tax policy?

1. Passing a Balanced Budget Amendment
2. Closing loopholes for individuals and corporations
3. Repealing the 2017 federal tax changes
4. Sustaining the 2017 federal tax changes
5. Other / Comments Box

Child Care

9. In 2018 Congress appropriated an additional \$2.3 billion in Child Care Development Block Grant funds to assist states in coming into compliance with federal requirements.

Will you support additional funding and policies that ensure all families have access to high quality early childhood education?

- i. YES
- ii. NO
- iii. UNSURE
- iv. Comments box

Seniors

10. In 2017 the overall population of Arizonans 65 years of age and older was 16.9 percent. A key source of non-medical services to older adults is provided to states by the Older Americans Act which provides services such as home care and Meals on Wheels. Funding for these vital services have not returned to their pre-recession levels nor does our share reflect the growth in the older population.

Will you vote to protect and increase funding for the Older Americans Act?

- i. YES
- ii. NO
- iii. UNSURE
- iv. Comments box

Closing

11. **Are you willing to find ways to partner with the BNC to make sure these issues are being addressed?**

- i. YES
- ii. NO
- iii. UNSURE
- iv. Comments box