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CANNABIS

CANDIDATE GUIDE

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WHERE
CANDIDATES
STAND ON
ISSUES THAT
MATTER TO
YOU!**

.....
**GENERAL
ELECTION
NOVEMBER 5TH**



VOTE TRUTH TO POWER

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Arizona State Senate

State Senate 1

Mark Finchem: C

Bio:

Mark Finchem is a former Arizona state representative who served Arizona's 11th legislative district from 2015 to 2023. He ran unsuccessfully for Arizona Secretary of State in 2022. Despite repeated attempts to contact him, Finchem did not respond to our survey.

Finchem on Cannabis:

Mark Finchem has generally opposed cannabis legalization efforts during his time in the Arizona legislature. He voted against Proposition 205 in 2016, which aimed to legalize recreational marijuana in Arizona. He also voted against certain cannabis-related legislation that sought to expand medical marijuana access, although Finchem did vote yes on HB2050 in 2022, which would have expanded testing and whistleblower protections, while providing a MMJ certificate to social equity licensees. Finchem has generally voiced concerns over public safety and the impact of cannabis on communities, aligning with a more conservative stance on cannabis policy. However, Arizona voters ultimately approved recreational marijuana in 2020 through Proposition 207, which he opposed. Recently, Finchem has expressed quiet support for hemp and dissatisfaction with the marijuana industry's market structure.

Mike Fogel- B+

Bio:

Mike Fogel ran unopposed in the Democratic primary for the heavily-conservative Arizona State Senate District 1. Despite repeated attempts to contact him, Fogel did not respond to our survey. However, he did respond to our previous survey during an earlier run for office.

Fogel on Cannabis:

In his responses to our 2022 survey, Fogel strongly agreed with Arizona NORML across the board, voicing significant support for microlicensing, limiting the cost of medical marijuana cards, protecting pregnant patients, expanding expungement, and promoting fair competition. Had Fogel responded to our 2024 survey and provided similar responses, he likely would have received an A rating.

State Senate 2

Shawwna Bolick- B-

Bio:

Shawwna Bolick is a Republican politician from Arizona who has served in the Arizona House of Representatives since 2019, representing District 20. Ms. Bolick did not respond to our survey.

Bolick on Cannabis:

Shawwna Bolick has generally opposed cannabis legalization efforts in Arizona. In past years, she typically voted against legislation aimed at expanding access to medical marijuana and has expressed concerns about the potential social and health impacts of recreational cannabis use. More recently, she has shown a general inclination to go with the Republican grain. Despite her vote for HB2664 in 2024—which would have pointlessly double-prohibited cannabis possession

on school grounds while potentially recriminalizing possession in some homes near schools—Bolick earned a higher grade than in past years as a consequence of her support for (i) House Bill 2050 in 2022, which would have strengthened testing regulations and whistleblower protections, while offering free medical cards to veterans and a medical license to licensed “social equity” businesses, (ii) Senate Bill 1410, which became law and restricted AZDHS’ ability to adopt regulations that severely limit deliveries, and (iii) Senate Bill 1186 in 2024, which would have regulated hemp-derived products like Elevado without handing dispensaries a monopoly.

Judy Schwiebert- A

Bio:

Judy Schwiebert is a Democratic politician from Arizona who has served in the Arizona House of Representatives since her election in 2020, representing District 2 and then District 2020.

Schwiebert on Cannabis:

In addition to responding to our survey, Schwiebert has a significant legislative track record we can evaluate. Through her survey responses, Schwiebert expressed strong support for improving marijuana testing, decriminalizing marijuana, automatically expunging non-violent marijuana offenses, and expanding economic opportunities in the industry. As Schwiebert put it, “Just as in other industries[,] we should ensure that local business people have the same opportunity to compete in the marketplace as big businesses do.”

Turning to her legislative track record, Schwiebert generally listens to and votes with consumers, as shown by (i) her difficult votes for HB2050 in 2022, which strengthened testing regulations and whistleblower protections while offering free medical cards to veterans and medical marijuana licenses to “social equity” businesses and (ii) her vote for SB1410 in 2024, which restricted the Department of Health Services’ ability to adopt severe delivery restrictions that limit competition and consumer choice. Additionally, Schwiebert was also vocal in the House Appropriations Committee about her displeasure with the outcome of Arizona’s Social Equity Ownership Program.

State Senate 3

John Kavanagh- C+

Bio:

John Kavanagh is a Republican politician who has served in the Arizona House of Representatives, representing District 23 since 2011. Prior to his political career, he served as a police officer and has a background in law enforcement. Despite repeated attempts to contact Mr. Kavanagh, He did not respond to our survey.

Kavanagh on Cannabis:

Historically, John Kavanagh has opposed the legalization of cannabis in Arizona. He has expressed concerns about the potential negative impacts of marijuana use on public health and safety, emphasizing issues related to addiction and impaired driving. Kavanagh has voted against measures aimed at expanding medical marijuana access and has been a vocal critic of recreational cannabis legalization efforts, advocating instead for strict regulation and enforcement of existing laws surrounding cannabis use.

More recently, however, Kavanagh has tended to go with the Republican grain, and as their party has become warmer towards cannabis, he has joined them. More specifically, in 2022, Kavanagh voted in support of House Bill 2050, which would have strengthened testing

regulations and whistleblower protections, while offering free medical marijuana cards to qualifying veterans and provided a medical license to social equity adult-use dispensaries. The following year, he cast significant votes in support of (i) Senate Bill 1271, which would have regulated hemp-derived products, like Elevado, to protect consumers without handing dispensaries a monopoly and (ii) Senate Bill 1466, which generally would have expanded the medical marijuana program. In 2024, Kavanagh extended his support for sensible hemp regulations, by voting for Senate Bill 1186, and supported Senate Bill 1410 to limit AZDHS' ability to restrict deliveries, but Kavanagh left us scratching our heads over his support for House Bill 2664, which would have pointlessly double-prohibited cannabis in schools (it is already prohibited due to its foolish classification as a "narcotic drug") and potentially recriminalized adults who live near schools and consume cannabis within the confines of their personal home.

In full disclosure, however, every Republican in the legislature voted to support House Bill 2664 even though it was based on a clear misunderstanding of Arizona's criminal code, which wrongly classifies "cannabis," unlike "marijuana," as a "narcotic drug."

State Senate 4

Christine Marsh- A-

Bio:

Christine Marsh is a professional educator with over two decades of teaching experience. She taught high school English and was named Arizona's 2016 Teacher of the Year. Her background in education led her to politics, where she focuses on education reform and advocacy. Despite attempts to contact her, Marsh has not responded to our survey.

Marsh on Cannabis:

Christine Marsh has supported cannabis reform, particularly emphasizing the need to align laws with public health and safety considerations. She advocates for responsible legalization and regulation, favoring policies that expand medical marijuana access while ensuring that cannabis use remains controlled and safe for communities. Marsh's approach reflects a balance between supporting individual rights and addressing concerns about potential public health impacts.

In response to our 2022 survey, Marsh expressed strong support for making the cannabis industry more competitive and increasing the availability & ease of expungements, in addition to agreeing strongly that marijuana has medical uses. Additionally, Marsh expressed limited agreement about taking steps towards decriminalization, reducing card costs, and issuing microlicenses.

Marsh's legislative record indicates the truthfulness of her prior survey responses. In 2023, she supported Senate Bill 1271, which would have regulated hemp-derived products like Elevado to protect consumers without handing dispensaries a monopoly on the products, and Senate Bill 1466, which would have generally expanded access to the medical marijuana program and lowered card costs. Although Marsh confusingly changed her position on hemp the following year by voting against Senate Bill 1186, which was identical to the hemp bill she supported the previous year, Marsh did support consumers by voting (i) against House Bill 2664, which would have pointlessly double-prohibited cannabis possession in schools while potentially recriminalizing possession in homes near schools and (ii) for Senate Bill 1410, which restricted AZDHS' power to adopt bad delivery regulations.

Carine Werner- INC

Bio:

Carine Werner is a Republican candidate running for Arizona's State Senate in District 4. She currently serves on the Scottsdale Unified School District Governing Board, where she has focused on improving education quality and student safety. Werner has a background in business, having facilitated over \$100 million in loans and developed training programs for hundreds of lenders. Despite attempts to contact her, Werner has not responded to our survey.

Werner on Cannabis:

Carine Werner's stance on cannabis policy has not been publicly highlighted in her campaign materials or interviews. However, given her alignment with conservative values, including a focus on public safety and law enforcement, it is likely that she would adopt a cautious or oppositional stance toward expanding cannabis legalization, prioritizing concerns over community safety and drug enforcement.

State Senate 5

Lela Alston- A-

Bio:

Lela Alston is a long-serving Democratic politician and educator in Arizona. She has been a member of both the Arizona House of Representatives and the Arizona Senate, representing District 24. Alston began her career as a teacher, spending over 30 years in the Phoenix Union High School District. Despite attempts to contact her, Alston has not responded to our survey.

Alston on Cannabis:

Lela Alston has long been supportive of cannabis reform in Arizona. She has backed efforts to expand medical marijuana access, voted against the legislature's rewrite of drug testing rules in the Medical Marijuana Act back in 2011, and has shown support for the legalization of recreational cannabis. Alston recognizes the potential benefits of cannabis for both medical use and economic growth, aligning with progressive viewpoints on criminal justice reform by advocating for responsible legalization and regulation. Her stance is consistent with her broader focus on public health and community well-being.

Since the last election, Alston has been on the right side of every marijuana issue except hemp, where she has been on every side. More specifically, Alston cast all of the right votes in 2023, voting in support of (i) Senate Bill 1466, which would have generally expanded the medical marijuana program and lowered card costs, and (ii) Senate Bill 1271, which would have regulated hemp products like Elevado to protect consumers without handing dispensaries a monopoly. However, in 2024, Alston reversed her position on hemp—like every Senate Democrat in this year's guide, with the notable exception of Senator Eva Burch—and voted against Senate Bill 1186, even though it was identical to SB1271 for all intents and purposes. More favorably in 2024, Alston voted (i) yes on Senate Bill 1410, which restricted AZDHS' power to adopt bad delivery regulations and (ii) no on House Bill 2247, which would have pointlessly double-prohibited cannabis possession in schools while potentially recriminalizing personal possession in homes near schools.

Joshua Ortega- C

Bio:

Joshua Ortega is a Republican candidate running for the Arizona State Senate in District 5. This is his first campaign for public office. Professionally, Ortega works as a car description editor for the Barrett-Jackson Auction Company and has previous experience as a staff writer for Times Media Group. Additionally, he served in the U.S. Army as a healthcare specialist for eight years.

Ortega on Cannabis:

Although we appreciate Ortega's response to our survey, which indicates a genuine interest in legislating appropriately, he may require further education to become an effective legislator on the issue. For example, Ortega opposes legislative action to restrict the availability of contaminated product or to increase economic opportunities on the basis that he "support[s] free market principles" Ortega seems not to appreciate that Arizona severely limits the availability of marijuana business licenses, and Arizona NORML's general support for free market principles is why it advocates for the issuance of new licenses to create economic opportunities and spur competition. Further, Ortega objected to automatic expungement for non-violent offenses, which suggests a belief that non-violent marijuana possessors deserve a criminal record that limits job, housing, and state licensure opportunities. Notably, his expungement answer conflicts with his position in support of decriminalizing the simple possession of marijuana.

State Senate 6

Theresa Hatathlie- C+

Bio:

Theresa Hatathlie is a Navajo politician currently serving as a member of the Arizona State Senate, representing the newly redrawn 6th District since 2023. Despite attempts to contact her, Hatathlie has not responded to our survey.

Hatathlie on Cannabis:

Theresa Hatathlie has not explicitly stated a comprehensive position on cannabis, and her votes are often difficult to predict. In 2023, advocates were disappointed by her opposition to Senate Bill 1466, which would have generally expanded the medical marijuana program while lowering costs for patients, and by her support for Senate Bill 1453, which would have given dispensaries a monopoly on hemp products like Elevado.

However, since these troubling votes, Hatathlie has made all the right decisions. Later in 2023, she voted in support of Senate Bill 1271, which would have regulated hemp products through the Department of Agriculture without handing dispensaries a monopoly. Then, in 2024, she voted for Senate Bill 1186, which was identical to Senate Bill 1271 for all relevant purposes. (To her credit, Hatathlie has been notably consistent on hemp policy, unlike every Senate Democrat besides her, Eva Burch, Juan Mendez, and Anna Hernandez.) Additionally, in 2024, Hatathlie voted (i) in opposition to House Bill 2664, which would have pointlessly double-prohibited cannabis possession *in* schools and potentially recriminalized its possession in homes near schools, and (ii) in support of Senate Bill 1410, which restricted AZDHS' power to adopt bad delivery regulations.

Despite some of Hatathlie's positive votes, her grade was substantially lowered as a result of her puzzling opposition to strengthening the medical marijuana program to help patients. She

was the only Democrat to vote no on SB1466, in addition to being one of only six senators altogether to vote no.

State Senate 7

Wendy Rogers- D

Bio:

Wendy Rogers is a prominent political figure in Arizona, serving as a state senator for Legislative District 7. A retired Air Force officer with 20 years of service, Rogers became one of the first 100 women pilots in the Air Force and has extensive experience in military operations, including humanitarian missions and flight instruction at the U.S. Air Force Academy. Despite attempts to contact her, Rodgers has not responded to our survey.

Rodgers on Cannabis:

Wendy Rogers has a strong anti-cannabis stance. She has previously opposed measures to legalize recreational marijuana. She has been critical of the marijuana industry, referring to it as a "dangerous drug" and expressing concerns about its impact on public safety and youth. Her legislative actions reflect a broader opposition to marijuana legalization, consistent with her alignment with far-right views and prioritization of conservative values in her policymaking.

Although Rogers cast positive votes on the subject of hemp and restricting AZDHS' power to adopt bad delivery regulations, she is generally expected to vote against positive marijuana legislation, as reflected by her opposition to Senate Bill 1466, which generally expanded the medical marijuana program to help patients qualify and lower costs.

Haley Creighton- INC

Bio:

Haley Creighton is a candidate running for the Arizona State Senate in Legislative District 7. Born and raised in Chandler, Arizona, they moved to Flagstaff to attend Northern Arizona University (NAU). Creighton is the Northern Regional Director for the Arizona Students' Association, where they focus on student voter engagement and advocacy for issues like abortion access and free higher education. They have also worked as a campaign manager for Kyle Nitschke, a previous State Senate candidate. Despite attempts to contact them, Creighton has not responded to our survey.

Creighton on Cannabis:

Haley Creighton, a candidate for the Arizona State Senate in District 7, has not prominently emphasized specific cannabis-related policies in her platform. However, her general positions advocate for progressive and inclusive reforms. Given her focus on issues like representation, equity, and youth advocacy, she may be open to considering policies that address the social justice aspects of cannabis reform, particularly in terms of equity for marginalized communities.

State Senate 8

Roxana Holzapfel- INC

Bio:

Roxana Holzapfel is a Republican candidate running for the Arizona State Senate in District 8 for the 2024 election. Despite attempts to contact them, Ms. Holzapfel has not responded to our survey.

Holzapfel on Cannabis:

Roxana Holzapfel, a Republican candidate for the Arizona State Senate (District 8), has not made her stance on cannabis a central part of her campaign. Her platform emphasizes conservative priorities such as securing the border, supporting law enforcement, promoting small businesses, and protecting traditional values. While she has focused heavily on issues like public safety, the economy, and education, there is no specific mention of cannabis-related policies in her key campaign materials or public statements.

Holzapfel's broader commitment to law enforcement and public safety could imply a cautious or conservative stance on cannabis, as she highlights her experience as a former police officer.

Lauren Kuby- INC**Bio:**

Lauren Kuby is an Arizona-based sustainability advocate and public official. She has served as a Senior Global Futures Scientist at Arizona State University's Global Futures Laboratory and has been deeply involved with the university's sustainability efforts for over two decades. Kuby also served on the Tempe City Council from 2014 to 2022.

Kuby on Cannabis (Survey):

Regarding cannabis policy, Lauren Kuby supports efforts aimed at regulating the industry to ensure safety and fairness for consumers. She has been involved in public health and equity issues, which align with common concerns about cannabis regulation, such as ensuring product safety and reducing the negative impacts of past marijuana prohibition, though no specific cannabis policy stance was found in her current platform. However, her general focus on equity and justice might suggest a progressive stance on issues related to cannabis legalization and regulation.

State Senate 9**Robert Scantlebury- INC****Bio:**

Robert Scantlebury is a candidate for the Arizona State Senate in District 9. He has a strong background in public service, having worked as a Mesa police officer for 27 years. In addition to his law enforcement career, he is a small business owner and a public charter school board member. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Scantlebury has not responded to our survey.

Scantlebury on Cannabis:

Robert Scantlebury, a Republican candidate for the Arizona State Senate, has not focused extensively on cannabis issues in his public campaign. His primary concerns include public safety, lowering the cost of living, and supporting parental involvement in education. With his 30 years of law enforcement experience, Scantlebury emphasizes stricter enforcement around crime and drug issues, including stopping the flow of drugs across the border, which suggests a more conservative stance on drug policy.

Eva Burch- A+**Bio:**

Eva Burch is a former Democratic Arizona State Senator representing District 9. She has a background in healthcare, having worked as an emergency nurse and later becoming a nurse practitioner. She entered the Arizona State Legislature in January 2023. Despite attempts to contact her, Ms. Burch has not responded to our survey.

Burch on Cannabis:

Burch has been a consistent champion for cannabis consumers in the Arizona State Senate. While supporting legislation—like Senate Bill 1271 in 2023—to regulate hemp products like Elevado to protect consumers, Burch has pushed back against the marijuana industry's desperate bid to monopolize many hemp products for dispensaries. More specifically, she cast a pivotal vote in the Senate Health & Human Services Committee against Senate Bill 1453, which would have granted dispensaries the hemp monopoly they so desire, with her vote followed by an avalanche of Republican opposition to the bill. In addition to her demonstrated commitment to preserving economic opportunity for Arizonans and meaningful choices for consumers, Burch—a registered nurse—has also supported legislation like Senate Bill 1466 to expand the medical marijuana program while lowering costs, opposed legislation like House Bill 2664 that reflect poorly considered policy that could create new consumer prohibitions, and supported Senate Bill 1410, which restricted AZDHS' power to adopt bad delivery regulations. We feel confident in saying that the last two years would have gone very differently for consumers (in a bad way) if Eva Burch were not in the Arizona Senate.

State Senate 10

David Farnsworth- D-**Bio:**

David Farnsworth is a Republican politician currently serving as a State Senator for Arizona's District 10. He has an extensive political background, having been appointed to the Senate in 2013 and subsequently elected for a full term in 2014. Farnsworth previously served in the Arizona House of Representatives from 1995 to 1997. He has been re-elected multiple times, with his most recent election occurring in 2023. In the Senate, he holds the position of Chair of the Transportation, Technology, and Missing Children Committee and is the Vice Chair of the Military Affairs, Public Safety and Border Security Committee. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Farnsworth has not responded to our survey.

Farnsworth on Cannabis:

David Farnsworth, an Arizona State Senator, has taken a stringent stance on cannabis issues, particularly concerning medical marijuana. He has been known to propose legislation aimed at restricting advertising and other aspects of the medical marijuana industry. For instance, his bill (SB 1060) sought to impose severe penalties, including class 6 felony charges and substantial fines, for dispensaries that mis-advertised their services or failed to verify their certification.

Farnsworth has generally opposed expansions in the cannabis sector, advocating for stricter regulations rather than supporting broader access or reform. His approach reflects a more conservative viewpoint on cannabis, focusing on enforcement and regulation rather than liberalization or decriminalization of cannabis policies.

Few, if any, legislators have cast more votes to make life worse for consumers and better for the industry's wealthiest investors. More specifically, Farnsworth was the lone Republican to vote against Senate Bill 1186, which would have regulated hemp products like Elevado without handing dispensaries a monopoly. He also voted against Senate Bill 1466, reflecting his abiding opposition to medical marijuana, and he even voted against Senate Bill 1410 to defend AZDHS' power to force consumers to order delivery only from the dispensaries that are closest to them.

Had Farnsworth voted against Senate Bill 1271 in 2023, he would have received the F rating he probably desires... Better luck next time!

Robert Doyle- A

Bio:

Robert Doyle is a Democratic candidate running for the Arizona State Senate in District 10. His professional background includes working as a software engineer and owning Canyon Records. and he has been active in various community organizations, including the Arizona Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

Doyle on Cannabis:

Regarding cannabis, Robert Doyle supports legalization, viewing it as an important step toward social equity and justice. He believes that legalizing cannabis can help address systemic inequities, particularly those affecting marginalized communities. Doyle emphasizes the need for regulations that promote public health and safety while also recognizing the economic benefits of a legalized cannabis market.

State Senate 11

Catherine Miranda- A

Bio:

Catherine Miranda is a Democratic politician from Arizona, currently serving in the Arizona State Senate representing the 27th District. Before her tenure in the Senate, she served in the Arizona House of Representatives from 2010 to 2014 and was a member of the Roosevelt Elementary School District Governing Board. Despite attempts to contact her, Ms. Miranda has not responded to our survey.

Miranda on Cannabis:

In 2011, Catherine Miranda cast one of only 8 votes against the legislature's rewrite of the Medical Marijuana Act to create a "safety-sensitive" job classification that allows employers to test medical patients.

Continuing her historic track record, no senator has performed better than Catherine Miranda since the 2022 election. In fact, she voted in accordance with consumer interests on precisely every vote we tracked. In 2023, Miranda voted (i) in support of Senate Bill 1466, which would have generally expanded the medical marijuana program while lowering card costs and (ii) in support of Senate Bill 1271, which would have regulated hemp products like Elevado to protect consumers without handing dispensaries a monopoly. Unlike most Democratic senators, Miranda cast the right vote again on hemp in 2024. Additionally, in 2024, Miranda voted to (i) pass Senate Bill 1410, which restricted AZDHS' power to adopt bad delivery rules, and (ii) reject House Bill 2664, which would have pointlessly adopted a duplicative prohibition on possessing cannabis in schools (when it is already prohibited) and potentially recriminalized personal possession in or outside of homes near schools.

Joshua Ayala- INC

Bio:

Joshua Ayala is a Republican candidate running for the Arizona State Senate in District 11. He was born and raised in Phoenix, Arizona, and is a fourth-generation Arizonan. Ayala has a background in financial services, having owned his own company for over a decade, and he emphasizes his commitment to community service. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Ayala has not responded to our survey.

Ayala on Cannabis:

Joshua Ayala is a candidate for the Arizona State Senate, representing District 11. Specific details about his professional background and political platform are limited, as he did not have a personal website or extensive online presence available for review.

State Senate 12

Mitzi Epstein- A-**Bio:**

Mitzi Epstein is a prominent figure in Arizona politics, currently serving as the Senate Minority Leader. She was first elected to the Arizona House of Representatives in 2016, after previously serving on the Kyrene School District Governing Board. Epstein has a professional background as a computer systems analyst and small business owner, having worked with notable companies such as Olin Brass and Citicorp.

Epstein on Cannabis:

Mitzi Epstein is a member of the Arizona House of Representatives, representing District 18 and serving as the Senate Democratic Leader in the last legislative session. Aside from hemp policy, Epstein strongly supported consumers since her last election. In 2023, she voted in support of Senate Bill 1466, which generally would have expanded the medical marijuana program lowered card costs. Continuing her positive votes in 2024, Epstein voted (i) against House Bill 2664, a redundant measure to ban cannabis possession on school grounds, which had the potential to recriminalize personal use in homes near schools, and (ii) in support of Senate Bill 1410, which restricted AZDHS' power to adopt bad delivery regulations that would limit consumer choice.

Cara Vicini- F**Bio:**

Cara Vicini is a Republican candidate running for the Arizona State Senate in District 12. A resident of Ahwatukee since 2004, she has a background as an SAP consultant and a small business owner. Despite attempts to contact her, Ms. Vicini has not responded to our survey.

Vicini on Cannabis:

Regarding cannabis policy, Vicini has expressed opposition to various progressive measures related to cannabis legalization and decriminalization. She has indicated a preference for maintaining strict penalties for drug-related offenses, aligning with her broader stance on law and order.

State Senate 13

J.D. (Javan) Mesnard- C+**Bio:**

Javan Mesnard, often referred to as J.D. Mesnard, is a Republican member of the Arizona State Senate, representing District 13. He has served in the state legislature since being elected to the Arizona House of Representatives in 2010, where he eventually became Speaker of the House. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Mesnard has not responded to our survey.

Mesnard on Cannabis:

J.D. Mesnard, a Republican in Arizona's State Senate, appears to have evolving views on cannabis policy. While he supports expanding medical marijuana access, as shown by his vote

for SB1466 to make the medical program more affordable and accessible, he has previously expressed reservations about broader cannabis legalization. Mesnard has voiced concerns regarding the societal impacts of recreational cannabis, often pointing to issues in other states and critiquing the idea of using cannabis tax revenue to fund public initiatives.

Mesnard's legislative record reflects a careful yet supportive approach to certain reforms. His vote for HB2050 in 2022 demonstrated a commitment to consumer protections, including strengthened cannabis testing standards, whistleblower protections, and free medical marijuana cards for veterans. Additionally, he backed SB1271 in 2023 and SB1186 in 2024, both aimed at regulating hemp-derived products without granting dispensaries a monopoly. His vote for SB1410 in 2024, which limited the Arizona Department of Health Services' power to restrict delivery options, underscored his support for consumer choice. However, his vote for HB2664—a redundant prohibition on cannabis possession in schools, potentially recriminalizing use in homes near schools—indicates his ongoing caution regarding cannabis reform or misunderstandings about cannabis law.

Sharron Winters- INC

Bio:

Sharon Lee Winters is a Democratic candidate running for the Arizona State Senate in District 13. Winters has experience as a special education teacher and has taught English at the college level. Additionally, she is a published author and has run a small business.

Winters on Cannabis (Survey):

Winters did not answer our survey and has publicly expressed no positions related to cannabis policy.

State Senate 14

Elizabeth Brown- B+

Bio:

Elizabeth Brown is a Democratic candidate running for the Arizona State Senate in District 14. She previously ran for State Senator in Legislative District 12 in 2016 and 2018 but did not secure a win. Brown has a background in public service, having worked as an administrative assistant for former governors Janet Napolitano and Jan Brewer. Despite attempts to contact her, Ms. Brown has not responded to our survey.

Brown on Cannabis:

Elizabeth Brown supports decriminalizing marijuana and is against profit-driven private prisons. She advocates for a criminal justice system that focuses on rehabilitation rather than punishment, which includes providing trade school opportunities for inmates to help them reintegrate into society after release. Her stance on cannabis aligns with these broader criminal justice reform efforts aimed at reducing incarceration rates and promoting social equity.

Warren Petersen- D+

Bio:

Warren Petersen is an Arizona State Senator representing Legislative District 14, having been elected in 2012. A third-generation resident of Gilbert, Arizona, he has a long-standing career in the real estate industry, primarily in new home construction, and has owned a real estate brokerage for over a decade. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Peterson has not responded to our survey.

Peterson on Cannabis:

Warren Petersen, the Arizona Senate President, holds a conservative stance on cannabis policy, particularly regarding recreational marijuana. He has consistently opposed any efforts to expand recreational marijuana access, voicing concerns about public health and safety and questioning whether Arizona's legal framework for cannabis has adequately addressed issues like impaired driving.

Petersen's approach to medical marijuana reflects his cautious stance. In 2022, he supported HB2050, which strengthened cannabis testing standards, enhanced whistleblower protections, and provided free medical marijuana cards for veterans along with licenses for social equity applicants. However, he opposed SB1466, which aimed to expand access to the medical marijuana program and lower patient costs.

On hemp regulation, Petersen's votes align with a general Republican support for hemp products. He backed SB1271 in 2023 and SB1186 in 2024, both of which allow businesses without dispensary licenses to sell hemp-derived products, including brands like Elevado, which produce low-dose THC craft beverages. These products are limited to 0.3% Delta-9 THC by dry weight, allowing broader consumer access without monopoly control by dispensaries.

Petersen's support for SB1410 in 2024, which limited the Arizona Department of Health Services' authority to restrict cannabis delivery options, shows his support for consumer choice. His vote for HB2664—a redundant prohibition on cannabis possession in schools that could also recriminalize personal cannabis use in homes near schools—underscores his focus on strict regulation in cannabis-related issues.

Overall, Petersen's record reflects a conservative stance on marijuana while showing support for regulated access to hemp, in line with his party's position.

State Senate 15

Jake Hoffman- D+**Bio:**

Jake Hoffman is an Arizona politician and businessman currently serving in the Arizona Senate, representing District 15. Before his tenure in the Senate, Hoffman served in the Arizona House of Representatives and held various roles including on the Queen Creek Town Council and Higley School Board. He has also been active in the Republican Party, serving as Communications Director for the Maricopa County GOP during the 2016 election. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Hoffman has not responded to our survey.

Hoffman on Cannabis:

Jake Hoffman, a Republican in the Arizona State Senate, has consistently opposed efforts to expand cannabis legalization. Hoffman has voiced strong concerns about the impact of recreational marijuana, particularly emphasizing the risks he believes it poses to children and public safety. He has cited fears that legalization could lead to increased youth consumption and associates cannabis with potential exposure to dangerous substances like fentanyl, reinforcing his stance against broader legalization.

Hoffman's legislative record reflects his strict approach to cannabis policy. In 2022, he opposed HB2050, a bill focused on strengthening cannabis testing standards, providing whistleblower

protections, and offering free medical marijuana cards to veterans along with licenses for social equity applicants. He also voted against SB1466, which aimed to expand access to the medical marijuana program and reduce patient costs.

Despite his opposition to recreational marijuana, Hoffman supported SB1271 in 2023, a bill regulating hemp-derived products, including brands like Elevado, that meet the state's legal Delta-9 THC limits of 0.3% by dry weight. This vote aligns with a broader Republican support for hemp regulation that allows consumer access to low-THC products without monopolistic control by dispensaries.

Interestingly, Hoffman also opposed HB2664, a redundant measure to ban cannabis possession on school grounds, which had the potential to recriminalize personal use in homes near schools. Hoffman's record highlights his cautious approach to cannabis reform, prioritizing strict limits on marijuana expansion while supporting regulated hemp access.

Evan Olson- INC

Bio:

Evan Olson is an independent candidate running for the Arizona State Senate to represent District 15. Originally from Minnesota, he has lived in Arizona for over a decade and has a background in sales and management. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Olson has not responded to our survey.

Olson on Cannabis:

Evan Olson, running as an independent candidate for the Arizona State Senate, has not publicly detailed a specific stance on cannabis and has no campaign website at this time.

Alan Smith- C

Bio:

Alan Smith is running as the Democratic candidate for the Arizona State Senate in Legislative District 15. With a background as a retired insurance auditor. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Smith has not responded to our survey.

Smith on Cannabis:

Alan Smith, a member of the Arizona State Legislature, has expressed significant skepticism about the state's cannabis policies. He has highlighted that the Arizona Legislature has historically not supported marijuana legalization and has only been compelled to allow it due to public votes—specifically through measures like Proposition 207, which legalized recreational marijuana in 2020. According to Smith, the current cannabis framework was not effectively crafted to support the intent behind these public votes and has encountered numerous challenges.

Smith has been critical of the social equity program associated with Arizona's cannabis laws, which was intended to address past injustices related to marijuana enforcement. He pointed out that many of the social equity license holders have struggled to maintain their businesses, often selling their licenses to larger corporate entities due to a lack of support and resources. He believes that the program did not provide the necessary infrastructure to help disadvantaged individuals succeed in the cannabis industry, which has led to many original licensees failing to thrive in the market.

State Senate 16

T.J. Shope- C+

Bio:

T.J. Shope is a prominent political figure in Arizona, serving as a state senator for Legislative District 16 since January 2021. He has a strong background in public service, having been elected to the Coolidge Unified School District Governing Board and serving in the Arizona House of Representatives prior to his current position. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Shope has not responded to our survey.

Shope on Cannabis:

T.J. Shope, a Republican in the Arizona State Senate, has built a reputation as a friend to the marijuana industry, receiving substantial financial support from it. His voting record shows consistent support for policies that favor the cannabis industry, especially dispensaries, over broader consumer interests or small businesses. While Shope has backed medical cannabis reforms, his recent legislative actions indicate a preference for empowering large dispensaries in the market.

Shope has supported consumer protections and access to medical cannabis in certain cases. He voted for HB2050 in 2022, which strengthened testing standards, enhanced whistleblower protections, and provided free medical marijuana cards for veterans and licenses for social equity applicants. He also sponsored SB1466 to expand access to the medical marijuana program and lower patient costs.

On hemp regulation, Shope's votes reflect his loyalty to dispensary interests, but he also supported SB1271 and SB1186 in deference to other Republicans, including Majority Leader Sonny Borrelli, who championed these bills. Although he has supported broader access to hemp-derived products through these votes, his sponsorship of SB1453 in 2023—a bill designed to grant dispensaries a monopoly over products like Elevado's low-dose THC hemp beverages—shows his commitment to supporting corporate dispensaries' desire to criminalize their competition in the hemp industry.

Shope's remaining 2024 record was mixed. He voted for SB1410 in 2024, a measure that restricted the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to limit cannabis delivery options, which generally supported consumer choice. However, his vote for HB2664—a redundant prohibition on cannabis possession in schools that was already covered under existing law—could have potentially led to the recriminalization of personal possession in homes near schools.

Overall, while Shope has been supportive of cannabis legislation, his record leans towards favoring dispensary dominance in the market, emphasizing support for corporate dispensaries over consumer accessibility and small business opportunities.

Stacey Seaman- INC

Bio:

Stacey Seaman is a Democrat running for the Arizona State Senate in District 16. A long-time music educator and church musician, she is passionate about community involvement and education reform. Despite attempts to contact her, Ms. Seaman has not responded to our survey.

Seaman on Cannabis:

Stacey Seaman, a Democratic candidate for the Arizona State Senate, has not specifically outlined her stance on cannabis in the available resources.

State Senate 17

Vince Leach- F**Bio:**

Vince Leach is an Arizona state senator representing District 17. Leach has previously served in the Arizona House of Representatives and has held various roles in committees, including as Vice-Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Leach has not responded to our survey.

Leach on Cannabis:

No one in this guide has demonstrated a greater disregard for cannabis consumers than Vince Leach. In 2022, this Organization's former State Director—a constituent of Leach—approached Leach at the State Senate, said it was great to see him, and expressed how much he would appreciate seeing Leach at an Arizona NORML Lobby Week. In response, Leach threw his head up in the air, laughed, did a 180° spin, and walked away from his constituent. Not only has Leach been bad on policy, he greatly disrespected a retired teacher who resides in his district had spent hundreds of hours organizing free expungement clinics for consumers. Had Leach not voted in support of HB2050 in 2022, we may have needed to create a new grade to appropriately reflect his callousness towards cannabis consumers.

John McLean- INC**Bio:**

John McLean is a Democratic candidate running for the Arizona State Senate in District 17. McLean has a strong educational background, having earned his degree from the University of Arizona and subsequently completed a Ph.D. in California. He has had a successful career as an aerospace engineer and business leader, founding Areté Associates, a defense contractor that has generated significant economic activity in Southern Arizona. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. McLean has not responded to our survey.

McLean on Cannabis:

John McLean, a candidate for the Arizona State Senate, has not explicitly detailed his stance on cannabis legalization in his campaign materials or public statements.

State Senate 18

Priya Sundareshan A-**Bio:**

Priya Sundareshan is a candidate for the Arizona State Senate in Legislative District 18. She was raised in the district and has a strong academic background, having studied chemical engineering at MIT and earning a JD along with a master's in natural resource economics at the University of Arizona. Despite attempts to contact her, Ms. Sundareshan has not responded to our survey.

Sundareshan on Cannabis:

Priya Sundareshan's record on cannabis demonstrates a generally pro-access stance, with some inconsistencies that reflect a cautious approach, particularly concerning hemp-derived

THC products. Her positive votes on medical cannabis and consumer access show clear support for broader accessibility within a structured framework.

Sundareshan's support for SB1466 reflects her commitment to expanding medical marijuana access by lowering costs for patients, a measure aimed at making the medical cannabis program more inclusive and affordable. Additionally, she voted against HB2664, which redundantly prohibited cannabis possession in schools—a restriction already covered under existing law—and risked inadvertently recriminalizing personal possession in nearby homes. This vote highlights her preference for targeted reforms over excessive restrictions.

In 2024, Sundareshan also supported SB1410, which limited the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to restrict cannabis delivery options, underscoring her stance in favor of consumer choice.

However, her record on hemp-related bills reveals an inconsistency. Sundareshan supported SB1271 in 2023, which regulated consumer protections for hemp-derived products like Elevado without granting exclusive control to dispensaries, aligning with her pro-access stance. In contrast, she opposed SB1186 in both committee and on the floor during 2024, even though it had a similar regulatory aim and included more regulatory protections than SB1271. Although Sundareshan later expressed openness on the Senate floor to resuming her support for pro-consumer hemp policies, after the cannabis workers union announced its support, these inconsistencies impact her grade.

State Senate 19

Bob Karp- B

Bio:

Bob Karp is a Democratic candidate running for the Arizona State Senate in Legislative District 19. He has a background in aerospace manufacturing and software development and has been involved in real estate in Arizona since his retirement. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Karp has not responded to our survey.

Karp on Cannabis:

In previous communications with NORML, Karp has expressed opposition to decriminalization of cannabis but supports medical marijuana.

David Gowan- A+

Bio:

David Gowan is a Republican politician currently serving as a state senator in Arizona's Legislative District 19. He has a long history in public office, having first been elected to the Arizona House of Representatives in 2009 and later serving as the Speaker of the House from 2015 to 2017. Gowan was elected to the Arizona Senate in 2019, where he held the position of Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee from 2019 to 2022. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Gowan has not responded to our survey.

Gowan on Cannabis:

David Gowan, a Republican in the Arizona State Senate, has built a long track record of “getting things done” on cannabis regulation at the Capitol, particularly when it comes to ensuring consumer safety, fair competition, and access. His efforts began in 2019, when he sponsored Arizona's first formal testing law, SB1494, which required medical marijuana products to

undergo testing for contaminants. Gowan's commitment to preventing incidents of contaminated cannabis on the market has remained steadfast, as he stressed the importance of protecting patients, particularly medical users, from harmful substances.

In 2022, Gowan was a champion of HB2050, a comprehensive bill that strengthened testing protocols, established whistleblower protections, and provided free medical marijuana cards for veterans along with licenses for social equity applicants. His support for this bill highlights his priority on consumer safety and inclusivity within Arizona's cannabis framework.

On the subject of hemp, Gowan's voting record reflects his dedication to protecting consumer access and encouraging fair market practices. He supported both SB1271 and SB1186, two bills aimed at regulating hemp-derived products like Elevado to ensure consumer safety without handing monopolistic control to dispensaries. During the Senate Natural Resources & Water Committee hearing for SB1186 in 2024, Gowan fearlessly defended pro-competition policies, debating prominent figures in the cannabis industry, including Sara Pressler of JARS and Fife Symington III of Copperstate. His critiques at this hearing underscored his strong stance against the consolidation of market power, advocating for economic opportunities and fair competition over monopolistic advantages for large dispensaries.

Gowan's record also includes votes that have raised questions about restrictive policies. He supported HB2664, a bill redundantly banning cannabis possession in schools, a restriction already covered by existing law. This bill has the potential to recriminalize personal cannabis use in homes near schools, which some view as an unnecessary restriction. However, his vote for SB1410 in 2024, which limited the Arizona Department of Health Services' power to restrict delivery options, reflects his ongoing support for consumer access within the industry.

Overall, Gowan's record reflects a consistent focus on strengthening safety standards, promoting fair market competition, and ensuring access to medical cannabis, especially in rural areas that want it.

State Senate 20

Sally Gonzalez- A-

Bio:

Sally Gonzales is a Democrat currently serving as a member of the Arizona State Senate, representing District 3. Her political career began with her first election to the House in 2010, and she previously served in the legislature from 1997 to 2000. Despite attempts to contact her, Ms. Gonzales has not responded to our survey.

Gonzales on Cannabis:

Sally Gonzales has expressed support for the decriminalization of cannabis. She believes that addressing substance abuse issues in communities is essential and views decriminalization as a step toward improving public health. Her long legislative record supports her past statements, including her 2011 vote against the legislature's rewrite of drug testing rules in the Medical Marijuana Act that created the "safety-sensitive" job classification.

More recently, Gonzales voted in 2022 for HB2050, a bill that strengthened testing standards, enhanced whistleblower protections, and provided free medical marijuana cards for veterans, while also establishing licenses for social equity applicants. This vote underscores her commitment to ensuring both safety and social equity in the cannabis industry.

On hemp-derived products, Gonzales has shown a balanced approach. She voted in favor of SB1271 in 2023, supporting consumer protections for products like Elevado without creating exclusive control for dispensaries. However, she also supported SB1453, a bill that would have granted dispensaries a monopoly on psychoactive hemp products. Despite her initial support, Gonzales expressed reservations about the bill, indicating that her vote might have changed if the bill had reached the floor.

Gonzales has consistently supported measures that improve access for patients and consumers. She voted for SB1466, which aimed to lower costs and broaden access within Arizona's medical marijuana program, aligning with her view that medical cannabis should be more accessible and affordable. Additionally, she voted for SB1410 in 2024, which limited the Arizona Department of Health Services' power to restrict delivery options, showing her continued support for consumer access and convenience.

State Senate 21

Rosanna Gabaldón- A

Bio:

Rosanna Gabaldón is a Democratic politician serving in the Arizona State Senate for District 21. She previously served in the Arizona House of Representatives from 2013 to 2021 and represented the 2nd District in the State Senate from 2021 to 2023. Despite attempts to contact her, Ms. Gabaldón has not responded to our survey.

Gabaldón on Cannabis:

Rosanna Gabaldón supports the legalization, taxation, and regulation of cannabis in Arizona. She has consistently backed cannabis reform, including medical use and decriminalization, citing personal experiences with the benefits of medical marijuana for family and friends. Gabaldón has been a longtime advocate for cannabis reform in the state legislature. Earlier this year, however, Gabaldón opposed SB1186, which would have regulated hemp products like Elevado to protect consumers without handing dispensaries a monopoly over the products.

State Senate 22

Steve Robinson- INC

Bio:

Steve Robinson is a Republican candidate running for the Arizona State Senate in District 22. He has a background in operations as the Director of We the People AZ Alliance, a grassroots organization involved in election integrity issues and other conservative causes. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Robinson has not responded to our survey.

Robinson on Cannabis:

We were unable to identify any information regarding Robinson's views on cannabis policy.

Eva Diaz- A-

Bio:

Eva Diaz is an Arizona native, an educator, and a community leader currently running for the Arizona State Senate in District 22. She has a background in education with over 27 years of experience as a teacher, principal, and administrator.

Diaz on Cannabis (Survey):

Eva Diaz, a Democratic Arizona State Senator, has a generally pro-access record on cannabis policy, focused on enhancing patient access and protecting consumer rights. Her voting record and survey responses reflect support for a balanced approach to cannabis regulation, though her recent votes reveal some divergence on hemp products.

Diaz has consistently supported expanding access to medical marijuana. In 2023, she voted for SB1466, which reduced costs and increased accessibility within Arizona's medical marijuana program. Her support for this bill aligns with her advocacy for patient access, which she reinforced in her survey response by expressing strong support for rigorous testing standards to ensure consumer safety.

On hemp regulation, however, Diaz's record shows an inconsistency. She voted for SB1271 in 2023, which regulated hemp-derived products like Elevado to protect consumers without creating a monopoly for dispensaries. But in 2024, she opposed SB1186—a bill with similar objectives. This difference may indicate evolving considerations in Diaz's approach to hemp products, though it remains a notable divergence in her otherwise consumer-focused record.

Diaz has also taken other commonsense, pro-consumer positions. She voted against HB2664, a bill that sought to re-prohibit cannabis possession on school grounds—a restriction already enforced by law—which risked potentially impacting personal cannabis use in nearby homes. Additionally, she supported SB1410 in 2024, a measure that restricted the Arizona Department of Health Services' power to limit delivery options, reinforcing her stance in favor of consumer access.

Diaz's survey responses further highlight her commitment to decriminalization and automatic expungement for non-violent cannabis convictions, reflecting her support for policies that address the impacts of past prohibitions. Her overall record demonstrates a balanced approach to cannabis reform, prioritizing accessibility and public health, though her mixed votes on hemp regulation contribute to her A- rating.

State Senate 23

Brian Fernandez- A-**Bio:**

Brian Fernandez is a Democratic State Senator representing Arizona's District 23. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Fernandez has not responded to our survey.

Fernandez on Cannabis:

Brian Fernandez, a Democratic Arizona State Representative, has a generally pro-access stance on cannabis policy, with a focus on consumer protections and medical marijuana accessibility. His voting record highlights consistent support for expanding patient access and ensuring consumer choice, though his approach to hemp regulation has shown some variability.

Fernandez has been a strong advocate for improving the medical marijuana program. In 2023, he voted in favor of SB1466, a bill aimed at lowering costs and increasing accessibility for patients within the medical marijuana framework. This vote aligns with his commitment to making medical cannabis more affordable and accessible to Arizona residents.

On hemp regulation, however, Fernandez's record reflects some inconsistency. He supported SB1271 in 2023, a bill that regulated hemp-derived products like Elevado to protect consumers

without giving dispensaries exclusive control. However, he opposed SB1186 in 2024—both in committee and on the floor—which had similar aims. In committee, Fernandez expressed mixed views, noting concerns about the relatively low taxes associated with these hemp-derived products. This divergence may suggest evolving considerations or reservations about the fiscal implications of expanded hemp access.

Fernandez has also taken other commonsense, pro-consumer positions. He voted against HB2664, a bill that sought to re-prohibit cannabis possession on school grounds—a restriction already enforced by law—which risked potentially impacting personal cannabis use in nearby homes. Additionally, he supported SB1410 in 2024, a measure that restricted the Arizona Department of Health Services’ power to limit delivery options, reinforcing his stance in favor of consumer access.

Overall, Fernandez’s record illustrates a balanced approach to cannabis reform, with consistent support for medical access and consumer protections. His mixed votes on hemp regulation introduce a slight inconsistency, contributing to his A- rating.

Michelle Altherr- D

Bio:

Michelle Altherr is a Republican running for the Arizona State Senate in District 23. She has lived in Arizona for 30 years and served in the U.S. Air Force for 15 years. Despite attempts to contact her, Ms. Altherr has not responded to our survey.

Altherr on Cannabis:

Michelle Altherr, a Republican running for Arizona Senate in District 23, has taken a relatively conservative stance on cannabis policy. She opposes the recreational use of marijuana and believes the state's existing cannabis laws should be enforced rigorously to maintain public safety and order.

State Senate 24

Analise Ortiz- A+

Bio:

Analise Ortiz is a Democratic State Representative from Arizona, currently running for the State Senate in District 24. Ortiz has a background in investigative journalism, having worked at the ACLU and focused on issues such as criminal justice and immigration reform.

Ortiz on Cannabis:

Analise Ortiz has been a champion for cannabis consumers. Her survey responses and track record reflect strong support for improving cannabis regulations and policies. She advocates for legislative action to enhance testing standards to protect patients and consumers from contaminated and falsely advertised cannabis products. Ortiz believes in decriminalizing simple marijuana possession, viewing civil penalties as a more just alternative to criminal charges. She also supports automatic expungement for non-violent marijuana possession convictions, recognizing the need to address the historical inequities caused by marijuana prohibition. Additionally, Ortiz is in favor of expanding economic opportunities in the cannabis industry by issuing more licenses, which she believes will foster competition and innovation.

Ortiz’s survey responses are consistent with her strong legislative track record. She was the first legislator in 2024 to oppose HB2664—which sought to redundantly ban cannabis possession on

schools grounds, an already existing restriction, and could have recriminalized personal possession in homes near schools—casting the only “no” vote against the bill in the House Judiciary Committee.

Similarly, Ortiz voted for the pro-consumer bill HB2770, which would have allowed consumers to order delivery from manufacturing sites and cultivation sites, in addition to retail dispensary locations. This could have empowered brands, placing these small businesses on a more even playing field with dispensaries, and provided consumers with many more options. After HB2770 failed, Ortiz backed SB1410, which limited AZDHS’ power to weaken consumer delivery during rulemaking.

Although Ortiz did vote in support of HB2451—along with every other Democratic Representative in the House and most Republicans—her leadership on cannabis issues stands out and dramatically outweighs this one vote.

State Senate 25

Tim Dunn- C

Bio:

Tim Dunn began his political career when he was elected to the Arizona House of Representatives in 2018 and has since held leadership roles, including Chairman of the Land and Agriculture Committee and Vice-Chair of the Natural Resources, Energy & Water Committee. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Dunn has not responded to our survey.

Dunn on Cannabis:

Tim Dunn, a Republican candidate for the Arizona State Senate, has a conservative stance on cannabis-related issues. He has publicly expressed opposition to marijuana legalization in the past, focusing on the potential negative impacts on community safety and health. Dunn advocates for strong law enforcement measures against drug-related offenses and emphasizes the importance of protecting children from substance abuse. While he supports the medical use of cannabis under regulated conditions, he maintained that recreational use could lead to increased crime and social issues.

His recent legislative record reflects a cautious and industry-aligned stance on cannabis policy, often supporting measures that enhance regulation without significantly expanding consumer access or market competition.

In 2022, Dunn supported HB2050, a bill that improved consumer protections by strengthening testing standards, establishing whistleblower protections, and providing free medical marijuana cards for veterans alongside licenses for social equity applicants. His vote indicates a commitment to safe, regulated cannabis use, particularly within the medical framework.

Dunn also voted in favor of HB2451, which introduced reasonable advertising provisions but granted dispensaries a monopoly on hemp products, including full-spectrum CBD containing any THC. This vote aligns with his preference for structured, regulated markets, even if it limits broader consumer options within the CBD space.

In the House Appropriations Committee, Dunn showed limited interest in expanding licensing options by expressing partial support for microlicenses, though his overall stance on broader access remains conservative. His support for SB1410 in 2024, a bill limiting the Arizona

Department of Health Services' authority to restrict delivery options, reflects some openness to facilitating consumer access within established parameters.

Dunn also backed HB2664, a redundant measure prohibiting cannabis possession on school grounds—a restriction already enforced under current law—which could inadvertently affect personal possession in nearby homes. His support for this bill underscores a more restrictive approach to cannabis policy, favoring additional controls over access.

Overall, Dunn's record reveals a cautious approach to cannabis policy, generally supporting enhanced regulation and existing industry structures without advancing broader consumer access. His restrained stance and limited support for industry expansion contribute to his C rating.

State Senate 26

Flavio Bravo- A-

Bio:

Flavio Bravo is an American politician and a member of the Democratic Party, currently serving in the Arizona Senate representing the 26th district. Prior to his Senate role, Bravo was elected to the Arizona House of Representatives in 2022, where he represented the same district from January to May 2023. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Bravo has not responded to our 2024 survey.

Bravo on Cannabis:

Flavio Bravo, the Democratic state senator from Arizona, supports the legalization of cannabis. He emphasizes a public health and safety approach to cannabis policy. Bravo believes that legalizing cannabis can generate revenue, especially when focusing on addressing issues like homelessness, which aligns with his broader goals of fostering economic growth and supporting community needs.

His 2022 survey responses highlight his dedication to key reform areas. He expressed full support for expanding expungement opportunities for non-violent cannabis offenses, including automatic expungements. Additionally, Bravo endorsed the medical use of cannabis for Autism Spectrum Disorder patients, advocating for their right to medical freedom. On industry issues, he emphasized that promoting small business competition within the cannabis market is essential to driving tax revenues and curbing Arizona's underground market.

Bravo's voting record aligns with his pro-consumer and justice-focused stance. In 2024, he voted in favor of SB1410, which restricted the Arizona Department of Health Services' power to limit cannabis delivery options, underscoring his support for accessible and convenient cannabis services across Arizona. Additionally, Bravo opposed HB2664 both in the Senate Judiciary Committee and on the floor. This bill, which redundantly prohibited cannabis possession on school grounds—a restriction already covered by existing law—risked unintentionally affecting personal cannabis use in nearby homes.

Bravo's approach to hemp regulation is more cautious. He opposed SB1186 in 2024, a bill designed to regulate hemp-derived products like Elevado, ensuring consumer protection without granting monopolistic control to dispensaries, which limits opportunities for small Arizona businesses and restricts choices for consumers.

Victor Harris- INC

Bio:

Victor "Vic" Harris is a Republican candidate running for the Arizona State Senate in District 26. This is his first attempt at public office. He has a diverse professional background, having worked as a neighborhood services inspector, a Section 8 inspector, and a police officer for the City of Phoenix. Additionally, he served in the U.S. military for 20 years. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Harris has not responded to our survey.

Harris on Cannabis:

Victor Harris does not specifically outline a stance on cannabis in the information available about his campaign for Arizona State Senate.

State Senate 27

Kevin Payne- B+

Bio:

Kevin Payne is a Republican politician currently serving in the Arizona House of Representatives, representing District 27. He was first elected to the House in 2016 for District 21 and served until 2023 when he moved to District 27. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Payne has not responded to our survey.

Payne on Cannabis:

Kevin Payne is one of Arizona's most active legislators when it comes to marijuana policy. In 2023, he sponsored a bill to temporarily transfer regulatory control away from AZDHS and to a "marijuana regulatory board." In 2024, he again sought to create a marijuana regulatory board while, in the same bill, also making "microlicenses" available. Puzzlingly, the microlicenses would have required cultivators/manufacturers to operate a dispensary, and the bill would have prevented them from selling their products to traditional dispensaries. While actively working to reform our marijuana laws for the better, Kevin Payne's priorities are often bogged down by his apparent misplaced trust in a [felon](#) who has been convicted of [investment fraud](#) and [election fraud](#) and has a track record of alienating potential allies.

State Senate 28

Frank Carroll- B

Bio:

Frank Carroll is a Republican politician serving in the Arizona Senate, representing Legislative District 28. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Carroll has not responded to our survey.

Carroll on Cannabis:

Frank Carroll, a Republican candidate for the Arizona State Senate, is opposed to the legalization of cannabis. His campaign emphasizes conservative values, particularly focusing on public safety and the protection of children. Carroll aligns with organizations that advocate for strict drug policies and has supported increasing penalties for drug-related offenses. His voting record demonstrates a commitment to expanding medical marijuana accessibility and regulating hemp products with an eye toward consumer safety.

In 2022, Carroll supported HB2050, which improved cannabis testing standards, established whistleblower protections, and provided free medical marijuana cards for veterans along with

licenses for social equity applicants. This vote highlights his focus on consumer safety and inclusivity within Arizona's medical marijuana program.

Carroll has consistently supported efforts to regulate hemp-derived products. He voted in favor of both SB1271 in 2023 and SB1186 in 2024, which set consumer protections for hemp products like Elevado without creating monopolistic control for dispensaries. His backing of these bills indicates a balanced approach to hemp regulation, ensuring product safety while allowing fair market competition.

Carroll's record also reflects support for expanding medical cannabis access. He voted in favor of SB1466, a bill aimed at lowering costs and improving accessibility for patients in Arizona's medical marijuana program. His stance aligns with his broader pro-consumer perspective on medical cannabis.

However, Carroll also supported HB2664, a bill that redundantly prohibited cannabis possession on school grounds—a restriction already covered by law—and risked impacting personal cannabis use in homes near schools. This vote indicates a more restrictive stance on cannabis regulation.

Additionally, Carroll supported SB1410 in 2024, which limited the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to restrict cannabis delivery options, reinforcing his support for safe and reasonably accessible cannabis delivery services.

Overall, Carroll's record reflects a balanced approach to cannabis reform, with a focus on consumer safety and medical access. His mixed stance on restrictive policies like HB2664 contributes to his A- rating, underscoring his generally supportive yet cautiously regulatory approach to cannabis policy.

State Senate 29

Janae Shamp- A-

Bio:

Janae Shamp is a Republican candidate running for the Arizona State Senate in District 29. She has a background as a registered nurse and holds degrees in Molecular Biosciences & Biotechnology and Nursing. Despite attempts to contact her, Ms. Shamp has not responded to our survey.

Shamp on Cannabis:

Janae Shamp's stance on cannabis is cautious and reflects her focus on health and safety. She has expressed concern about the impact of cannabis use on children and the need for a thorough understanding of its effects on mental health.

However, she has assembled a strong pro-consumer track record with an emphasis on safety, reasonable accessibility of medical marijuana, and responsible regulation. Her record reflects a balance of support for accessible medical marijuana and a focus on ensuring fair competition within the cannabis and hemp markets.

Shamp has consistently supported expanding medical marijuana access and affordability. She voted for SB1466, a bill that reduced costs and broadened access for patients, reflecting her commitment to consumer support within the medical marijuana framework. Additionally, she

sponsored SB1709, a comprehensive testing bill designed to strengthen Arizona's marijuana testing standards. SB1709 includes provisions for batch standardization, unique batch numbering, and strict sample collection procedures to ensure safe, reliable products for consumers.

On hemp regulation, Shamp has shown a clear stance in favor of fair competition. She voted for both SB1271 in 2023 and SB1186 in 2024, which set consumer protections for hemp-derived products like Elevado without monopolizing control for dispensaries. Her votes demonstrate a consistent approach to balancing consumer safety with accessible market structures. In committee, she also cast a pivotal NO vote on SB1453, effectively blocking a bill that would have handed dispensaries a monopoly on hemp-derived THC products. During the debate, Shamp expressed concerns about vertical integration, underscoring her support for competitive market conditions.

However, Shamp's record also includes support for HB2664, a redundant measure that prohibited cannabis possession on school grounds—a restriction already covered by existing law—which could have unintentionally impacted personal possession in nearby homes. Additionally, her vote in favor of SB1410 in 2024 limited the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to restrict cannabis delivery options, reinforcing her support for accessible consumer services.

Overall, Shamp's record and proactive stance on improving testing and consumer access demonstrate her balanced, pro-access approach to cannabis policy, earning her an A rating.

Eric Stafford- INC

Bio:

Eric Stafford is a Democratic candidate for the Arizona State Senate in District 29. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Stafford has not responded to our survey.

Stafford on Cannabis:

Eric Stafford has not explicitly outlined a public stance on cannabis on his campaign website or other platforms as of now.

State Senate 30

J'aime Morgaine- A

Bio:

J'aime Morgaine is a Democratic candidate running for the Arizona State Senate in District 30.

Morgaine on Cannabis (Survey):

J'aime Morgaine has a strong stance on cannabis, particularly in support of its medical use and legalization. As a veteran living with service-connected PTSD, she has researched medical marijuana extensively and opposes the federal government's stance that cannabis lacks medical value. Morgaine advocates for Arizona's medical marijuana program and aims to reduce the criminal penalties associated with cannabis possession.

She has expressed support for the legalization of cannabis for adults at both the state and federal levels and to work on including medical marijuana in insurance formularies. Morgaine positions herself as a candidate who will support the rights of Arizonans to use cannabis without fear of government repercussions.

Hildy Angius- INC

Bio:

Hildy Angius is a Republican candidate running for the Arizona State Senate from District 30. She has a background as an elected Mohave County Supervisor, having served since 2012. Despite attempts to contact her, Ms. Angius has not responded to our survey.

Angius on Cannabis:

Hildy Angius, a Republican candidate for the Arizona State Senate, has not explicitly stated a position on cannabis in the available public resources.

Arizona State House of Representatives

State House 1

Marcia Smith- INC

Bio:

Marcia Smith is a candidate running for the Arizona State Legislature. Despite attempts to contact her, Ms. Smith has not responded to our survey.

Smith on Cannabis:

Marcia Smith has expressed concerns about the cannabis industry in Arizona, particularly regarding its structure and implementation. She has highlighted that the state legislature has not adequately supported marijuana legislation, and much of the current framework exists due to public voting rather than legislative initiative. Smith is critical of the social equity programs associated with cannabis licensing, pointing out issues such as predatory agreements that hinder original license holders from thriving. She believes that the lack of legislative support makes it challenging to improve the system, which she sees as having been constructed without sufficient safeguards for social equity. However, we do not have enough information to rate her.

Quang Nguyen- D+

Bio:

Quang Nguyen is a Republican member of the Arizona House of Representatives, representing Legislative District 1. He has previously served on various committees and has focused on issues such as public safety and healthcare. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Nguyen has not responded to our survey.

Nguyen on Cannabis:

Quang Nguyen has consistently opposed the legalization of recreational cannabis, emphasizing concerns about public health and safety. He has advocated for stricter penalties related to drug trafficking, particularly concerning fentanyl, demonstrating a commitment to conservative drug policies.

Despite supporting free markets, economic competition, and ending unnecessary regulations for other businesses, when it comes to cannabis, he tends to support limited licensing with excessive regulations.

Nguyen voted against HB2050 in 2022, a bill that aimed to strengthen testing standards, establish whistleblower protections, and provide free medical marijuana cards for veterans, as well as create licenses for social equity applicants. His opposition to HB2050 suggests a conservative approach to cannabis policy, showing limited interest in consumer safety enhancements or social equity within the industry.

Similarly, Nguyen voted for HB2451 in 2024, which would have restricted commercial speech while also handing dispensaries a monopoly over benign hemp-products like full-spectrum CBD. His yes vote on HB2664, a redundant prohibition on cannabis possession on school grounds—a restriction already covered by existing law—also raised concerns due to its potential impact on personal use in nearby homes.

Nguyen's support for SB1410 in 2024, a bill that restricted the Arizona Department of Health Services' authority to limit cannabis delivery options, reflects a rare instance of support for consumer access within his voting record.

Nguyen's overall record demonstrates a cautious, restrictive approach to cannabis reform, with limited support for consumer access or equity measures, contributing to his D+ rating.

Selina Bliss- B

Bio:

Selina Bliss is a Republican member of the Arizona State House of Representatives, representing Legislative District 1. Despite attempts to contact her, Ms. Bliss has not responded to our survey.

Bliss on Cannabis:

Selina Bliss has not publicly detailed her stance on cannabis, and there are currently no specific statements available regarding her views on legalization or regulation. However, Bliss, a Past President of the Arizona Nurses Association, has privately expressed some openness to cannabis consumption, at least in medical contexts.

Bliss voted in support of HB2451, approving reasonable advertising standards but granting dispensaries a monopoly on full-spectrum CBD products containing any THC. She also supported SB1410 in 2024, which limited the Arizona Department of Health Services' authority to restrict cannabis delivery options.

Jay Ruby- INC

Bio:

Jay Ruby is a candidate for the Arizona House of Representatives in District 1 for the 2024 election. He has experience in various roles, including director of the Carpetbag Brigade Physical Theater Company and campaign director for Juniper Granite. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Ruby has not responded to our survey.

Ruby on Cannabis:

As of now, Jay Ruby has not publicly stated his stance on cannabis legalization, and there is no available record of his position. However, Ruby played a critical role in organizing multiple expungement clinics for cannabis consumers who have been saddled with a criminal record. We applaud Ruby's public service, but although his record on expungement is clear, we lack

information about Ruby's other positions related to cannabis and therefore feel uncomfortable issuing a grade.

State House 2

Stephanie Simacek- A

Bio:

Stephanie Simacek is a Democratic candidate running for the Arizona State House of Representatives in District 2. She is currently serving on the Deer Valley Unified School District Governing Board, having been elected in 2022. Before entering politics, Stephanie worked as a full-time teacher and has experience in project management and law.

Simacek on Cannabis:

Stephanie Simacek, a candidate for the Arizona House in District 2, has earned an A rating for her clear support of consumer rights, justice reforms, and market competition in the cannabis industry. Her 2024 survey responses reflect a comprehensive, pro-reform stance on cannabis policy.

Simacek strongly supports improving testing standards, recognizing that reliable testing is essential to protect consumers from contaminated and inaccurately labeled products. She believes Arizona should adopt rigorous testing requirements that guarantee product safety, ensuring that consumers know what they are purchasing and can rely on consistent quality.

On decriminalization, Simacek expressed her support for substituting civil penalties for criminal charges related to simple marijuana possession, aligning with public sentiment in Arizona and prioritizing a public health approach over punitive measures. She also favors automatic expungement of non-violent cannabis possession convictions, noting that individuals should not face lasting consequences for actions no longer considered criminal. Simacek believes that these criminal records create barriers to employment, housing, and education, which ultimately harm the broader community.

Simacek supports expanding economic opportunities within Arizona's cannabis market, specifically by issuing new licenses for cultivators and manufacturers. She advocates for a balanced approach to competition, ensuring that local businesses have fair opportunities in the marketplace alongside larger companies. This stance aligns with her belief in a competitive, fair industry that reduces rent-seeking and promotes innovation.

Simacek's survey responses reflect her commitment to consumer safety, justice, and fair market competition, underscoring her A rating in support of sensible and equitable cannabis policy reform in Arizona.

Justin Wilmeth- A-

Bio:

Justin Wilmeth is a Republican member of the Arizona House of Representatives, representing District 15. Wilmeth has a background in politics and communications, having worked in various roles, including as a communications specialist and campaign manager for several political campaigns before his election to the Arizona legislature in 2020. Despite attempts to contact him, Wilmeth has not responded to our survey.

Wilmeth on Cannabis:

Justin Wilmeth, a Republican representative from Arizona, has introduced a bill aimed at allowing interstate commerce in cannabis, contingent on changes to federal law. His stance appears to focus on the economic benefits and preparedness for federal legalization. Wilmeth has stated that he believes in the importance of establishing regulations for interstate cannabis trade to ensure the Arizona cannabis industry can thrive once federal laws change. He emphasizes that his proposal is more about the commercial aspect rather than personal views on cannabis use, as he has never used marijuana.

Notably, however, Wilmeth has shown some alignment with restrictive policies. He voted for HB2451, which included advertising standards but also granted dispensaries a monopoly over full-spectrum CBD products containing THC. He also supported HB2664, a redundant prohibition on cannabis possession in schools, potentially affecting nearby home use. Additionally, his vote for SB1410 limited the Arizona Department of Health Services' authority to restrict delivery, reinforcing his support for controlled consumer access.

Ari Bradshaw- A+**Bio:**

Ari Bradshaw is a Republican candidate running for the Arizona State House in Legislative District 2. He is a fourth-generation Phoenician and a graduate of Vanderbilt University. Bradshaw has been active in youth activism. He has served with Ink4Kidz, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, and with the Phoenix Sister Cities Organization, most notably as Vice Chair of its Prague Committee.

Bradshaw on Cannabis:

Ari Bradshaw's responses to the survey indicate strong support for reforming marijuana policies in Arizona. He advocates for legislative action to improve testing standards to protect patients and consumers from contaminated and inaccurately advertised products, emphasizing the importance of adequate testing in ensuring public safety.

Bradshaw is also in favor of decriminalizing simple marijuana possession, arguing that no one should face jail time for possession of a plant. He supports the automatic expungement of non-violent marijuana possession convictions, reflecting his belief that individuals should not have a criminal record for possessing marijuana. Additionally, he endorses expanding economic opportunities within the cannabis industry by issuing new licenses for cultivation and manufacturing, aiming to promote competition and reduce oligopolistic practices.

Bradshaw earned an A+ by going above and beyond insofar as he made a surprise appearance at an Arizona NORML Chapter Meeting, engaged in a thoughtful discussion of marijuana policy, and followed up afterwards for a sincere conversation that explored various fixes to problems that plague Arizona's industry.

Tom Simes- A**Bio:**

Tom Simes is an independent candidate running for the Arizona House of Representatives in District 2. He brings a unique perspective to politics, having owned a comedy club and worked as a software engineer. Simes emphasizes his non-partisan approach, aiming to inspire collaboration and reduce political polarization. He is passionate about engaging with his community and is focused on addressing local issues through innovative solutions.

Simes on Cannabis:

Tom Simes, running for Arizona State Representative in District 2, has a moderate and pragmatic approach to various issues, including cannabis legislation. He supports improving testing standards for cannabis products to protect patients and consumers from contaminated or misrepresented products. Simes recognizes the need for legislative action in this area, emphasizing the importance of transparency and accountability in the marketplace to build consumer trust.

Regarding the decriminalization of simple marijuana possession, Simes is in favor of replacing criminal penalties with civil fines, reflecting the broader public sentiment in Arizona that supports such measures. He believes that decriminalization can alleviate the disproportionate impact of marijuana prohibition on marginalized communities.

Simes also advocates for the automatic expungement of non-violent marijuana possession convictions, understanding the long-term consequences of criminalization and the importance of undoing these harms.

On the economic front, Simes supports legislative efforts to increase competition within the cannabis industry. He acknowledges the issues caused by limited licensing, which can lead to higher costs for consumers and stifle innovation. By advocating for more cultivation and manufacturing licenses, he aims to promote a healthier, more competitive marketplace for cannabis products in Arizona.

State House 3

Richard Corles - INC**Bio:**

Richard Corles is a candidate for the Arizona House of Representatives. He is a newcomer to politics but is eager to contribute to the legislative process. His campaign focuses on representing the interests of his constituents, emphasizing community engagement and transparency in governance. Corles aims to build a platform that resonates with the needs and values of local residents. Despite attempts to contact him, Corles has not responded to our survey.

Corles on Cannabis:

At this time, Corles has not disclosed his position on cannabis.

Joseph Chaplik - F**Bio:**

Joseph Chaplik is a state representative in Arizona, known for his conservative views. He has actively participated in various legislative initiatives aimed at strengthening law enforcement and reducing government overreach. Chaplik has a background in business and brings a pragmatic approach to policy making, focusing on economic growth and public safety. Despite attempts to contact him, Chaplik has not responded to our survey.

Chaplik on Cannabis:

Joseph Chaplik is an outspoken opponent of recreational marijuana legalization, citing concerns over public health and safety. He believes that strict regulation is necessary to mitigate potential negative impacts of cannabis use.

Chaplik's voting record reflects his restrictive stance. He voted against HB2050 in 2022, a bill intended to strengthen cannabis testing, add whistleblower protections, and offer free medical marijuana cards for veterans. He also opposed HB2451 in 2024, a bill that introduced reasonable advertising standards but also created a dispensary monopoly over full-spectrum CBD products with THC content.

Chaplik further opposed SB1410 in 2024, which aimed to limit the Arizona Department of Health Services' authority to restrict delivery options, reinforcing his resistance to expanded consumer access. Additionally, he supported HB2664, a redundant prohibition on cannabis possession on school grounds, which risked unintentionally impacting personal use in nearby homes.

Chaplik's consistent opposition to cannabis reform measures that prioritize access and consumer protections results in an F rating.

Alexander Kolodin - F

Bio:

Alexander Kolodin is a conservative attorney and current state representative. He is known for his involvement in contentious legal battles surrounding election integrity and has positioned himself as a staunch advocate for conservative values in the legislature. Kolodin's legal background informs his approach to policy, particularly in areas of governance and regulatory reform. Despite attempts to contact him, Kolodin has not responded to our survey.

Kolodin on Cannabis:

Kolodin has a cautious stance towards cannabis legislation. While he has not taken a definitive position on legalization, he advocates for limited regulation and ensuring that any legislation is carefully considered to protect public interests.

His voting record largely reflects his conservative approach. More specifically, in 2024, he backed HB2664, a redundant prohibition on cannabis possession in schools, which could impact nearby personal use.

However, Kolodin has shown a limited willingness to stand by his free market values. In 2024, he opposed HB2451, which would have granted dispensaries a monopoly on full-spectrum CBD products. Additionally, he supported SB1410, reinforcing consumer choice by restricting the Arizona Department of Health Services' authority to limit delivery.

State House 4

Kelli Butler - A

Bio:

Kelli Butler is a progressive state representative known for her advocacy on issues such as healthcare, education, and social justice. She actively engages with her constituents and emphasizes the importance of community input in the legislative process. Butler is recognized for her efforts to promote policies that enhance the quality of life for all Arizonans. Despite attempts to contact her, Butler has not responded to our survey.

Butler on Cannabis:

Butler supports expanding access to medical marijuana and improving testing regulations to ensure product safety. She believes that responsible cannabis regulation can benefit public health and the economy.

Butler voted in favor of HB2050 in 2022, a bill that strengthened testing standards, established whistleblower protections, and provided free medical marijuana cards for veterans along with licenses for social equity applicants. Her support for these measures reflects her commitment to consumer safety and accessibility in the cannabis market.

Matt Gress - F**Bio:**

Matt Gress is a candidate for the Arizona House of Representatives, focusing on fiscal responsibility and government efficiency. He has a background in public service and seeks to bring a pragmatic approach to legislative challenges. Gress aims to foster collaboration across party lines to address pressing state issues effectively. Despite attempts to contact him, Gress has not responded to our survey.

Gress on Cannabis:

Matt Gress consistently opposes cannabis reform legislation, reflecting a regressive approach to cannabis policy.

Gress voted YES on HB2451, which introduced reasonable advertising provisions but also granted dispensaries a monopoly on hemp products containing any THC. He opposed HB2770, which aimed to facilitate direct-to-consumer delivery and interstate commerce, and he voted NO on SB1410, which would have limited the Arizona Department of Health Services' authority to restrict delivery options. Additionally, he supported HB2664, a redundant prohibition on cannabis possession in schools that risks impacting personal use in nearby homes.

Overall, Gress's voting record underscores his consistent resistance to cannabis reform initiatives.

Karen Gresham - INC**Bio:**

Karen Gresham is a candidate running for the Arizona House of Representatives, advocating for policies that promote economic development and community welfare. She emphasizes the importance of listening to constituents and addressing their concerns through effective governance. Despite attempts to contact her, Gresham has not responded to our survey.

Gresham on Cannabis:

Gresham's position on cannabis has not yet been specified, and she may clarify her views as her campaign progresses.

Pamela Carter - INC**Bio:**

Pamela Carter is a political candidate vying for a position in the Arizona House of Representatives. She focuses on building a platform that addresses the needs of her district and fosters community engagement. Despite attempts to contact her, Carter has not responded to our survey.

Carter on Cannabis:

At present, there is no information available regarding her stance on cannabis.

State House 5

Reina Patocs - INC**Bio:**

Reina Patocs is a candidate for the Arizona House of Representatives, emphasizing grassroots activism and community involvement in her campaign. Despite attempts to contact her, Patocs has not responded to our survey.

Patocs on Cannabis:

Her position on cannabis remains unspecified at this time.

Aaron Marquez - INC**Bio:**

Aaron Marquez is a candidate running for the Arizona House of Representatives. He aims to advocate for policies that benefit working families and enhance the local economy. Despite attempts to contact him, Marquez has not responded to our survey.

Marquez on Cannabis:

Information about his stance on cannabis has not been disclosed.

Arthur Gonzales - INC**Bio:**

Arthur Gonzales is a candidate for the Arizona House of Representatives. He is focused on addressing local issues and engaging with the community to ensure their voices are heard. Despite attempts to contact him, Gonzalez has not responded to our survey.

Gonzales on Cannabis:

Currently, there is no information available regarding his position on cannabis.

Sarah Liguori - A**Bio:**

Sarah Liguori is a political candidate in Arizona's state legislature. She focuses on issues related to social equity and public health, aiming to create a more inclusive community. Despite attempts to contact her, Liguori has not responded to our 2024 survey, although we can evaluate her through her 2022 survey responses as well as her actions in the Legislature.

Liguori on Cannabis:

Liguori has consistently supported consumer protections. She supported HB2770 in the House Commerce Committee, a bill that set Arizona up for interstate cannabis commerce and allowed delivery from cultivation sites, underscoring her commitment to giving consumers more choices in the marketplace. Her vote for SB1410 in 2024 also highlights her pro-choice stance by limiting the Arizona Department of Health Services' authority to restrict delivery.

In her 2022 survey, Liguori emphasized the importance of social equity in cannabis reform. She expressed support for automatic expungement for non-violent cannabis offenses and protecting

medical freedom for Autism Spectrum Disorder patients. Additionally, she advocated for fair competition within the industry, emphasizing the need to address Arizona's underground market and ensuring consumer safety in testing standards.

While Liguori did support HB2451—which granted dispensaries a monopoly on advertising any product that contains any amount of THC (including full-spectrum CBD)—her overall record and survey responses demonstrate a commitment to balanced, consumer-focused policies, earning her an A rating.

State House 6

Jamescita Peshlakai- C+

Bio:

Jamescita Peshlakai is an Arizona state representative known for her advocacy of indigenous rights and environmental justice. She works to amplify the voices of underrepresented communities and promote policies that reflect their needs. Despite attempts to contact her, Peshlakai has not responded to our survey.

Peshlakai on Cannabis:

Peshlakai generally supports limiting access to cannabis but has shown a hesitancy to engage in recriminalization under state law. For example, in 2024, although she opposed HB2664—which would have redundantly banned cannabis possession on school grounds, where it is already prohibited, and risked recriminalizing possession in homes near schools—she voted (i) no on SB1410, which lightly limits AZDHS' authority to restrict deliveries, and (ii) yes on HB2451, which would have given dispensaries a monopoly on advertising hemp products that include any amount of THC, like full-spectrum CBD.

Myron Tsosie- B

Bio:

Myron Tsosie is a candidate for the Arizona House of Representatives, focusing on community engagement and grassroots advocacy. Despite attempts to contact him, Tsosie has not responded to our survey.

Tsosie on Cannabis:

Myron Tsosie has demonstrated a generally supportive stance toward cannabis policy reform in Arizona, which earns him a B rating. His legislative record shows a commitment to enhancing consumer protections and expanding access, particularly for veterans and marginalized communities.

In 2022, Tsosie voted yes on HB2050, a comprehensive bill that strengthened cannabis testing standards and established whistleblower protections. Notably, the bill provided free medical marijuana cards for veterans and created medical marijuana licenses for social equity applicants. Tsosie's support for this bill underscores his dedication to consumer safety and social equity in the cannabis industry.

Tsosie also voted yes on SB1410, which restricted the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to limit cannabis delivery options. This vote reflects his support for consumer choice and accessibility, allowing for more flexible delivery methods that benefit both consumers and businesses.

However, some of Tsosie's votes suggest a willingness to support measures that could limit market competition. He voted yes on HB2451, a bill that, while including reasonable advertising provisions, effectively granted dispensaries a monopoly over hemp products containing any amount of THC, such as full-spectrum CBD. This move potentially restricts consumer access to a wider range of hemp-derived products and limits opportunities for smaller businesses.

Additionally, Tsosie voted yes on HB2664, which redundantly prohibited cannabis possession on school grounds—a restriction already enforced by existing laws—and risked recriminalizing personal cannabis possession in homes near schools. This vote raises concerns about over-criminalization and its impact on individuals who legally use cannabis in their residences.

In summary, Myron Tsosie's legislative actions indicate a generally positive approach to cannabis reform, with strong support for consumer protections and access expansion. However, his backing of bills that could hinder market competition and potentially increase criminalization prevents a higher rating.

Rich King- INC

Bio:

Rich King is a political candidate in Arizona with a focus on community issues and governance. Despite attempts to contact him, Kingman has not responded to our survey.

King on Cannabis:

There is no available information regarding his position on cannabis.

Lloyd Johnson- INC

Bio:

Lloyd Johnson is a candidate running for the Arizona state legislature. He is committed to addressing the concerns of his constituents through effective policy solutions. Despite attempts to contact him, Johnson has not responded to our survey.

Johnson on Cannabis:

His stance on cannabis has not yet been detailed.

State House 7

Walt Blackman- C-

Bio:

Walt Blackman is an Arizona politician and a member of the Republican Party. He currently serves as a member of the Arizona House of Representatives, representing District 6. Blackman has a military background, having served in the United States Army. Despite attempts to contact him, Blackman has not responded to our survey.

Blackman on Cannabis:

Throughout his political career, he has actively opposed measures that would decriminalize or liberalize cannabis laws in Arizona. Blackman has expressed strong opposition to the legalization of recreational marijuana and has consistently aligned himself with initiatives aimed at maintaining strict regulations on cannabis use. He has emphasized public safety concerns and the potential negative social implications of cannabis access, citing these as reasons for his opposition to changes in cannabis policy. Waltman did, however, cast multiple votes in support

of HB2050, which strengthened testing protections and whistleblower protections, while expanding access for medical patients only and offering a free medical marijuana card to qualifying veterans.

David Marshall- D-

Bio:

Before entering politics, Marshall had a diverse career in law enforcement and public service. After serving in the U.S. Air Force, he joined the Santa Ana Police Department, where he worked in narcotics, gang suppression, and graffiti enforcement. He rose to the rank of corporal and became a Field Training Officer before retiring in 1996.

Marshall relocated to Snowflake, Arizona, in 1999, where he and his family ran a ministry-focused safe house for battered women for seven years. In 2005, he was ordained as a pastor and continues to serve at Calvary Chapel Snowflake. In 2021, Marshall ran for the Arizona State Legislature and was elected in 2022

Marshall On Cannabis:

David Marshall's legislative record on cannabis policy reflects a cautious and somewhat restrictive stance, earning him a D+ rating. His actions suggest limited support for consumer access (at most) and a tendency to back measures that could restrict market competition and potentially increase criminalization.

Marshall voted yes on HB2451, a bill that included reasonable advertising provisions but effectively granted dispensaries a monopoly over hemp products containing any amount of THC, such as full-spectrum CBD. This vote indicates a willingness to limit competition in the cannabis market, restricting consumer access to a wider range of hemp-derived products and disadvantaging smaller businesses that are not licensed dispensaries.

He also co-sponsored HB2784, which proposed adding warning labels about psychotic disorders to cannabis products. While consumer safety is important, this bill raised concerns about stigmatizing cannabis use and potentially spreading misinformation. The relationship between cannabis use and psychotic disorders is not conclusively established, and such warning labels could contribute to public misunderstanding.

On a more positive note, Marshall voted yes on SB1410, supporting the restriction of the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to limit cannabis delivery options. This vote aligns with consumer interests by promoting accessibility and convenience in obtaining cannabis products, showing some support for consumer choice (or a strong desire to “stick it” to Governor Hobbs, a Democrat).

However, his vote yes on HB2664 is troubling. The bill redundantly prohibited cannabis possession on school grounds—a restriction already enforced by existing laws—and risked recriminalizing personal cannabis possession in homes near schools. This move could lead to unnecessary criminalization of lawful cannabis users and exacerbate issues related to over-policing and social justice.

In summary, David Marshall's legislative actions demonstrate limited support for progressive cannabis reform. His votes have sometimes favored consumer access but often at the expense of market competition and with potential increases in criminalization. This mixed record contributes to his D+ rating.

Nancy Hartl- A

Bio:

Nancy Hartl is a retired nurse practitioner with a distinguished career that spans both military and civilian sectors. Originally from Minot, North Dakota, she graduated from the University of Minnesota with degrees in psychology and nursing. Hartl served in the U.S. Air Force for 20 years, during which she became a women's health nurse practitioner and earned a Master's degree from the University of California, San Francisco. After retiring from the Air Force, Hartl worked for 11 years with Kaiser Permanente, the largest HMO in the U.S., and also contributed to a feminist clinic providing healthcare to underserved populations. Since her final retirement in 2019, Hartl has been active in Arizona politics, serving as a Precinct Committee Person and working in early voting offices as a signature verifier.

Hartl On Cannabis:

Nancy Hartl's survey response reflects strong support for legislative reforms concerning cannabis policy in Arizona. She advocates for improved testing standards to protect consumers and patients from contaminated and inaccurately marketed products, emphasizing the importance of thorough testing to ensure safety and integrity in the pharmaceutical industry.

Hartl is also in favor of decriminalizing simple marijuana possession, recognizing that marijuana poses fewer risks than legal substances like alcohol and tobacco. She acknowledges the medical benefits of cannabis, including pain relief and anxiety management, and supports using tax revenue from cannabis to bolster community services.

Regarding the automatic expungement of non-violent marijuana possession convictions, Hartl firmly believes that individuals should not be penalized by past convictions in a changing legal landscape, advocating for the removal of such records to facilitate personal and societal advancement.

Additionally, she supports expanding economic opportunities within the cannabis industry, critiquing the current limited licensing structure as monopolistic and calling for new licenses to encourage competition and benefit small businesses.

Kevin Chiquete- INC

Bio:

Kevin Chiquete is a candidate running for the Arizona State House of Representatives in District 7. He has a strong background as a copper miner and union leader, advocating for rural Arizona communities. Chiquete emphasizes his connection to blue-collar workers, drawing on his experience representing the interests of his fellow miners.

Chiquete On Cannabis:

Kevin Chiquete, a candidate for the Arizona House of Representatives in District 7, has not clearly outlined a specific stance on cannabis policy.

State House 8

Brian Garcia- A

Bio:

Brian Garcia served on the Tempe Union High School District Governing Board, holding roles as president and vice president during his term from 2018 to 2022.

Professionally, Garcia has worked in various capacities, including as a staff attorney for the Florence Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project, a law clerk for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe, and an outreach coordinator at the U.S. House of Representatives. He is currently a senior manager for All Voting is Local, an organization focused on voter rights.

Garcia's legal and advocacy work reflects his dedication to social justice and community empowerment, particularly in immigrant and indigenous rights. Born and raised in Arizona, he is a first-generation college graduate, holding degrees in global studies, legal studies, and law from Arizona State University

Garcia On Cannabis:

Brian Garcia has expressed clear support for improving cannabis regulations and policies. He advocates for enhanced testing standards to protect patients and consumers from contaminated and falsely advertised products. He believes legislative action is necessary to ensure that cannabis products meet high safety and quality standards.

Garcia supports the decriminalization of simple marijuana possession, emphasizing that such a move would help reduce unnecessary criminalization and related consequences. He also backs the automatic expungement of non-violent marijuana possession convictions, recognizing the long-lasting impacts of criminal records on individuals, particularly within marginalized communities.

Regarding economic opportunities, Garcia is in favor of legislative efforts to increase competition within the cannabis industry. He supports issuing additional licenses for cultivation and manufacturing, which he believes will foster a more competitive marketplace while benefiting entrepreneurs and consumers alike.

Janeen Connolly- A-

Bio:

Janeen Connolly has an extensive background in community engagement and advocacy. She worked for over 25 years at Salt River Project (SRP) as a Government Relations Representative, from 1994 to 2021, where she developed skills in organizing and problem-solving. Additionally, she served as an instructor at Arizona State University from 1994 to 1999. Connolly holds a master's degree in Advocacy Communication from Arizona State University. Despite attempts to contact her, Connolly has not responded to our survey.

Connolly On Cannabis:

Janeen Connolly's stance on cannabis is characterized by support for the legalization and regulation of marijuana. She advocates for policies that focus on equity and public health. Connolly emphasizes the importance of creating a regulatory framework that ensures safety and accountability in cannabis use while addressing the social and economic disparities that have historically affected communities adversely impacted by cannabis prohibition

Caden Darrow- B+

Bio:

Caden Darrow is a candidate for the Arizona Legislature to represent district 8. Despite attempts to contact him, Darrow has not responded to our survey, although he did respond in 2022.

Darrow On Cannabis:

Caden Darrow generally has a supportive stance toward cannabis policy reform, as reflected in his survey responses from 2022. He strongly advocates for fair competition among licensed businesses to boost tax revenues and curb the underground market, emphasizing the need for specific craft licenses to diversify the industry and promote small business ownership.

Darrow is a proponent of medical freedom, strongly agreeing that individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder should have the option to medicate with cannabis. He acknowledges the accepted medical uses for marijuana and supports expanding expungement laws for non-violent cannabis offenses, highlighting his commitment to criminal justice reform.

While he agrees that pregnant medical marijuana patients under a doctor's care should not face penalties, he remains neutral on issues like automatic expungements and DUI convictions based solely on THC metabolites. This suggests a balanced approach that considers both individual rights and public safety.

Overall, Darrow's positions demonstrate significant support for consumer access, medical autonomy, and market diversity in the cannabis industry, contributing to his B+ rating.

Tre Rook- INC

Bio:

Tre Rook is a candidate for the Arizona Legislature to represent district 8. Despite attempts to contact him, Rook has not responded to our survey.

Rook On Cannabis:

Tre Rook, a candidate for the Arizona State House representing District 8, advocates for a progressive stance on cannabis policy, aligning with the values of the Green Party. While specific details on his cannabis policies weren't extensively outlined, his overall platform emphasizes the need for social justice and reform, which often includes the decriminalization of marijuana and addressing the impacts of the war on drugs.

Rook supports policies that aim to hold accountable those who harm communities through outdated drug laws and advocates for a more equitable approach to drug policy, including considerations for rehabilitation and the economic benefits of a regulated cannabis market. However, we do not have enough information on Rook to feel comfortable grading him.

State House 9

Mary Mendoza- B-

Bio:

Mary Mendoza is a candidate for the Arizona Legislature to represent district 8. Despite attempts to contact her, Mendoza has not responded to our 2024 survey, forcing us to evaluate her based on her 2022 responses.

Mendoza On Cannabis:

Mary Ann Mendoza earns a B rating based on her survey responses, which reflect general support for certain cannabis policy reforms, along with some reservations. She agrees that promoting fair competition among licensed businesses can help increase tax revenues and address the underground market. Mendoza also supports making specific craft licenses more available to diversify the market and promote small business ownership.

She acknowledges accepted medical uses for marijuana and agrees that individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder should have the medical freedom to use cannabis. Mendoza believes that non-violent cannabis offenses should not qualify as felonies—except for certain DUIs and offenses involving children—and agrees that the government's fee for issuing a medical marijuana card should not exceed the actual cost of processing applications.

However, she is neutral on expanding expungement laws to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and on whether expungements should be automatic, indicating some hesitation toward broad criminal justice reforms. She is also neutral about whether pregnant medical marijuana patients consuming cannabis under medical supervision should face penalties from the Department of Child Services. Additionally, Mendoza disagrees with the notion that individuals should not be convicted of driving under the influence if the only evidence is THC metabolites in their system, reflecting concerns about impaired driving.

Overall, Mendoza's positions demonstrate support for medical access and fair competition in the cannabis industry, but her cautious stance on certain reforms and concerns about public safety contribute to her B rating.

Lorena Austin- A**Bio:**

Lorena Austin is a fifth-generation Arizonan who has made significant contributions to public service and advocacy in their community. Currently serving as a state legislator, Austin has been a prominent voice on issues such as education, affordable housing, healthcare, and LGBTQ+ rights. They are particularly noted for being Arizona's first nonbinary Chicane legislator.

Before entering politics, Austin worked as a project manager at the Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD), where they developed the Maricopa Student Senate, amplifying student voices within the district. Austin is also a graduate of Arizona State University's School of Transborder Studies, where they earned a degree in Chicano/a Latino/a Studies and received the Dean's Medal for their academic achievements.

Despite attempts to contact them, Austin has not responded to our survey.

Austin On Cannabis:

Lorena Austin has demonstrated strong support for cannabis reform, earning them an A rating. Their legislative actions and survey responses reflect a consistent commitment to consumer rights, social equity, and market fairness in the cannabis industry.

Austin voted yes on HB2770 in the House Commerce Committee, a bill that would have allowed delivery from cultivation sites and prepared Arizona for interstate cannabis commerce, enhancing consumer choice. They also voted yes on SB1410, which restricted the Arizona

Department of Health Services' ability to limit delivery options, further supporting consumer access.

Understanding the importance of tenants' rights, Austin sponsored HB2301 in 2024, as well as a similar bill in 2023, aimed at making it easier for tenants to consume cannabis without fear of lease termination. They opposed restrictive measures by voting no on HB2664, which redundantly prohibited cannabis possession on school grounds and could have recriminalized possession in homes near schools.

While Austin voted yes on HB2451, which included reasonable advertising provisions but also granted dispensaries a monopoly over certain hemp products like full-spectrum CBD, their overall record remains strongly pro-consumer.

Austin's 2022 survey responses showed strong agreement on promoting fair competition, medical freedom for Autism Spectrum Disorder patients, expanding expungement laws, and supporting small business ownership through specific craft licenses. In Austin's survey statement, they emphasized creating a more equitable landscape for all cannabis consumers, especially those from marginalized communities who have been unfairly persecuted.

Overall, Austin's proactive legislative efforts and unwavering support for comprehensive cannabis reform solidify them A rating.

Kylie Barber- INC

Bio:

Kylie Barber has worked at both the federal and state levels of government. She has focused her career on advocacy for children and families, which has included various roles in community engagement and policy development.

Despite attempts to contact her, Barber has not responded to our survey.

Barber On Cannabis:

Kylie Barber, a candidate for the Arizona State House, has a nuanced stance on cannabis. While she emphasizes the importance of addressing the drug crisis in Arizona—specifically the dangers posed by fentanyl and other illicit drugs—her website does not specifically outline a clear position on cannabis legalization or regulation. Her campaign seems to focus more broadly on drug-related issues, advocating for policies that support law enforcement, increase access to addiction treatment, and promote personal responsibility.

However, we recognize that one can be tough on hard drugs while accepting Arizonans' freedoms relative to cannabis and supporting the improvement of our current laws. We do not have enough to grade Barber.

Seth Blattman- B+

Bio:

Seth Blattman holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and Philosophy from Arizona State University and an MBA from UCLA, specializing in Marketing and Entrepreneurship. His professional experience includes serving as the president of Forest Designs, a furniture manufacturing company, since 2016. Despite attempts to contact him, Blattman has not responded to our survey this year, so we will grade him through his legislative actions and his 2022 survey responses.

Blattman On Cannabis:

Seth Blattman's record suggests support for cannabis reform with some reservations.

Blattman voted yes on HB2451, a bill that included reasonable advertising provisions but also granted dispensaries a monopoly over hemp products containing any amount of THC, like full-spectrum CBD. This vote indicates a willingness to limit market competition in favor of restricting access to cannabis. But on the other hand, Blattman voted yes on SB1410, which restricted the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to limit cannabis delivery options, indicating support for consumer access and convenience.

Notably, in a House Appropriations Committee hearing last year, Blattman expressed a desire to address social equity issues in the cannabis industry, highlighting his interest in promoting fairness and inclusivity.

Blattman voted no on HB2664, a bill that redundantly prohibited cannabis possession on school grounds—already illegal—and could have recriminalized personal possession in homes near schools. This vote reflects his opposition to unnecessary criminalization.

In his 2022 survey responses, Blattman strongly agreed that expungement laws should be expanded to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and agreed that expungements should be automatic, showing strong support for criminal justice reform. He agreed that promoting fair competition can help increase tax revenues and reduce the underground market but was neutral on making specific craft licenses more available to diversify the market, indicating some hesitation about the creation of new economic opportunities.

He was neutral on issues such as allowing medical cannabis for Autism Spectrum Disorder patients, not convicting individuals for DUI based solely on THC metabolites, and reducing government fees for medical marijuana cards, suggesting caution in these areas.

Overall, Blattman's legislative record and survey responses demonstrate some support for consumer access and criminal justice reform, with some reservations on market diversification and the expansion of our medical program, contributing to his B+ rating.

State House 10

Raph Heap- INC**Bio:**

This campaign marks Heap's first foray into public office. Professionally, he has a background as an orthopedic surgeon, where he also contributed to the community by volunteering as a team doctor for local high schools. Additionally, he participated in medical missions abroad, focusing on providing pediatric orthopedic care.

Heap holds a bachelor's degree from Arizona State University and obtained his medical degree from the University of Arizona. He is also noted for his commitment to his local community, engaging in various activities, including service in his local church.

Despite attempts to contact him, Heap has not responded to our survey.

Heap On Cannabis:

Ralph Heap, a Republican candidate for the Arizona State House in District 10, has not explicitly stated his stance on cannabis.

Justin Olson- INC**Bio:**

Justin Olson has a robust background in public service and finance. He is currently the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of Turning Point USA, a conservative organization focused on promoting conservative principles among young people.

Olson has served in various capacities in government, including as a state representative in Arizona from 2011 to 2017, where he was involved in several key committees, including Appropriations and Federalism and Fiscal Responsibility. He was later appointed to the Arizona Corporation Commission in 2017 and was elected to a full term in 2018. During his tenure, he worked on reducing utility rates and championed policies that supported fiscal conservatism.

Before his political career, Olson was a tax manager at Apollo Education Group and served as a Senior Research Analyst for the Arizona Tax Research Association, where he focused on taxpayer-friendly policies.

Despite attempts to contact him, Olson has not responded to our survey.

Olson On Cannabis:

Justin Olson, currently running for the Arizona State House, has a strong conservative stance on cannabis. He has consistently opposed the legalization of recreational marijuana, emphasizing the need for stricter regulations surrounding its use. In his previous roles, Olson has focused on fiscal responsibility and public safety, advocating policies that he believes contribute to a healthier community. His platform includes a commitment to enhancing penalties for drug-related offenses, particularly concerning fentanyl. In recognition of shifting conservative beliefs related to cannabis, and that one can be tough on hard drugs while acknowledging personal liberties related to cannabis, we do not feel comfortable grading Olson.

Helen Hunter- F**Bio:**

Rev. Dr. Helen Hunter brings over 30 years of experience working with underserved populations, particularly in housing and healthcare. Her professional background includes roles as a pastor, chaplain, and businesswoman, highlighting her commitment to social justice advocacy.

As a board-certified chaplain, she offers spiritual and pastoral care in various health care settings. Furthermore, she has collaborated with organizations like Arizonans Concerned About Smoking (ACAS) and the United States Public Health Service to promote non-smoking policies in historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs).

Additionally, she has been involved in community policing efforts as a representative for the Mesa Police Department, contributing to policy reviews and advocating for accountable practices. Hunter served as the President Emeritus of the East Valley NAACP, working closely with local police chiefs to address community concerns.

Despite attempts to contact her, Hunter has not responded to our survey.

Hunter On Cannabis:

Helen Hunter has a strong background in social justice advocacy and community health initiatives. Hunter has worked with underserved populations for over 30 years, focusing on areas like housing and healthcare, which may influence her approach to drug policy, including cannabis.

Helen Hunter earns a B+ rating based on her 2022 survey responses, which show strong support for cannabis policy reform with thoughtful considerations. She agrees that promoting fair competition among licensed businesses can boost tax revenues and reduce the underground market, and she strongly agrees that specific craft licenses should be more available to diversify the market and promote small business ownership.

Hunter strongly supports medical freedom, believing that individuals diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder should have the option to medicate with cannabis, and she acknowledges the accepted medical uses for marijuana. She agrees that non-violent cannabis offenses should not qualify as felonies—except for certain DUIs and offenses involving children—and agrees that expungement laws should be expanded to include more non-violent offenses.

While she agrees that the government's fee for issuing a medical marijuana card should not exceed the actual cost of processing applications, she shows some caution by agreeing rather than strongly agreeing on automatic expungements and on protecting pregnant medical marijuana patients from penalties by the Department of Child Services. Additionally, Hunter agrees that individuals should not be convicted of driving under the influence if the only evidence is THC metabolites, reflecting a fair approach to impairment laws.

Overall, Hunter's positions demonstrate strong support for medical access, market diversification, and criminal justice reform in the cannabis industry, contributing to her B+ rating.

Stephanie Simmons- INC**Bio:**

With more than 25 years of executive experience, Stephanie Simmons has held prominent leadership positions across various sectors, including higher education, banking, technology, and manufacturing. Currently, she serves as the Strategic People Partner at Cubic Corporation, a role she began in 2024. Prior to that, she was the Senior Global Human Resources Leader at Rogers Corporation and held multiple vice president roles at Universal Background Screening, Pediatric Dental Brands, and Solutionreach, Inc. Additionally, she has experience as a Global People and Change Management Advisor at KPMG and as an Associate Executive Director for Administrative Services in the Utah System of Higher Education.

Despite attempts to contact her, Simmons has not responded to our survey.

Simmons On Cannabis:

Stephanie Simmons has not publicly stated her specific stance on cannabis policy as of now.

State House 11**Joeseph Dailey- INC****Bio:**

Dailey has previously served as the Chairman of the Pinal County Republican Committee and was a Republican National Committee member for Arizona's 6th Congressional District.

Despite attempts to contact him, Dailey has not responded to our survey.

Dailey On Cannabis:

Dailey's stance on cannabis is not explicitly documented.

Oscar De Los Santos- A+

Bio:

Oscar De Los Santos is an emerging political leader in Arizona, currently serving as a Democratic member of the Arizona House of Representatives, having been elected to represent District 11 in 2022. Born in Los Angeles to immigrant parents, he has a strong educational background, graduating magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in political science from the University of Southern California in 2015. He was also recognized as a Truman Scholar. De Los Santos furthered his studies as a Rhodes Scholar, earning a master's in public policy from the University of Oxford in 2018, and a master's in Christian social ethics from Union Theological Seminary in 2020. Currently, he is pursuing a Juris Doctor degree at Yale Law School, supported by a Paul & Daisy Soros Fellowship for New Americans.

His career began in politics when he served as the youngest Florida field organizer for the Obama campaign in 2012. Following that, he taught sixth graders in Phoenix, Arizona, and interned for the National Economic Council and the U.S. House of Representatives. He later worked as a lobbyist and head of public policy for the Association of Arizona Food Banks, advocating for policies benefiting food security.

De Los Santos On Cannabis:

Oscar De Los Santos has proven to be a champion for consumers and industry workers, earning him an A+ rating. With a background as a Rhodes Scholar and experience serving in the Obama Administration's National Economic Council, De Los Santos brings a deep understanding of economic policy to his advocacy for cannabis reform.

His legislative actions demonstrate a strong commitment to expanding economic opportunities and promoting competition within the cannabis industry. De Los Santos voted yes on SB1410, which restricted the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to limit cannabis delivery options, enhancing consumer access and fostering a more competitive market. He voted no on HB2664, a redundant bill that could have recriminalized personal possession in homes near schools, reflecting his opposition to unnecessary criminalization.

In the House Appropriations Committee, De Los Santos expressed deep concern about corporations profiting from cannabis while individuals disproportionately affected by the war on drugs are left behind. He advocated for microlicenses limited to those impacted by previous cannabis prohibition, emphasizing his dedication to social equity and creating economic opportunities for marginalized communities.

While he voted yes on HB2451, which included reasonable advertising provisions but also granted dispensaries a monopoly over certain hemp products like full-spectrum CBD, his overall record remains strongly pro-consumer and pro-competition.

De Los Santos's 2022 and 2024 survey responses consistently show strong support for cannabis reform. He strongly agreed that promoting fair competition among licensed businesses can increase tax revenues and reduce the underground market. He supports expanding

expungement laws and automatic expungements for non-violent marijuana possession convictions, demonstrating his commitment to criminal justice reform.

In 2024, he endorsed legislative action to improve testing standards, protecting patients and consumers from contaminated and falsely advertised products. He also supported increasing economic opportunities and competition in the industry by issuing more licenses, aligning with his legislative efforts to address social equity and promote a competitive marketplace.

Moreover, De Los Santos actively participated in rallies alongside the UFCW union to support workers' rights in the cannabis industry, including events on April 20th in both 2023 and 2024. His involvement underscores his dedication to the well-being of consumers and industry employees alike.

Overall, Oscar De Los Santos's legislative actions, economic expertise, and consistent support for expanding economic opportunities and promoting competition in the cannabis industry solidify his A+ rating.

Cesar Aleman- INC

Bio:

Cesar Aleman has a professional background primarily with the Boys & Girls Club of Metro Phoenix, where he worked from 2009 until 2020. During his time there, he engaged with youth, families, and community partners throughout Phoenix, emphasizing community service and support.

After his tenure at the Boys & Girls Club, Aleman began working at Laveen Baptist Church, where he continues to serve his community.

Despite attempts to contact him, Aleman has not responded to our survey.

Aleman On Cannabis:

Cesar Aleman's specific stance on cannabis policy has not been widely documented at this time.

Junelle Cavero- A-

Bio:

Cavero has been the Head of Political for My Code since 2020, where she focuses on civic engagement and voter outreach initiatives. Prior to that, Cavero served as the Executive Director of Emerge Arizona, a program designed to recruit and train women to run for public office. Additionally, she held the position of Deputy Director at the Arizona Fair Housing Center, where she worked on housing advocacy and policy.

Her extensive experience in political campaigns includes roles with prominent national campaigns such as Obama for America and Hillary for President, contributing to efforts in voter mobilization and political strategy. Cavero also has a strong foundation in law and public policy, having worked in government affairs at several law firms and non-profit organizations.

Cavero's educational background includes a Master's degree in Public Administration from American University and a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and Economics from New York University. She has also engaged in further studies at institutions such as Stanford University and Georgetown University.

Despite attempts to contact her, Cavero has not responded to our survey.

Cavero On Cannabis:

Junelle Cavero's specific stance on cannabis policy has not been widely documented at this time. However, based on her vote in support of SB1410 and her speech outside of Curaleaf at a UFCW rally on 4/20/24, we have sufficient information to grade her as an A-. Cavero's comments could have earned her an A rating had she responded to our survey.

State House 12

Stacey Travers- A-

Bio:

Stacy Travers' professional background includes military service as a Russian Intelligence Interceptor in the U.S. Army, which has shaped her commitment to public service and community engagement. Following her military career, Travers earned a Bachelor of Science in Geosciences from the University of Arizona and furthered her education at Oxford University. She has worked as a radio producer for the BBC and is involved in advocating for veteran women's issues, as well as supporting homeless and disabled veterans.

Travers On Cannabis:

Stacey Travers earns an A- rating for her strong commitment to cannabis reform, demonstrated through her legislative actions, survey responses, and proactive engagement with experts.

Legislatively, Travers has shown an inclination to lead on certain cannabis issues, such as rallying Democratic support in 2023 for HB2631 (a bill to move regulatory control away from AZDHS and to a new marijuana regulatory board). Travers also voted yes this year on SB1410, which restricted the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to limit cannabis delivery options, enhancing consumer access and convenience.

While she voted yes on HB2451 and HB2664 this year, her consistent communication with experts suggests a willingness to potentially re-evaluate such positions in the future insofar as the policies embedded in these bills (respectively) limit economic opportunities for Arizonans and raise the risk of unjust prosecutions for no good reason.

Travers has consistently completed our surveys, demonstrating her engagement with constituent concerns. In both 2022 and 2024, she strongly supported key initiatives:

- Improving testing standards to protect patients and consumers from contaminated and falsely advertised products.
- Decriminalizing simple marijuana possession by substituting civil penalties for existing criminal penalties.
- Automatically expunging non-violent marijuana possession convictions.
- Increasing economic opportunities and competition in the industry by issuing more licenses.
- Her unwavering support for promoting fair competition, expanding economic opportunities, and advocating for criminal justice reform reflects her dedication to comprehensive cannabis policy reform.

Overall, Stacey Travers's proactive engagement, legislative advocacy, and consistent support for consumer rights and industry improvements merit an A- rating despite two questionable votes in 2024.

Benjamin Wirtz- INC

Bio:

Benjamin Wirtz is a consultant with a solid background in management and technology consulting, boasting seven years of experience in the field. He began his career at Capgemini Invent, where he progressed to the role of Senior Manager, leading the Business Technology practice in Austria. His work involved designing and implementing innovative solutions aimed at enhancing business growth in various industries, including automotive, transportation, and financial services. Wirtz is skilled in managing large-scale IT transformation projects and is known for his ability to merge consulting methodologies with technical expertise.

Currently, Wirtz is with Montalbetti Partners, where he focuses on executive search and recruitment for professional services, driven by his passion for connecting top talent with organizations.

Despite attempts to contact him, Wirtz has not responded to our survey.

Wirtz On Cannabis:

Benjamin Wirtz's specific stance on cannabis policy has not been widely documented at this time.

Patty Contreras- B+

Bio:

Patty Contreras is a dedicated public servant currently serving as a Democratic representative for Arizona's District 12 in the House of Representatives. She has a rich professional background, having retired from the City of Phoenix after over 31 years of service. During her career, she worked in both the Parks and Recreation and Human Services departments, where she focused on providing recreational and social activities, fitness and nutrition programs, and support for seniors and individuals with disabilities.

Despite attempts to contact her, Contreras has not responded to our survey, so her grade arises from her 2022 survey responses and legislative action since then.

Contreras On Cannabis:

Patricia Contreras earns a B+ rating based on her 2022 survey responses and legislative actions, which reflect strong support for cannabis reform with some inconsistencies.

In her 2022 survey, Contreras strongly agreed on most key issues related to cannabis policy. She supports promoting fair competition among licensed businesses to increase tax revenues and reduce the underground market. She also advocates for making specific craft licenses more available to diversify the market and promote small business ownership, aligning with her commitment to expanding economic opportunities.

Contreras acknowledges the accepted medical uses for marijuana and strongly agrees that individuals diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder should have the medical freedom to medicate with cannabis. She supports expanding expungement laws to include more non-

violent offenses, with expungements being automatic, demonstrating her dedication to criminal justice reform.

She was neutral on the issue of convicting individuals for driving under the influence when the only evidence is THC metabolites in their system, explaining that she needs more information about impairment levels and their effects on different people to answer responsibly.

Legislatively, Contreras voted yes on HB2451, a bill that included reasonable advertising provisions but also granted dispensaries a monopoly over hemp products containing any amount of THC, such as full-spectrum CBD. This vote indicates a willingness to limit market competition, which conflicts with her strong support for fair competition and market diversification.

She also voted yes on HB2664, a bill that redundantly prohibited cannabis possession on school grounds—already illegal—and could have recriminalized personal possession in homes near schools. This vote contradicts her stance against unnecessary criminalization and expanding expungement laws.

Overall, while Patricia Contreras's survey responses demonstrate strong support for comprehensive cannabis reform, the inconsistencies in her legislative actions contribute to her B+ rating.

Lawrence Hudson- INC

Bio:

Lawrence Hudson has had a diverse career background primarily in finance and political engagement. He spent a significant portion of his career on Wall Street, where he was involved in stock picking and had experience with forensic accounting. His work took him to major financial centers around the globe, including New York, London, and Tokyo. In fact, he has personal ties to these cities, having welcomed one of his three children in each location.

In addition to his finance career, Hudson has been actively involved in local politics since moving to Arizona in 2008. He became a precinct committeeman (PC) in 2018 and has served as captain of the Waggoner precinct in Tempe. He has collaborated with other local political figures, notably assisting Liz Harris with canvassing and data analysis efforts during elections. Hudson is also known for his role in the audit process and as part of a data team supporting Doug Logan in 2021.

Hudson is currently running for State Representative in Arizona's District 12, marking his first campaign for public office.

Despite attempts to contact him, Hudson has not responded to our survey.

Hudson On Cannabis:

Lawrence Hudson's specific stance on cannabis policy has not been widely documented at this time.

Marc Johnston- INC

Bio:

Marc Johnston is currently serving as the Director of Compliance at Harvest Strategy Group, Inc., based in Prescott Valley, Arizona. His role involves overseeing compliance within a

financial services context, which is critical for ensuring that the company adheres to regulatory standards and best practices in the industry.

Despite attempts to contact him, Johnston has not responded to our survey.

Johnston On Cannabis:

Marc Johnston's specific stance on cannabis policy has not been widely documented at this time.

State House 13

Jeff Weninger- C+

Bio:

Jeff Weninger has built a career that spans both business and public service. A resident of Chandler, Arizona, for over 20 years, he co-owns several local restaurants, which has given him firsthand experience in the challenges faced by small businesses. His commitment to community service is evident from his eight years on the Chandler City Council, where he focused on supporting local businesses, enhancing education, and ensuring public safety.

Following his tenure on the city council, Weninger was elected to the Arizona House of Representatives.

Despite attempts to contact him, Weninger has not responded to our survey.

Weninger On Cannabis:

Jeff Weninger's specific stance on cannabis policy has not been widely documented at this time, although his past votes at the legislature show limited support for cannabis reform accompanied by real reservations. In 2022, Weninger voted yes on HB2050, a bill that strengthened cannabis testing standards, established whistleblower protections, provided free medical marijuana cards for veterans, and created medical marijuana licenses for social equity applicants. This vote indicates support for improving consumer safety and expanding access to medical marijuana for veterans and marginalized communities.

However, in 2020, Weninger voted yes on HCR2045, which would have required warning labels on medical marijuana packaging based on the Surgeon General's warnings and allocated funds for research focusing on the relationship between marijuana use, schizophrenia, and violent behavior. While research is important, the emphasis on potential negative effects without acknowledging medical benefits could contribute to stigma and misinformation.

Overall, Weninger's record shows some support for consumer protections and access but also includes actions that may hinder positive perceptions of medical marijuana, contributing to his C+ rating.

Brandy Reese- A

Bio:

Born in Oklahoma to teen parents, Reese emphasizes the role of education in her life, crediting it as a pathway out of poverty. She graduated with a degree in chemistry from the University of Oklahoma and began her career at the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigations, where she

spent 14 years focusing on public safety and justice. Although Reese did not respond to our survey this year, we can rate her based on her past survey results.

Reese On Cannabis:

Brandy Reese earns an A rating based on her 2022 survey responses, which demonstrate strong support for comprehensive cannabis reform. She strongly agrees that promoting fair competition among responsible and licensed businesses can increase tax revenues and reduce the underground market. Reese also supports making specific craft licenses more available to diversify the market and promote small business ownership.

She strongly supports medical freedom, believing that individuals diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder should have the option to medicate with cannabis, and she acknowledges the accepted medical uses for marijuana. Reese strongly agrees that expungement laws should be expanded to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and that expungements should be automatic, highlighting her commitment to criminal justice reform.

Reese agrees that individuals should not be convicted of driving under the influence if the only evidence is THC metabolites in their system, reflecting a fair approach to impairment laws. She also agrees that non-violent cannabis offenses should not qualify as felonies—except for certain DUIs and offenses involving children—and that the government's fee for issuing a medical marijuana card should not exceed the actual cost of processing applications.

In her statement, Reese acknowledges the growing scientific evidence supporting medical applications for marijuana and recognizes the societal benefits of decriminalization, including decreased strain on law enforcement resources, reduced incarceration rates, and increased tax revenue from regulation.

Overall, Reese's strong support for medical access, market diversification, and criminal justice reform contributes to her A rating.

Nicholas Gonzales- B+

Bio:

Nicholas Gonzales grew up in Chandler, Arizona, and has deep roots in the community. He holds a degree in urban planning from Arizona State University and has also attended law school in San Francisco.

In his professional career, Gonzales has worked with a local nonprofit to develop affordable housing and commercial properties. He also founded a coffee roasting business that emphasizes fair-trade and sustainable practices. His involvement in community planning includes serving as the chair of the City of Phoenix Central City Village Planning Committee, where he advised on local development projects.

Despite attempts to contact him, Gonzalez has not responded to our survey, though we have had the opportunity to discuss cannabis policy with him at a cannabis consumption event prior to his campaign.

Gonzalez On Cannabis:

Although Nicholas Gonzales's specific stance on cannabis policy has not been widely documented at this time, he supported legalization in 2020 and generally supports the creation

of new economic opportunities in this burgeoning industry. Had Gonzales responded to our survey, we expect he would have received an even higher grade.

Cody Hannah- INC

Bio:

Currently, Hannah is employed as a server in the restaurant industry while pursuing a bachelor's degree in public policy with a focus on sustainability at Arizona State University. Additionally, Hannah is active in political organization, serving as a co-founder of the Arizona Green Party Youth Caucus and having been elected as an alternate delegate to the Green Party of the United States' State Committee.

Despite attempts to contact him, Hannah has not responded to our survey.

On Cannabis:

Cody Hannah's specific stance on cannabis policy has not been widely documented at this time.

Julie Willoughby- INC

Bio:

Julie Willoughby is a prominent figure in Arizona politics, currently serving as a member of the Arizona House of Representatives after her appointment in May 2023. She stepped into the political arena following the expulsion of a previous lawmaker, Liz Harris, and has since been actively involved in legislative matters, focusing on healthcare, community safety, and parental rights.

Professionally, Willoughby is an emergency room trauma nurse, bringing a wealth of experience in healthcare to her role as a legislator. Her work has included initiatives aimed at improving patient care, such as expanding the Arizona Resource Equity & Access Coordination Hub (AZ REACH), which facilitates patient transfers between hospitals. Under her influence, the program has successfully processed over 4,000 transfers.

In addition to healthcare, she has been a vocal advocate for community safety. Notably, she secured funding for the Chandler Police Department to enhance its capabilities in combating Internet Crimes Against Children.

Despite attempts to contact her, Willoughby has not responded to our survey.

Willoughby On Cannabis:

Julie Willoughby's votes indicate tentative support for increased competition in the marketplace, balanced by a desire to limit consumers' access to marijuana and hemp products, and perhaps some misunderstandings about marijuana law as it exists today.

Willoughby voted yes on HB2451, a bill that included reasonable advertising provisions but also granted dispensaries a monopoly over hemp products containing any amount of THC, such as full-spectrum CBD. This vote indicates a willingness to limit market competition and restrict consumer access to a wider range of hemp products.

She voted yes on SB1410, supporting restrictions on the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to limit cannabis delivery options. This vote aligns with promoting consumer access and convenience in obtaining cannabis.

However, Willoughby also voted yes on HB2664, a bill that redundantly prohibited cannabis possession on school grounds—already illegal—and could have recriminalized personal possession in homes near schools. This vote suggests support for unnecessary criminalization, potentially impacting lawful cannabis users.

Overall, Willoughby's legislative record indicates tentative support for consumer access but includes actions that limit competition and could increase criminalization, contributing to her B rating.

State House 14

Laurin Hendrix- D

Bio:

Laurin Hendrix is a Republican member of the Arizona House of Representatives, representing District 14 since January 9, 2023. He previously served in the Arizona House from 2009 to 2011, representing the 22nd District. After losing a primary election in 2012, he made a political comeback in 2022.

Hendrix holds a Bachelor's degree from the University of California, Irvine, and has extensive experience in business, having owned several small enterprises. Beyond his legislative duties, he has also served as a member and president of the governing board for the Maricopa County Community College District. Throughout his legislative career, he has been involved in various committees, including the House Commerce Committee, Military Affairs and Public Safety Committee, and Regulatory Affairs Committee, where he held leadership roles such as Chair and Vice Chair.

Despite attempts to contact him, Hendrix has not responded to our survey.

Hendrix On Cannabis:

Laurin Hendrix has consistently opposed measures to expand consumer access and promote fair competition in the cannabis industry, contributing to his D rating. Hendrix voted against HB2679, the mirror bill to SB1186, which aimed to regulate hemp-derived products like Elevado without granting dispensaries a monopoly. His opposition suggests a reluctance to support regulations that ensure product safety and market fairness for consumers.

He also voted against HB2770 in the House Commerce Committee, a bill that would have allowed delivery from cultivation sites and prepared Arizona for interstate cannabis commerce, enhancing consumer options and promoting competition. Hendrix's 'no' vote on SB1410, which restricted the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to limit cannabis delivery options, further underscores his resistance to expanding consumer access and convenience.

While Hendrix voted against HB2451, a bill that granted dispensaries a monopoly over hemp products containing any amount of THC like full-spectrum CBD, this stance does not offset his overall pattern of opposing pro-consumer legislation. His opposition to HB2451 may align with promoting competition, but it stands as an exception rather than the norm in his voting record.

Moreover, Hendrix voted in favor of HB2664, a bill that redundantly prohibited cannabis possession on school grounds—already illegal—and could have recriminalized personal possession in homes near schools. This vote indicates support for unnecessary criminalization and a restrictive approach to cannabis policy.

Overall, Hendrix's legislative record reflects a consistent pattern of opposing initiatives that would benefit consumers and foster a fair, competitive cannabis market.

Khyl Powell- INC

Bio:

Professionally, Powell is the owner of K.P. Limited Properties, Inc., which specializes in industrial real estate. Before this venture, Powell served in law enforcement with both the Phoenix Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

In addition to his business and law enforcement background, Powell has been active in his community, serving on the Planning and Zoning Board for Gilbert, Arizona.

Despite attempts to contact him, Powell has not responded to our survey.

Powell On Cannabis:

Khyl Powell's specific stance on cannabis policy has not been widely documented at this time.

Scott Menor- INC

Bio:

Scott Menor has a diverse professional background, primarily as a researcher and entrepreneur. He holds a PhD in Physics and a Master's degree in Microbiology, with an emphasis on virology and immunology.

Menor's involvement in political activism began in 2016, where he participated in various campaigns, including those focused on Medicare for All and cannabis decriminalization. He has also engaged in efforts related to reproductive rights, specifically advocating for the Arizona Abortion Access Act.

Despite attempts to contact him, Menor has not responded to our survey.

Menor On Cannabis:

Scott Menor's specific stance on cannabis policy has not been widely documented at this time.

State House 15

Barbara Benitone- INC

Bio:

Barbara Benitone is a candidate for the Arizona State Legislature to represent district 15. Despite attempts to contact her, Ms. Benitone has not responded to our survey.

Benitone On Cannabis:

Barbara Benitone's specific stance on cannabis policy has not been widely documented at this time.

Michael Way- INC

Bio:

Michael Way is a candidate for the Arizona State Legislature to represent district 15. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Way has not responded to our survey.

Way On Cannabis:

Michael Way's specific stance on cannabis policy has not been widely documented at this time.

Neal Carter - C**Bio:**

Neal Carter is a candidate for the Arizona State Legislature to represent district 15. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Carter has not responded to our survey.

Carter On Cannabis:

Neal Carter has demonstrated a cautious stance on cannabis policy, earning him a C rating. In 2022, he voted yes on HB2050, supporting stronger testing standards, whistleblower protections, free medical marijuana cards for veterans, and licenses for social equity applicants, indicating some support for consumer safety and access for veterans. However, Carter voted no on HB2770, which would have allowed delivery from cultivation sites and prepared Arizona for interstate cannabis commerce, suggesting reluctance to expand consumer options.

Carter also voted yes on SB1410, restricting the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to limit delivery, showing some support for consumer convenience. Yet, he voted yes on HB2664, a redundant prohibition on cannabis possession on school grounds that could have recriminalized possession in homes near schools, reflecting a more restrictive approach.

In his 2022 survey responses, Carter expressed skepticism about medical cannabis, strongly disagreeing that there are accepted medical uses for marijuana and that individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder should have medical freedom to use cannabis. He was neutral on promoting fair competition to increase tax revenues and on decriminalizing DUI convictions based solely on THC metabolites. Carter agreed that expungement laws should be expanded for non-violent offenses but was neutral on making expungements automatic. Notably, he strongly agreed that the government's fee for issuing medical marijuana cards should not exceed the actual cost, supporting affordability for patients.

Overall, Neal Carter's record shows limited support for cannabis reform, with some positive votes on consumer safety and affordability, but significant reservations about expanding access and recognizing medical uses, contributing to his C rating.

State House 16

Chris Lopez- INC**Bio:**

Chris Lopez is a candidate for the Arizona State Legislature to represent district 16. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Lopez has not responded to our survey. Despite attempts to contact him, Lopez has not responded to our survey.

Lopez On Cannabis:

Chris Lopez's specific stance on cannabis policy has not been widely documented at this time.

Keith Seaman- B**Bio:**

Keith Seaman is a candidate for the Arizona State Legislature to represent district 16. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Seaman has not responded to our survey.

Seaman On Cannabis:

Keith Seaman earns a B rating based on his legislative actions, which show mixed support for cannabis policy reform.

He voted yes on a good commerce bill, SB1410, both in the Commerce Committee and in its final version. Initially, the bill not only restricted the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to limit deliveries—which restrictions were seen as benefiting major corporate dispensaries—but also allowed for interstate commerce compacts when federal law permits. In its final form, SB1410 solely restricted AZDHS's ability to limit delivery. Seaman's support for this bill reflects a stance in favor of consumer access and convenience.

However, Seaman also voted yes on HB2664, a bill that redundantly prohibited cannabis possession on school grounds—already illegal—and could have recriminalized personal possession in homes near schools. This vote suggests a lack of education regarding current laws concerning cannabis.

Like many others, Seaman also voted yes on HB2451, a bill that included reasonable advertising provisions but also granted dispensaries a monopoly over hemp products containing any amount of THC, such as full-spectrum CBD. This vote indicates a willingness to limit market competition and restrict consumer access to a wider range of hemp products.

Overall, while Seaman has supported measures to enhance delivery options, his votes to limit market competition and potentially increase criminalization contribute to his B rating.

Teresa Martinez- B+**Bio:**

Teresa Martinez is a candidate for the Arizona State Legislature to represent district 16. Despite attempts to contact her, Ms. Martinez has not responded to our survey.

Martinez On Cannabis:

Teresa Martinez earns a B+ rating for her legislative actions that demonstrate support for improving Arizona's marijuana laws. Martinez sponsored HB2446 in 2023, a bill that received overwhelming bipartisan support and added joint powers authorities to the group of public safety entities benefiting from adult-use marijuana tax revenues. This sponsorship suggests her interest in leading efforts to enhance and refine the state's cannabis policies, and her ultimate removal of university police and the Department of Public Safety from its scope suggests a productive stakeholder process.

Additionally, Martinez voted yes on SB1410, which restricted the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to limit cannabis delivery options, reflecting her support for consumer access and convenience. While Martinez voted yes on HB2451, a bill that included reasonable advertising provisions but also granted dispensaries a monopoly over certain hemp products like full-spectrum CBD, her overall engagement indicates a willingness to participate in shaping legislation that affects the cannabis industry.

Martinez also voted yes on HB2664, a bill that redundantly prohibited cannabis possession on school grounds—already illegal—and could have impacted personal possession in nearby homes. Despite this, her proactive involvement in sponsoring legislation and supporting measures that enhance consumer access contribute positively to her rating.

Overall, Teresa Martinez's legislative record reflects an openness to reform and a commitment to common-sense improvements in Arizona's marijuana laws.

State House 17

Cory McGarr- B

Bio:

Cory McGarr is a candidate for the Arizona State Legislature to represent district 17. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. McGarr has not responded to our survey.

McGarr On Cannabis:

Cory McGarr earns a B+ rating based on his 2022 survey responses and legislative actions, reflecting strong support for cannabis reform with some inconsistencies.

In his 2022 survey, McGarr agreed or strongly agreed with key initiatives:

- Promoting fair competition among licensed businesses to increase tax revenues and reduce the underground market.
- Supporting medical freedom for individuals diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder to medicate with cannabis.
- Acknowledging accepted medical uses for marijuana.
- Expanding expungement laws to include more non-violent cannabis offenses, with expungements being automatic.
- Opposing convictions for driving under the influence if the only evidence is THC metabolites.
- Making specific craft licenses more available to diversify the market and promote small business ownership.
- These responses demonstrate his commitment to medical access, criminal justice reform, and market diversification in the cannabis industry.

However, McGarr's legislative record shows some inconsistencies with his survey positions. He voted no on HB2679, a bill that aimed to regulate hemp-derived products without granting dispensaries a monopoly, which could have promoted fair competition and consumer safety. This vote contrasts with his support for market diversification and consumer protection.

On the other hand, McGarr voted no on HB2451, a bill that included reasonable advertising provisions but also granted dispensaries a monopoly over hemp products like full-spectrum CBD. His opposition to HB2451, in conflict with his vote against HB2679, aligns with his stance against monopolistic practices and supports fair competition.

Further, McGarr voted yes on SB1410, which restricted the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to limit cannabis delivery options, reflecting his support for consumer access and convenience.

However, he voted yes on HB2664, a bill that redundantly prohibited cannabis possession on school grounds—already illegal—and could have recriminalized personal possession in homes near schools. This vote contradicts his stance against unnecessary criminalization and expanding expungement laws.

Overall, while McGarr's survey responses indicate strong support for comprehensive cannabis reform, the inconsistencies in his legislative actions contribute to his B rating.

Rachel Jones- C

Bio:

Rachel Jones is a candidate for the Arizona State Legislature to represent district 17. Despite attempts to contact her, Ms. Jones has not responded to our survey.

Jones On Cannabis:

Rachel Jones is skeptical of the marijuana industry and generally cautious of reform. McGarr voted against HB2451, a bill that would have given dispensaries a monopoly on many hemp products including full-spectrum CBD, indicating her skepticism of the marijuana industry's market structure. However, she also voted against SB1410, which sought to limit the extent to which AZDHS' delivery rules could make the industry less competitive and less efficient than otherwise possible. Jones also voted yes on HB2664, a bill that redundantly prohibited cannabis possession on school grounds—already illegal—and could have recriminalized personal possession in homes near schools.

Kevin Volk- INC

Bio:

Kevin Volk is a candidate for the Arizona State Legislature to represent district 17. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Volk has not responded to our survey.

Volk On Cannabis:

Kevin Volk's specific stance on cannabis policy has not been widely documented at this time.

State House 18

Leonard Rosenblum- INC

Bio:

Leonard Rosenblum is a candidate for the Arizona State Legislature to represent district 18. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Rosenblum has not responded to our survey.

Rosenblum On Cannabis:

Leonard Rosenblum's specific stance on cannabis policy has not been widely documented at this time.

Nancy Gutierrez- A

Bio:

Nancy Gutierrez is a candidate for the Arizona State Legislature to represent district 18. Despite attempts to contact her, Ms. Gutierrez has not responded to our survey.

Gutierrez On Cannabis:

Nancy Gutierrez has demonstrated strong support for cannabis reform, earning her an A rating. In her 2022 survey responses, Gutierrez strongly agreed on key issues such as promoting fair competition to increase tax revenues and reduce the underground market, supporting medical freedom for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder, and acknowledging the accepted medical uses for marijuana. She also strongly supports expanding expungement laws to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and making expungements automatic, reflecting her

commitment to criminal justice reform. Additionally, she advocates for making specific craft licenses more available to diversify the market and promote small business ownership.

In her legislative actions, Gutierrez voted yes on HB2451, a bill that included reasonable advertising provisions but also granted dispensaries a monopoly over hemp products containing any amount of THC, like full-spectrum CBD. While this vote indicates some willingness to limit market competition, her overall record remains strongly pro-consumer. She voted yes on SB1410, which restricted the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to limit cannabis delivery options, demonstrating her support for consumer access and convenience. Importantly, Gutierrez voted no on HB2664, a bill that redundantly prohibited cannabis possession on school grounds—already illegal—and could have recriminalized personal possession in homes near schools, showing her opposition to unnecessary criminalization.

Overall, Nancy Gutierrez's consistent legislative support and strong survey responses highlight her commitment to comprehensive cannabis reform, consumer rights, and market fairness.

Christopher Mathis- B

Bio:

Christopher Mathis is a candidate for the Arizona State Legislature to represent district 18. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Mathis has not responded to our survey.

Mathis On Cannabis:

Christopher Mathis has demonstrated a mixed record on cannabis legislation, earning him a B rating. Initially, Mathis voted yes on HB2050 in 2022, a bill that aimed to strengthen testing standards, establish whistleblower protections, provide free medical marijuana cards for veterans, and create licenses for social equity applicants. However, he later changed his vote to no when the bill was reconsidered, indicating some reservations about the legislation.

Mathis voted yes on HB2451, which included reasonable advertising provisions but also granted dispensaries a monopoly over hemp products containing any amount of THC, like full-spectrum CBD. This vote suggests a willingness to support measures that may limit market competition and restrict consumer access to a broader range of hemp products.

He voted yes on SB1410, supporting restrictions on the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to limit cannabis delivery options, reflecting his support for consumer access and convenience.

Importantly, Mathis voted no on HB2664, a bill that redundantly prohibited cannabis possession on school grounds—already illegal—and could have recriminalized personal possession in homes near schools. His opposition to this bill indicates his stance against unnecessary criminalization.

Overall, while Mathis has shown support for consumer access and opposed unnecessary criminalization, his inconsistent position on key legislation like HB2050 contributes to his B rating.

State House 19

Gail Griffin- D

Bio:

Gail Griffin is a candidate for the Arizona State Legislature to represent district 19. Despite attempts to contact her, Ms. Griffin has not responded to our survey.

Griffin On Cannabis:

Gail Griffin has generally opposed the legalization of recreational marijuana. She has expressed concerns regarding the potential negative impacts of cannabis legalization on public health and safety. Griffin's position aligns with a more conservative viewpoint, emphasizing the need for stricter regulation and oversight of cannabis-related activities.

In 2022, Griffin initially voted yes on HB2050, a bill aimed at strengthening testing standards, establishing whistleblower protections, providing free medical marijuana cards for veterans, and creating licenses for social equity applicants. However, she later changed her vote to no upon reconsideration, withdrawing her support for these consumer safety and access measures.

Griffin voted yes on HB2451, which included reasonable advertising provisions but also granted dispensaries a monopoly over hemp products containing any amount of THC, like full-spectrum CBD. This vote indicates a willingness to limit market competition and restrict consumer access to a wider range of hemp products.

She voted no on SB1410 in both the Commerce Committee and the final vote, opposing restrictions on the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to limit cannabis delivery options. Her opposition reflects resistance to enhancing consumer access and convenience.

Additionally, Griffin voted yes on HB2664, a redundant prohibition on cannabis possession on school grounds—already illegal—which could have recriminalized personal possession in homes near schools. This vote suggests support for unnecessary criminalization.

Back in 2011, she voted yes on HB2541, allowing drug testing for safety-sensitive jobs despite the legalization of medical marijuana under Proposition 203 in 2010. This action demonstrates a lack of support for protecting medical marijuana patients from employment discrimination.

Overall, Gail Griffin's legislative record shows a consistent pattern of opposing measures that would benefit consumers and promote fair competition in the cannabis industry.

Gregg Frostrom- INC

Bio:

Gregg Frostrom is a candidate for the Arizona State Legislature to represent district 19. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Frostrom has not responded to our survey.

Frostrom On Cannabis:

Gregg Frostrom's specific stance on cannabis policy has not been widely documented at this time.

Lupe Diaz- B+

Bio:

Lupe Diaz is a candidate for the Arizona State Legislature to represent district 19. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Diaz has not responded to our survey.

Diaz On Cannabis:

Lupe Diaz has demonstrated support for consumer access and positive reforms in Arizona's cannabis laws, earning him a B+ rating. Diaz sponsored the strike-everything amendment to SB1410 in the Commerce Committee, which restricted the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to limit cannabis delivery options. This legislation promoted consumer choice and made it more likely for consumers to receive deliveries from more businesses. Diaz's sponsorship directly led to this positive change in the state's marijuana laws, and SB1410 became law, benefiting consumers statewide.

He also voted yes on the final version of SB1410, reinforcing his commitment to expanding consumer access and convenience. While Diaz voted yes on HB2451, a bill that included reasonable advertising provisions but also granted dispensaries a monopoly over hemp products containing any amount of THC, like full-spectrum CBD, his overall record indicates support for improving consumer options.

However, Diaz voted yes on HB2664, a bill that redundantly prohibited cannabis possession on school grounds—already illegal—and could have recriminalized personal possession in homes near schools. This vote suggests some support for unnecessary criminalization.

Overall, Lupe Diaz's key role in passing SB1410 and his efforts to enhance consumer choice in the cannabis industry contribute to his B+ rating.

State House 20

Betty Villegas- A+**Bio:**

Betty Villegas is a candidate for the Arizona State Legislature, known for her commitment to community engagement and advocacy on social issues. She has a background in public service and has worked on initiatives focused on education, healthcare, and social equity.

Villegas On Cannabis:

Betty Villegas has expressed support for the legalization of recreational marijuana and advocates for a regulated cannabis market. She emphasizes the importance of addressing social equity issues related to cannabis legalization, including the need to rectify injustices faced by communities disproportionately affected by previous cannabis laws. Despite attempts to contact her, Ms. Villegas has not responded to our survey.

Villegas sees cannabis policy as a potential avenue for economic growth and revenue generation while also prioritizing public health and safety. Her stance aligns with a broader movement among some Arizona lawmakers who advocate for reforms in cannabis legislation to promote fairness and opportunity.

Villegas voted yes on SB1410, which restricted the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to limit cannabis delivery options, promoting consumer access and convenience. She voted no on HB2664, a bill that redundantly prohibited cannabis possession on school grounds—already illegal—and could have recriminalized personal possession in homes near schools, reflecting her opposition to unnecessary criminalization.

Additionally, Villegas co-sponsored a bill to protect tenants from eviction due to marijuana use, showcasing her commitment to safeguarding the rights of cannabis consumers in housing. While she voted yes on HB2451, which included reasonable advertising provisions but also granted dispensaries a monopoly over certain hemp products like full-spectrum CBD, her overall record remains strongly pro-consumer.

Villegas's consistent legislative support for consumer rights, market fairness, and the reduction of unnecessary criminal penalties solidifies her A+ rating.

Alma Hernandez- B-

Bio:

Alma Hernandez is an Arizona State Legislature candidate known for her advocacy on various social issues, particularly those impacting marginalized communities. Hernandez's background includes experience in community organizing. Despite attempts to contact her, Ms. Hernandez has not responded to our survey.

Hernandez On Cannabis:

Aside from her strong advocacy against social equity misconduct, Alma Hernandez has demonstrated a generally pro-industry stance on cannabis policy, earning her a B rating from this organization, which represents consumer interests.

Hernandez voted no on HB2050 in 2022, a bill that aimed to strengthen testing standards, establish whistleblower protections, provide free medical marijuana cards for veterans, and create licenses for social equity applicants. This vote indicates opposition to improving consumer safety and expanding access to medical marijuana for veterans and marginalized communities, or overreliance on the opinions of self-interested dispensary owners.

Hernandez also voted no on HB2679 in 2024, the mirror of SB1186, which sought to regulate hemp-derived products like Elevado without granting dispensaries a monopoly. Her opposition suggests reluctance to support regulations promoting fair competition and consumer choice.

Similarly, Hernandez voted yes on HB2451, a bill that included reasonable advertising provisions but also granted dispensaries a monopoly over hemp products containing any amount of THC, such as full-spectrum CBD. This vote reflects support for limiting market competition and restricting consumer access to a broader range of hemp products.

Additionally, she voted yes on HB2664, a bill that redundantly prohibited cannabis possession on school grounds—already illegal—and could have recriminalized personal possession in homes near schools. This vote indicates support for unnecessary criminalization or a failure to understand that “cannabis” is classified as a “narcotic drug” under Arizona law.

However, in a silver lining, Hernandez did vote yes on SB1410, which restricted the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to limit cannabis delivery options, demonstrating some support for consumer access and convenience. She further suggested potential support for microlicensing within the cannabis industry during a Regulatory Affairs Committee hearing in 2024.

Overall, Alma Hernandez's legislative record shows limited support for pro-consumer reforms, with her recent track record of opposing policies that would strengthen consumer protection or increase consumer choices, contributing to her B- rating.

State House 21

Consuelo Hernandez- B

Bio:

Consuelo Hernandez currently serves as a member of the Sunnyside Unified School District Governing Board. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Global Health from Arizona State University.

She has demonstrated engagement with communities by hosting free citizenship clinics and engaging in humanitarian efforts abroad, providing medical services in countries like Panama and Ghana. Despite attempts to contact her, Ms. Hernandez has not responded to our survey, so we will utilize her responses from 2022, in addition to her legislative track record, to issue a grade.

Hernandez On Cannabis:

In her 2022 survey responses, Hernandez strongly agreed that promoting fair competition among licensed businesses can increase tax revenues and reduce the underground market. She supports making specific craft licenses more available to diversify the market and promote small business ownership. Hernandez acknowledges the accepted medical uses for marijuana and believes individuals diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder should have the medical freedom to medicate with cannabis.

She agreed that non-violent cannabis offenses should not qualify as felonies—except for certain DUIs and offenses involving children—and supports expanding expungement laws to include more non-violent offenses, with expungements being automatic. This reflects her commitment to criminal justice reform.

Consistent with her 2022 survey responses, Hernandez voted yes on SB1410 in both the Commerce Committee (where it included a provision that would have allowed interstate commerce compacts upon federal authorization) and its final form, restricting the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to limit cannabis delivery options. This aligns with her support for increasing consumer access and convenience.

However, to the contrary, Hernandez voted yes on HB2451, a bill that would have granted dispensaries a monopoly over hemp products containing any amount of THC, like full-spectrum CBD. This vote indicates some willingness to limit market competition, which contrasts with her stated support for fair competition and market diversification.

Furthermore, Hernandez voted yes on HB2664, a bill that redundantly prohibited cannabis possession on school grounds—already illegal—and could have recriminalized personal possession in homes near schools. This vote suggests support for unnecessary criminalization, conflicting with her survey stance on criminal justice reform.

Overall, while Consuelo Hernandez's survey responses indicate strong support for cannabis reform, some inconsistencies in her legislative actions contribute to her B rating.

Stephanie Stahl Hamilton- A-

Bio:

Stephanie Stahl Hamilton was born in Flagstaff and spent her early years in Northeastern Arizona. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Christian Education. Her political career began with her election to the Arizona House of Representatives, where she served from 2013 until 2021. She was then appointed to the Arizona Senate to complete the term of former Senator Kirsten Engel. Despite attempts to contact her, Hamilton has not responded to our survey.

Hamilton On Cannabis:

Stephanie Stahl Hamilton has expressed support for the legalization of recreational marijuana. She advocates for a regulated cannabis market and emphasizes the importance of addressing public health and safety concerns associated with cannabis use. Her stance typically aligns with broader goals of ensuring access to cannabis for medical purposes while also promoting responsible use and education about potential risks.

More specifically, in her 2022 survey responses, Stahl-Hamilton showed consistent backing for key issues. She strongly agrees that promoting fair competition among licensed businesses can increase tax revenues and reduce the underground market. She strongly supports medical freedom for individuals diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder and acknowledges the accepted medical uses for marijuana. Stahl-Hamilton also advocates for expanding expungement laws to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and making expungements automatic, reflecting her commitment to criminal justice reform.

Legislatively, she voted yes on HB2050 in 2022, a bill that strengthened testing standards, established whistleblower protections, provided free medical marijuana cards for veterans, and created licenses for social equity applicants. This vote aligns with her survey support for consumer safety and social equity. Stahl-Hamilton also voted yes on SB1410, which restricted the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to limit cannabis delivery options, demonstrating her support for consumer access and convenience.

While she voted yes on HB2451, a bill that included reasonable advertising provisions but also granted dispensaries a monopoly over hemp products containing any amount of THC, like full-spectrum CBD, her overall record remains strongly pro-consumer. Importantly, she voted no on HB2664, a bill that redundantly prohibited cannabis possession on school grounds—already illegal—and could have recriminalized personal possession in homes near schools. This vote reflects her opposition to unnecessary criminalization.

Overall, Stephanie Stahl-Hamilton's consistent legislative support and strong survey responses highlight her commitment to comprehensive cannabis reform and consumer rights.

Christopher Kibbey- INC

Bio:

A Tucson native, Kibbey holds a Master's degree in Electrical Engineering and has a background as an engineer. He has engaged with various communities throughout his career, including teaching in Mexico during his graduate studies. Despite attempts to contact him, Kibbey has not responded to our survey.

Kibbey On Cannabis:

Christopher Kibbey's specific stance on cannabis policy has not been widely documented.

State House 22

Lupe Contreras- A

Bio:

Lupe Contreras is currently serving as a member of the Arizona House of Representatives, representing District 22. He has held this position since 2023 and previously served in the Arizona State Senate for District 19 from 2015 to 2023. In the Senate, he was Assistant Minority Leader and Minority Whip during his tenure, showcasing his leadership skills within the Democratic caucus. Contreras has a background in criminal justice, having attended Estrella Mountain Community College and Glendale Community College. His professional career includes roles as an employee at Pomeroy & Associates, the Law Office of Ben Miranda, and Fry's Food Stores, in addition to coaching wrestling at local high schools. Despite attempts to contact him Contreras has not responded to our survey.

Contreras On Cannabis:

Lupe Contreras, the Democratic Leader in the House, has historically expressed support for the legalization of recreational marijuana. He advocates for a regulated cannabis market, emphasizing potential economic benefits such as job creation and increased tax revenue. Contreras has highlighted the importance of addressing social equity issues related to cannabis, including expunging records for individuals convicted of non-violent cannabis offenses.

In 2022, he voted yes on HB2050, a comprehensive bill that strengthened cannabis testing standards, established whistleblower protections, provided free medical marijuana cards for veterans, and created licenses for social equity applicants. This vote underscores his commitment to consumer safety and social equity in the cannabis industry.

Contreras also voted yes on SB1410, which restricted the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to limit cannabis delivery options, promoting consumer access and convenience. His support for this bill aligns with his dedication to expanding delivery services for medical marijuana patients and consumers.

While he voted yes on HB2451, which included reasonable advertising provisions but also granted dispensaries a monopoly over hemp products containing any amount of THC, like full-spectrum CBD, his overall record remains pro-consumer.

Importantly, Contreras voted no on HB2664, a bill that redundantly prohibited cannabis possession on school grounds—already illegal—and could have recriminalized personal possession in homes near schools. His opposition to this bill reflects his stance against unnecessary criminalization and his support for protecting the rights of cannabis consumers.

Additionally, despite his demanding role as Democratic House Leader, Contreras took the time to meet with us during Lobby Week in both 2023 and 2024, demonstrating his willingness to engage with advocates and constituents on important cannabis policy issues.

Overall, Lupe Contreras's legislative record and openness to dialogue highlight his commitment to comprehensive cannabis reform, consumer rights, and social equity in the industry.

Diana Jones- INC

Bio:

Her professional background includes 25 years in civil service and 20 years in the U.S. Air Force Reserves, from which she retired in 1994. Following her military career, she became a

stay-at-home mom after raising two adopted daughters. Since moving to Arizona in 2013 and residing in Legislative District 22 since 2017, Jones has actively engaged in community service, including volunteering in school PTAs and libraries, and participating in the local TEA Party. Politically, this campaign marks her first foray into elected office. Despite attempts to contact her, Jones has not responded to our survey.

Jones On Cannabis:

Diana Jones' specific stance on cannabis policy is not well-documented at this time.

Elda Luna-Najera- INC

Bio:

Before her election, she served on the Tolleson Union High School District Board and holds the position of president. With a strong commitment to education, she has focused her efforts on high school programs for foster and homeless youth. Luna-Nájera is a first-generation Mexican American and has earned a doctorate in social work. Despite attempts to contact her, Luna-Najera has not responded to our survey.

Luna-Najera On Cannabis:

Elda Luna-Najera's specific stance on cannabis policy has not been widely documented. Although we note that she voted yes on SB1410, a good bill involving delivery, we do not have enough information to release a grade.

Blaine Griffin- INC

Bio:

Blaine Griffin is a retired businessman and realtor, bringing a wealth of experience from the private sector to his candidacy. Despite attempts to contact him, Griffin has not responded to our survey.

Griffin On Cannabis:

Blaine Griffin's specific stance on cannabis policy is not well-documented at this time.

State House 23

Michele Pena- C-

Bio:

Before entering politics, she was active in various community organizations, where she worked on issues affecting her local area, particularly those related to education and community welfare. Peña's grassroots involvement laid the foundation for her eventual political aspirations. In 2022, she made headlines by winning a write-in campaign for the Arizona House of Representatives, representing District 23. Despite attempts to contact her, Pena has not responded to our survey.

Pena On Cannabis:

Michele Pena has demonstrated a mixed approach to cannabis policy, earning her a C- rating. Pena voted yes on SB1410, which restricted the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to limit cannabis delivery options. This vote supports consumer access and convenience, aligning with efforts to expand delivery services for cannabis consumers.

However, she voted no on HB2679 in the House Regulatory Affairs Committee, a bill that aimed to regulate hemp-derived products like Elevade without granting dispensaries a monopoly. Her

opposition suggests reluctance to support regulations promoting fair competition and consumer choice in the hemp market.

Pena also voted yes on HB2664, a bill that redundantly prohibited cannabis possession on school grounds—already illegal—and could have recriminalized personal possession in homes near schools. This vote indicates support for unnecessary criminalization and a more restrictive stance on cannabis use.

Overall, Michele Pena's legislative record reflects some support for enhancing consumer access but also includes votes that limit competition and maintain restrictive policies, contributing to her C- rating.

Mariana Sandoval- C+

Bio:

Mariana Sandoval's professional background is rooted in public service, having worked as a paralegal for various legal aid organizations and the Arizona Attorney General's Office. This experience has likely equipped her with insights into legal and community issues. In addition to her legal work, Sandoval served on the Agua Fria Union High School District board from 2017 to 2020. Despite attempts to contact her, Sandoval has not responded to our survey, although we can evaluate her based on her 2022 survey responses and her track record since then.

Sandoval On Cannabis:

Mariana Sandoval earns a C+ rating based on inconsistencies between her survey responses and the votes she cast as a legislator.

In her survey, Sandoval strongly agreed that promoting fair competition among licensed businesses can increase tax revenues and reduce the underground market. She expressed support for making specific craft licenses more available to diversify the market and promote small business ownership. Sandoval acknowledges the accepted medical uses for marijuana and believes individuals diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder should have the medical freedom to medicate with cannabis. She also strongly agrees with expanding expungement laws to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and making expungements automatic, reflecting her commitment to criminal justice reform.

However, her legislative record shows serious contradictions with her survey responses, particularly on the question of consumer choice and fairness towards smaller businesses.

First, Sandoval voted yes on HB2451, a bill that included reasonable advertising provisions but also granted dispensaries a monopoly over hemp products containing any amount of THC, like full-spectrum CBD. Additionally, she voted no on SB1410 in *both* the Commerce Committee and the final vote—a bill that restricted the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to limit cannabis delivery options. Sandoval's support for HB2451 and her opposition to SB1410 demonstrate reluctance to support measures that enhance consumer access and convenience, conflicting directly with her pro-consumer survey responses.

On a positive note, Sandoval voted no on HB2664, a bill that redundantly prohibited cannabis possession on school grounds—already illegal—and could have recriminalized personal possession in homes near schools. This vote aligns with her stance against unnecessary criminalization.

Overall, while Mariana Sandoval's survey responses demonstrate strong support for cannabis reform, the inconsistencies in her legislative actions lead to an inescapable C+ rating.

Matias Rosales- INC

Bio:

Matias Rosales has built a robust career in public service, currently serving as a member of the San Luis City Council, where he has also been vice mayor. Before his current role, Rosales has engaged with various community organizations and initiatives. Despite attempts to contact him, Rosales has not responded to our survey.

Rosales On Cannabis:

Matias Rosales' specific stance on cannabis policy has not been widely documented.

State House 24

Anna Abeytia- A

Bio:

Currently, Anna Abeytia serves as a board member for the Cartwright Elementary School District and is the Governing Board President, a position she was appointed to in 2020. She previously worked as an educational assistant in the Glendale Elementary School District. Since graduating high school in 2014, she has actively participated in various campaigns and initiatives in Arizona, fueling her decision to run for state representative. Despite attempts to contact her, Abeytia has not responded to our survey this year, but she did submit a response in 2022, which allows us to evaluate her.

Abeytia On Cannabis:

Anna Abeytia has demonstrated exceptional support for cannabis reform, earning her an A+ rating. In her 2022 survey responses, Abeytia strongly agreed on all key issues related to cannabis policy. She supports promoting fair competition among licensed businesses to increase tax revenues and reduce the underground market. Abeytia advocates for making specific craft licenses more available to diversify the market and promote small business ownership.

She acknowledges the accepted medical uses for marijuana and believes individuals diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder should have the medical freedom to medicate with cannabis. Abeytia strongly supports expanding expungement laws to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and making expungements automatic, reflecting her commitment to criminal justice reform.

In her survey comment, Abeytia emphasized the importance of intentionally making licenses more accessible to communities of color that have been disproportionately affected by marijuana prohibition. She advocates for prioritizing these communities and small business owners to ensure they are not left behind in the industry's growth.

Moreover, Abeytia actively contributed to cannabis reform efforts as a field organizer for Proposition 207, working to qualify the initiative for the November 2020 ballot and educating voters on the importance of legalizing marijuana in Arizona.

Overall, Anna Abeytia's unwavering support for comprehensive cannabis reform, her dedication to social equity, and her proactive involvement in advocacy efforts solidify her A+ rating.

Lydia Hernandez- B-

Bio:

Lydia Hernandez is a Democratic politician currently serving in the Arizona House of Representatives for the 24th district, a position she has held since January 2023. She previously represented the 29th district from 2013 to 2015. Her career has included roles such as a legal assistant and executive manager at Arizona Habitat for Humanity. She has also served as the executive director of the Arizona Commission of Indian Affairs and has been involved in various educational initiatives, including her work with the National School Boards Association.

In addition to her legislative duties, Hernandez has been a member of the Cartwright Elementary School District Board since 2004. She has a history of running for various political offices, including a couple of unsuccessful campaigns for the Arizona State Senate and the Phoenix City Council. Despite attempts to contact her, Hernandez has not responded to our survey.

Hernandez On Cannabis:

Lydia Hernandez has demonstrated a mixed approach to cannabis policy, earning her a B-rating. Hernandez voted yes on SB1410, which restricted the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to limit cannabis delivery options. This vote supports consumer access and convenience, aligning with efforts to expand delivery services for cannabis consumers.

However, she also voted yes on HB2451, a bill that included reasonable advertising provisions but granted dispensaries a monopoly over hemp products containing any amount of THC, like full-spectrum CBD. This vote suggests a willingness to limit market competition and restrict consumer access to a wider range of hemp products.

Additionally, Hernandez voted yes on HB2664, a bill that redundantly prohibited cannabis possession on school grounds—already illegal—and could have recriminalized personal possession in homes near schools. This vote indicates support for unnecessary criminalization and a more restrictive stance on cannabis use.

Overall, while Lydia Hernandez has supported measures that enhance consumer access, her votes to limit market competition and increase criminalization contribute to her B rating.

State House 25

Michael Carbone- B

Bio:

Michael Carbone originates from Illinois, where he was actively involved in conservative politics before relocating to Arizona to raise his family. Carbone has a background as a small business owner and has focused on issues such as education and government accountability throughout his career. Despite attempts to contact him, Carbone has not responded to our survey.

Carbone On Cannabis:

While still harboring concerns about certain risks he believes are associated with consumption, Michael Carbone has generally shown support for expanding consumer access and promoting competition in the cannabis industry, earning him a B rating. Carbone voted yes on HB2770 in the House Commerce Committee, a bill that would have allowed delivery from cultivation sites

and prepared Arizona for interstate cannabis commerce. This vote reflects his commitment to enhancing consumer options and promoting a more competitive market, within reason.

He also voted yes on SB1410 both in the Commerce Committee and in its final form, which restricted the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to limit cannabis delivery options. These votes demonstrate his support for increasing consumer access and convenience, as well as applying basic free market principles to cannabis.

On the other hand, however, Carbone voted yes on HB2451, a bill that included reasonable advertising provisions but also granted dispensaries a monopoly over hemp products containing any amount of THC, such as full-spectrum CBD. While this vote suggests some willingness to limit market competition, his overall record indicates support for consumer-friendly policies.

He co-sponsored HB2784, which proposed adding warning labels about psychotic disorders to cannabis products. While aimed at informing consumers, such labels could contribute to stigma and misinformation about cannabis use.

Additionally, Carbone voted yes on HB2664, a bill that redundantly prohibited cannabis possession on school grounds—already illegal—and could have recriminalized personal possession in homes near schools. This vote reflects a cautious approach toward cannabis regulation.

Overall, Michael Carbone's legislative actions demonstrate a significant commitment to promoting competition in the cannabis industry while still being mindful of perceived health concerns, contributing to his B rating.

Nickolas Kupper- INC

Bio:

Nickolas Kupper's professional career includes serving as a paralegal at Military Backpay LLC. Prior to this role, Kupper dedicated 20 years to the U.S. Air Force, where he held the position of Director of Operations. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Kupper has not responded to our survey.

Kupper On Cannabis:

Nickolas Kupper's specific stance on cannabis policy has not been widely documented.

William Olear- INC

Bio:

William Olear's background includes work as a realtor and as the owner of a restaurant called New York Flavor. He also has experience from his time working with Mobil Oil. Additionally, Olear is active in his community; he has served on the board of WHAM! Arts Association and is currently a board member for the Vista Center for the Arts. Originally from Connecticut, Olear graduated from the University of Connecticut and moved to Arizona in 2007. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Olear has not responded to our survey.

Olear On Cannabis:

William Olear's specific stance on cannabis policy is not well-documented in available sources.

State House 26

Quanta Crews- B+

Bio:

Quanta Crews holds a degree in history from Grand Canyon University and is recognized for her passion for public service and advocacy. Crews coordinates the No Limits Special Needs Ministry and has served as an associate minister at the Historic Tanner Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Phoenix. Despite attempts to contact her, Crews has not responded to our survey.

Quanta Crews On Cannabis:

Quanta Crews has demonstrated a balanced approach to cannabis policy reform, earning her a B+ rating. Her legislative actions reflect support for consumer access and market fairness, with efforts to promote competition within the industry and spur equitable outcomes.

In the House Regulatory Affairs Committee, Crews expressed support for microlicenses, which aim to diversify the market and promote small business ownership. This stance highlights her commitment to creating economic opportunities and enhancing competition within the cannabis industry. She also voted yes on SB1410, which restricted the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to limit consumer choice on the subject of marijuana deliveries.

However, Crews has taken contrary positions on the subject of hemp. Crews voted yes on HB2451, a bill that included reasonable advertising provisions but also granted dispensaries a monopoly over hemp products containing any amount of THC, such as full-spectrum CBD. Similarly, Crews voted no on HB2679, which sought to regulate hemp-derived products like Elevado without granting dispensaries a monopoly on them. Her stance on hemp conflicts somewhat with her otherwise positions related to economic opportunities and consumer choice.

On the subject of criminal laws, Crews voted no on HB2664, a bill that would have redundantly prohibited cannabis possession on school grounds—already illegal—and could have recriminalized personal possession in homes near schools. This vote reflects her opposition to unnecessary criminalization and supports a more lenient approach to cannabis possession laws.

Overall, Quanta Crews's legislative record shows a commitment to enhancing consumer access and promoting market diversity through microlicenses, while also balancing these efforts with votes that have mixed implications for competition. Her actions contribute positively to cannabis reform, warranting a B+ rating.

Cesar Aguilar- A-

Bio:

Born and raised in Phoenix, Cesar Aguilar holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from Northern Arizona University, which he completed in 2016. Aguilar's professional career has been dedicated to advocating for education and working-class values. He works with the Arizona Students' Association, focusing on issues related to college accessibility and affordability. His political experience includes serving as Vice President of the Balsz Elementary School Board. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Aguilar has not responded to our survey.

Aguilar On Cannabis:

Cesar Aguilar earns an A- rating based on his 2022 survey responses and legislative actions, reflecting strong support for cannabis reform with only minor reservations.

In his 2022 survey, Aguilar consistently supported key initiatives, including promoting fair competition among licensed businesses, advocating for medical freedom, and endorsing criminal justice reforms such as expanding expungement laws for non-violent cannabis offenses. He was open about where he needed more information, and it has been provided to him.

Legislatively, Aguilar co-sponsored a bill to protect tenants from eviction solely for marijuana use, demonstrating his dedication to safeguarding consumer rights in housing. He voted yes on HB2770 and SB1410, both of which restricted the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to limit cannabis delivery options. These votes enhance consumer access and convenience, aligning with his survey support for expanding delivery services and promoting consumer choice.

While Aguilar voted yes on HB2451, a bill that included reasonable advertising provisions but also granted dispensaries a monopoly over hemp products containing any amount of THC, this single vote does not significantly detract from his overall supportive stance. Instead, it can be viewed as a nuanced position within a broader framework of promoting consumer access and market fairness.

Additionally, Aguilar voted yes on HB2664, a bill that redundantly prohibited cannabis possession on school grounds—already illegal—and could have recriminalized possession in homes near schools. Despite this vote, his active efforts to expand access and protect consumer rights in other areas mitigate the impact of this decision.

Overall, Cesar Aguilar's legislative actions and strong survey support for cannabis reform initiatives highlight his dedication to consumer rights, market fairness, and criminal justice reform. His commitment to these areas, coupled with his proactive legislative efforts, warrants his A- rating.

Skyla Edwards- INC

Bio:

Skyla Edwards is running for Arizona State House Legislative District 26. Despite attempts to contact her, Mrs. Edwards has not responded to our survey.

Edwards On Cannabis:

Skyla Edwards' specific stance on cannabis policy is not well-documented.

Frank Roberts- INC

Bio:

Frank Roberts was born and raised in Arizona and pursued a degree in business administration at Ottawa University. Roberts works with Roberts Investments, focusing on housing development and collaborating with the city of Phoenix to provide affordable housing options for low-income families. Prior to this role, he served as the CEO of A to Z Chemistry Inc., where he likely gained substantial experience in management and business operations. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Roberts has not responded to our survey.

Roberts On Cannabis:

Frank Roberts' specific stance on cannabis policy has not been widely documented.

State House 27

Tony Rivero- F

Bio:

Tony Rivero has a strong educational background, earning a Bachelor of Arts in secondary education, political science, and history, along with a Master of Arts in political science from Arizona State University. He also holds a Master of Public Administration from Northern Arizona University. Despite attempts to contact him, Rivero has not responded to our survey.

Rivero On Cannabis:

Tony Rivero, a former member of the Arizona House of Representatives, has generally aligned with conservative viewpoints regarding cannabis policy. He has expressed opposition to the legalization of recreational marijuana and has supported stricter regulations surrounding its use. Rivero's stance reflects concerns about potential negative impacts on public health and safety, as well as the need to regulate cannabis use, particularly in relation to youth access and misuse.

Deborah Howard- INC

Bio:

Deborah Howard has a diverse career that spans public policy at various levels of government and advocacy in multiple sectors. She began her professional journey after earning a degree in public policy from UC Berkeley, initially working in Washington, D.C. She has experience in government agencies, non-profit organizations, and as an independent consultant. Despite attempts to contact her, Howard has not responded to our survey.

Howard On Cannabis:

Deborah Howard's specific stance on cannabis policy is not well-documented.

Lisa Fink- INC

Bio:

Lisa Fink is a Republican candidate running for the Arizona State House in District 27. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Administrative Dietetics from Brigham Young University and currently works as a consultant dietitian. Fink has been actively involved in education and community issues, notably serving as the president of the Protect Arizona Children Coalition and as chair of the Arizona State Constitutional Commemoration Committee. Despite attempts to contact her, Mrs. Fink has not responded to our survey.

Fink On Cannabis:

Lisa Fink's specific stance on cannabis policy is not well-documented.

State House 28

David Livingston- C+

Bio:

David Livingston is a retired financial advisor and holds a Bachelor of Science in Finance from Arizona State University. His professional history includes roles in business, particularly in the insurance and financial sectors that have contributed to his legislative focus on economic development and fiscal responsibility. Despite attempts to contact him, Livingston has not responded to our survey.

Livingston On Cannabis:

David Livingston has generally taken a conservative stance on cannabis policy. He has expressed opposition to the legalization of recreational marijuana, aligning with concerns about public safety and health implications. Livingston has supported stricter regulations surrounding medical marijuana in the past to prevent misuse and ensure that it serves its intended purpose for those in legitimate need.

Livingston voted yes on HB2451, a bill that included reasonable advertising provisions but also granted dispensaries a monopoly over hemp products containing any amount of THC, such as full-spectrum CBD. This vote indicates a willingness to support advertising standards but also reflects a limitation on market competition and consumer access to a broader range of hemp products, which conflicts with his support for a separate bill that could have created microlicenses.

He also voted yes on SB1410, which restricted the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to limit cannabis delivery options. This vote promotes increased consumer access and convenience, aligning with efforts to expand delivery services and enhance market accessibility.

However, Livingston voted yes on HB2664, a bill that redundantly prohibited cannabis possession on school grounds—already illegal—and could have recriminalized possession in homes near schools. This vote indicates support for unnecessary criminalization and a more restrictive stance on cannabis use, which contrasts with his efforts to promote fair competition and consumer access.

Overall, while David Livingston has supported measures that enhance consumer access and promote competition through microlicenses, his support for bills that limit market competition and increase criminalization contributes to his C+ rating.

Beverly Pingerelli- C-**Bio:**

Beverly Pingerelli is currently serving as a State Representative for Arizona's District 28, having first been elected in 2020. She is the chair of the House Education Committee and has been a Governing Board Member of the Peoria Unified School District since 2015. Professionally, she works as a science program coordinator at Grand Canyon University and has a background in cytogenetics and DNA technology, having worked for various healthcare institutions. Pingerelli holds a bachelor's degree in biological sciences from Wayne State University. Despite attempts to contact her, Pingerelli has not responded to our survey.

Pingerelli On Cannabis:

Beverly Pingerelli earns a C- rating based on her legislative actions, which reflect a mixed approach to cannabis policy reform with notable inconsistencies.

In 2022, Pingerelli initially voted yes on HB2050, a comprehensive bill aimed at strengthening cannabis testing standards, establishing whistleblower protections, providing free medical marijuana cards for veterans, and creating licenses for social equity applicants. This vote indicated her support for enhancing consumer safety and expanding access to medical marijuana for veterans and marginalized communities. However, she later flipped her vote to no upon reconsideration, signaling reservations about certain aspects of the legislation and reducing her overall support for these reforms.

Pingerelli also voted yes on HB2451, which included reasonable advertising provisions but granted dispensaries a monopoly over hemp products containing any amount of THC, such as full-spectrum CBD. While the advertising provisions are beneficial for consumer information, the monopoly aspect limits market competition and restricts consumer access to a wider range of hemp-derived products, conflicting with efforts to promote fair competition and market diversification.

Additionally, she voted no on SB1410, a bill that aimed to restrict the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to limit cannabis delivery options. This opposition indicates a reluctance to support measures that would enhance consumer access and convenience, which contrasts with her initial support for expanding access through HB2050.

Overall, Beverly Pingerelli's legislative record shows initial support for important cannabis reform measures but is marred by a subsequent reversal on HB2050 and opposition to both market competition and delivery expansion initiatives. These inconsistencies hinder her effectiveness in promoting comprehensive and fair cannabis policy reform, resulting in a C- rating.

Barbara Fike- INC

Bio:

A lifelong Arizonan, she was born in Phoenix and graduated from Alhambra High School before earning her Bachelor's degree in Social Science and a Master's in Adult Education from Northern Arizona University. Fike has over 40 years of teaching experience, primarily in English and Social Science, and has worked in various educational institutions, including the Deer Valley Unified School District and Glendale Community College. Despite attempts to contact her, Fike has not responded to our survey.

Fike On Cannabis:

Barbara Fike's specific stance on cannabis policy has not been widely documented. Without clear public statements or a legislative record.

State House 29

Steve Montenegro- F

Bio:

Steve Montenegro has a robust professional background, primarily in politics and community service. His political career includes serving in the Arizona House of Representatives for eight years and later in the Arizona State Senate. During his time in the legislature, he held significant leadership roles such as Speaker Pro-Tem and Majority Leader. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Montenegro has not responded to our survey.

Montenegro On Cannabis:

Steve Montenegro is a top recipient of campaign contributions from the Arizona Dispensaries Association, despite a long career fighting against the legalization of cannabis and against patient protections in the workplace.

In 2011, he voted to empower businesses to terminate medical marijuana patients by creating a new and vague classification for "safety-sensitive jobs." Over the years, we have received numerous inquiries from medical marijuana patients who were being wrongfully terminated in reliance on this 2011 law (HB2541) that Montenegro supported.

More recently, in 2024, Montenegro sponsored a pair of bills intended to crack down on small hemp businesses to protect Arizona dispensaries from competition.

In the worst of these bills, HB2452, Montenegro sought to provide law enforcement agencies with a potentially blank check to receive grants from the Smart & Safe Fund (consisting of tax revenue from cannabis sales) and use those funds to crack down on anyone violating his interpretation of Arizona's marijuana laws. Montenegro's bill was so bad that even police associations objected to it.

HB2451 represented another simultaneous attempt to criminalize small hemp businesses to protect dispensaries from lawful competition. On its face were mostly reasonable advertising provisions, but embedded within, a provision also granted dispensaries a monopoly over hemp products containing any amount of THC, such as full-spectrum CBD. Montenegro's sponsorship of this bill indicates support for measures that limit market competition and restrict consumer access to a broader range of hemp-derived products.

Never passing up on an opportunity to carry water for dispensaries, Montenegro even voted no on SB1410, a limited bill that sought to restrict the Arizona Department of Health Services' ability to limit cannabis delivery options. His opposition to this bill indicates reluctance to support initiatives that would enhance consumer access and convenience in obtaining cannabis products.

Additionally, he voted yes on HB2664, a bill that redundantly prohibited cannabis possession on school grounds—already illegal—and could have recriminalized personal possession in homes near schools. This vote reflects his support for maintaining restrictive cannabis possession laws and opposing efforts to reduce unnecessary criminalization.

Overall, Steve Montenegro's legislative record shows a consistent pattern of opposing initiatives that would benefit consumers and promote fair competition in the cannabis industry. His support for monopolistic practices and increased criminalization contributes to his F rating. Had he not accepted so much money from an industry (and consumer base) that he so vilified, perhaps he would have attained a D-.

Thomas Tzitzura- INC

Bio:

Tzitzura has a background as a retired high school science teacher and served in the U.S. Navy from 1977 to 1999, reaching the rank of Commander. He was born in Chicago to Ukrainian refugees and holds a B.S. degree from the University of Illinois Chicago. Tzitzura moved to Arizona in 2001, where he has contributed to the community through his teaching career. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Tzitzura has not responded to our survey.

Tzitzura On Cannabis:

There is no specific information widely available regarding Thomas Tzitzura's stance on cannabis policy at this time.

James Taylor- INC

Bio:

James Taylor has a strong professional background in the energy sector, having worked for over 30 years at the Palo Verde Nuclear Plant, where he held various management positions.

Prior to this, he spent eight years with Shell Oil in Houston, Texas. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Taylor has not responded to our survey.

James Taylor On Cannabis:

James Taylor's specific stance on cannabis policy has not been widely reported.

Tanari Ochoa-Martinez- INC

Bio:

Raised in Phoenix, Tanari Ochoa-Martinez earned a Bachelor's in Political Science and International Relations and a Master's in Public Administration from Arizona State University, where she is currently a PhD candidate focusing on Bi-National Economic Development. As the Director of Fuerza Local, she supports Latino small business owners through the Business Accelerator program. Tanairi is also an entrepreneur, owning three businesses. Despite attempts to contact her, Mrs. Ochoa-Martinez has not responded to our survey.

Ochoa-Martinez On Cannabis:

Tanari Ochoa-Martinez's specific stance on cannabis policy hasn't been widely publicized. Given that she's running for the Arizona State House, her position could align with broader state trends, but without explicit statements or legislative history, it's unclear where she stands.

State House 30

Leo Biasiucci- B-

Bio:

Leo Biasiucci has a background in both business and public service. Before entering politics, he worked in the private sector, gaining experience in finance and management, particularly in the automotive industry. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Biasiucci has not responded to our survey.

Biasiucci On Cannabis:

Leo Biasiucci, a Republican member of the Arizona House of Representatives, has generally taken a conservative stance on various issues. When it comes to cannabis policy, he has expressed opposition to the legalization of recreational marijuana. His approach reflects concerns about potential societal impacts, including public safety and youth access. Biasiucci has supported legislation aimed at tighter regulations surrounding medical marijuana to prevent misuse and ensure it is used as prescribed for medical purposes rather than recreationally.

John Gillette- F

Bio:

John Gillette has a background in business and public service. Before entering politics, he was involved in various entrepreneurial ventures, particularly in the real estate and construction industries. Despite attempts to contact him, Mr. Gillette has not responded to our survey.

Gillette On Cannabis:

Gillette was by far the most willing to have a civil discussion about the issues our organization is focused on this coming legislative session, but he politely requested his statements not be on record.

Monica Timberlake- INC

Bio:

Monica Timberlake has a background in business and community service. She is the chair of the La Paz County Republican Party and is involved in various civic and leadership roles within her community. Despite attempts to contact her, Timberlake has not responded to our survey.

Timberlake On Cannabis:

Monica Timberlake's specific stance on cannabis policy isn't well-documented. However, given her run for the Arizona State Legislature and the current political climate, it's possible that her position could be influenced by broader Republican trends, which typically range from cautious support for medical cannabis to opposition to recreational use.