

REPRESENT ME AZ – CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

GENERAL

1. Why are you running for Congress and what makes you uniquely qualified to represent CD2?

I am running for Congress to serve CD2 constituents with the most positively-impacting representation in the U.S. House of Representatives they have received to date. As a veteran, former vice mayor of Douglas, former city councilman of a ward on the border, drilling Navy reservist supporting Davis Monthan, substitute teacher, youth pastor, former Fort Huachuca civilian, proud U of A Wildcat, recent Pima grad, and Cochise County Sheriff Deputy, I am connected to and more familiar with more CD2 centers of gravity, trade, security, and student populations than any other candidate currently running.

2. What is your biggest platform issue/what is most important to you?

I am an “all the above,” “both/and,” “multi-issue” candidate when it comes to the platform I announced on November 6th, 2017, which included: national security, border security, education, bi-national trade/cooperation, biotechnology, aerospace industry, and infrastructure.

ECONOMY/JOB

3. What are the most important things that Congress should do to improve the economy?

Roll back business-killing regulations, reform trade to be more free and fair, and provide more tax cut incentives to private businesses.

4. What, if anything, should the federal government do about the growing economic disparity between the poor, the middle class, and the wealthy?

The more the federal government gets out of the way of the free market and the more equality of opportunity it ensures, the more wealth will be created to allow the poor and middle class to join the ranks of the wealthy as a result of their hard work, perseverance, and pursuit of the American Dream.

5. What would you like to see happen with the federal minimum wage?

No change, as it not a market-driven force.

6. Do you consider unions to be part of the solution, or part of the problem? What steps should Congress take to strengthen or weaken their role?

Both, depending on what mandates unions place on members and how they channel money to political causes. The more representative, non-partisan, and free-market sound they are, the better they are, and any steps to encourage these attributes should be applauded by Congress.

FOREIGN POLICY

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7. In the realm of foreign policy, what are the issues of greatest concern to you? What should Congress be doing to address them?
Terrorism, North Korean nuclear weapon development, and Russian-Iranian backed aggression
8. How should the U.S. respond to Russian interference in U.S. elections?
Hold Obama-era officials responsible for election and cyber security accountable for their failures to prevent and mitigate this interference.
9. Should the U.S. be involved in foreign conflicts, and if so, what criteria are needed to engage?
Yes, as long as engagements on foreign soil are in response to grave threats against our national security objectives.
10. What changes would you like to see in the U.S. approach to terrorism?
Adopt the Israeli approach to assessing terror threats, both domestically and internationally.

ENTITLEMENTS

11. Do you favor increasing, decreasing, or leaving unchanged Social Security and Medicare benefits? How should Congress ensure that these programs are financially viable going forward?
No immediate change, but pass reforms like the “One Cent Solution” to balance the budget and bring entitlement spending under control. Once the budget is balanced, Congress should look at fundamentally transforming Social Security and Medicare instead of the unviable, imploding system we have now.

HEALTH CARE & REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE

12. Do you believe the federal government should ensure that all Americans have health insurance coverage? Describe the health care system most likely to be successful in the U.S. (please be specific with regard to single payer, universal, etc.) and how does it get funded?
The federal government should not be in the business of making people more dependent on it. Instead, the federal government should encourage the healthcare industry to be more market-based, competitive, portable across state lines, free to associate, and driven by consumer-choices.
13. According to the Guttmacher Institute, the unintended pregnancy rate in the U.S. was 45% in 2011, and approximately two thirds of unplanned births are paid for by public insurance programs, primarily Medicaid. What role should the federal government play in reducing the rate of unintended pregnancy?
Promote abstinence, sex education, and workfare for Medicaid benefits

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14. In cases of unintended pregnancy, what role should the federal government play regarding the choices available to women?

When it comes to unintended pregnancies, the federal government should help promote positive life choices such as adoption, good nutrition, parenting skills, resource awareness, job skills, job placement, and workfare for benefits.

EQUAL RIGHTS

15. Specifically, what should Congress do to better protect Americans from workplace discrimination?

Continue to fund the executive branch's enforcement of existing EEO protections in the public domain.

16. What, if any, protections do you believe are missing for LGBTQ people?

None - continue to fund the executive branch's enforcement of existing EEO protections in the public domain.

17. What more should Congress be doing to end hunger in America, and to ensure the safety of our food and water?

Divert more federal foreign aid to address needs in America, such as hunger and the availability of pure drinking water.

EDUCATION

18. What responsibility does the federal government have to ensure that students are safe from bullying and/or discrimination in public schools, including charter schools?

Recognize schools for positive track records AND issue punitive findings for negative track records on a range of metrics to include student academics, safety, and behavior.

19. According to the National Assessment of Educational Progress, only about a third of U.S. high school seniors are ready for college-level coursework. What do you see as the cause(s) of the problem, and what are some possible remedies?

Lack of parent partnering, study habits, and personal discipline in the classroom. At the local level, require parental/guardian involvement, promote public-private STEM and liberal arts internships for grades 8-12, and empower teachers with more recourses to address student delinquency.

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20. What would be the most effective way for Congress to help make college more affordable?

Hold congressional hearings, mandate research, and report findings as to the root causes for the high price of undergraduate and graduate education.

PUBLIC SAFETY

21. What reforms should be implemented in law enforcement?

Stricter sentencing for violence against law enforcement officers, more funding for community policing initiatives, federal recognition for heroic actions by law enforcement officers, and tax-credits to law enforcement officers for equipment purchased with their own money.

22. What reforms are needed in the criminal justice system?

Expansion of faith-based, mental health, and work placement services.

23. Who should not be allowed to possess firearms? Do you support universal background checks and if so, how should they be implemented?

Prohibited possessors as is currently afforded by statute. I support NICS checks already in place and strict enforcement against prohibited possession. I support allowing teachers and school staff with the option to carry a range of concealed weapons onto school property provided they pass NICS checks, active shooter training, and local LE agency weapons qualifications.

24. What steps should Congress take to address sexual violence?

Pass stricter sentencing for violent sexual crimes.

IMMIGRATION

25. What criteria should we use to determine which people should be allowed to immigrate to the U.S.?

The same as Mexico which ensures immigrants are financially self-sustaining, assets to the national economy, and law abiding residents with no criminal history.

26. What criteria should be used to decide which people are deported?

The same as Mexico which deports visitors who violate their visa status, who interfere in domestic elections, who enter under false pretenses, who fail to abide by their terms of entry, who engage in human smuggling, and who engage in trafficking of contraband of any kind.

27. Do you support a citizenship pathway?

Not across the board: citizenship only in the case of honorable military service and visa status for others with extreme vetting.

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CLIMATE CHANGE & ENERGY

28. How should Congress address the threat that climate change poses to U.S. agriculture, coastal property, public health, and national security?
Monitor the effects of climate change which has preceded the dawn of human civilization, but place more emphasis on mitigating the risks posed by catastrophic natural disasters such as volcanic eruptions, tsunamis, earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, and potential impacts by near earth objects.
29. What changes, if any, should be made to the tax code to encourage the growth of renewable energy sources?
Tax incentives should be granted to the full spectrum of energy industries, alternative and traditional, to promote energy independence and dominance.
30. What is your view of the U. S. pulling out of the Paris climate agreement?
I support President Trump's pull out of the Paris climate accord.

VOTING/ELECTIONS

31. What specific steps should Congress take to address political corruption?
Equal protection and equal justice under the law when it comes to special counsels. As an example, there must be a special counsel to investigate political corruption in Hillary Clinton's Uranium One dealings, email server, contracting for the "Russian dossier," and alleged pay-for-play schemes while serving as Secretary of State.
32. What should be done to ensure that every citizen has the ability to vote?
Strictly enforce election integrity laws, require all high school students to take the same citizenship class required for naturalization, and institute a national voter identification system to authenticate citizens AND make their voter registration easier.

VETERANS

33. What reforms are needed in the VA system?
Transfer all medical provisions currently under the Veterans Administration to the Defense Department and provide for more private health care options for all our Veterans.
34. What do you see is needed to combat the nearly 20 Veteran suicides a day?
More VA reform, more job placement services, more drug treatment assistance, and more mental health services for our Veterans.