JULY 2022

THE
CANNABIS
PRIMARY CANDIDATE GUIDE

VOTE TRUTH TO POWER

Get involved with local and state government!

285

Arizona candidates researched and asked questions around cannabis

GO VOTE!

CANDIDATE PRIMARY AUGUST 2ND

Arizona
NORML®

Table of Contents

Introduction:

Arizona NORML is proud to present our 2022 Primary Election Candidate Guide. We'd like to thank the following volunteers for their efforts in following up with candidates, doing research and helping with the production of this guide: Susie Cox, Alana Antonich, Jon Udell, Ryan Wilson, Christina Lopez, AJ Jacobs, Kyle Henden, Kyla Norton, Jenae Nichols, Sen Umeda, Bridget Chiovari, Neil McAllister, Todd Gilchrist, Sarah Saucedo, Isla Bonefield, DJ Bowen and Nick Opich.

For this guide, we started sending emails to candidates on May 5th and followed up with email blasts every three days for over a month and a half. The emails directed candidates to a survey with ten statements for them to read and offer responses ranging from strongly disagree, disagree, neutral, agree and strongly agree. These statements were designed to ascertain the candidates' views regarding cannabis-related issues that are important to Arizona NORML and the community. Here are the statements:

1. Promoting fair competition between responsible and licensed businesses is the best way to increase cannabis tax revenues and reign in Arizona's underground market.
2. People diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder should have the medical freedom to medicate with cannabis.
3. Individuals should not be convicted of driving under the influence if the only evidence of impairment is THC metabolites in their system.
4. Expungement laws should be expanded to include more non-violent cannabis offenses.
5. Expungements should be automatic.
6. Pregnant medical marijuana patients who consume cannabis at the direction of a medical professional, who knows they are pregnant, should not be penalized by the Department of Child Services.
7. There are accepted medical uses for marijuana.
8. Non-violent cannabis offenses should not qualify as felonies, with the exception of certain DUIs and offenses involving children.
9. The government's fee for issuing a medical marijuana card should be no greater than the actual cost of processing applications.
10. Specific craft licenses should be more available to diversify the market and promote small business ownership (e.g., craft licenses for specific activities like cultivation, product manufacturing, and infused food products.

We allowed the candidates to provide additional comments if they so desired. We also had our volunteers follow up with the candidates by phone and further emails to encourage their participation in the survey. If a candidate did not respond, we researched them for any and all information regarding cannabis through public statements, newspaper and on-line articles, voting records, sponsored or co-sponsored bills, responses to other candidate surveys and interviews. We did our best to accurately grade each candidate based on survey results and other available information. Unfortunately, there are some candidates who did not respond to our survey and we could not find enough information to grade them. Those candidates received I's for incomplete.

All other candidates received a letter grade relative to their positions on cannabis. That grade is shown beside their name in the guide.

If the candidate has a campaign website or official website, we included that as a link with their name. If they did not have a website, we tried to include a campaign social media platform. In the guide, (R) means Republican, (D) means Democrat and (LBT) means Libertarian.

It is important to note that the districts have changed this year due to redistricting. If you would like to find out your current Congressional and legislative district, simply click on this link and type your address into the search bar:

[Arizona District Locator](#)

The purpose of this guide is to assist you in voting for cannabis-friendly candidates who will help in moving cannabis reform forward in Arizona.

Happy Voting!

Important Note: In the candidate guide, you will see reference to a bill that we championed toward the end of the legislative session this year. That bill was HB2050.

HB2050 would have brought relief to rural medical marijuana patients by allowing for medical marijuana dispensaries to supplement the already existing adult-use establishments in those rural counties through dual licensing.

The bill also provided for more consumer protections relative to the testing program by implementing a whistleblower program so that individuals could submit anonymous complaints to DHS regarding observed anomalies in the industry. Furthermore, the bill required that all testing results be uploaded to the DHS portal within five days of their generation. Lastly, the bill would have created a secret shopper program to ensure that what is being sold on shelves is what it is purported to be.

HB2050 also waived the state medical marijuana card fees for all honorably discharged veterans who have lived in Arizona for more than a year.

HB2050 would have also ensured that funding would be available for a research bill, HB2298, that passed last year. The bill would have supplemented funding for research through the Smart and Safe Arizona fund if monies were not fully available in the Medical Marijuana fund.

Finally, the bill would have made the 26 social equity licenses dual-licenses so that those licensees could fully compete in a market where up to 50% of sales is medical. This would have also greatly aided licensees with existing zoning and would have increased access points for patients in both rural and urban locations.

Unfortunately, HB2050 did not pass the House at the end of this session even though it breezed through the Senate with overwhelming support. This bill was incredibly important for rural patients, veterans and social equity licensees. Therefore, we wanted to draw attention to those legislators who cast votes for and against HB2050 in the guide.

United States Senate

(R) Mark Brnovich: B

Brnovich first won election for Attorney General of Arizona in 2014 and then was reelected to that position in 2018. He is seeking the United States Senate seat this election cycle. Despite myriad contacts, Brnovich did not respond to our survey.

In July of 2019, Brnovich approved a trial program that would allow medical marijuana dispensaries to receive digital payments in an effort to ease the burden on dispensaries who are forced to do cash only business.

In a Phoenix New Times article from May 10th, 2019 entitled "Arizona AG Mark Brnovich is the State's No. 1 GOP Supporter of Legal Marijuana," it was revealed that Brnovich joined with 37 other state attorneys general to urge that Congress pass the SAFE Banking Act. Brnovich stated the following: ""This is a public safety issue, Brnovich said in statement about his position. "Regardless of individual opinions on the matter, medical marijuana was approved by Arizona voters in our state. Greater financial transparency and increased accountability will improve regulatory compliance and move commerce involving this heavy cash flow industry out of the shadows."

Also, in 2019, Brnovich supported a legislative effort to legalize believing that it would be a better option to a citizen's initiative. Brnovich expressed concerns regarding initiatives and the Voter Protection Act.

Lastly, in October of 2018, Brnovich withdrew his office's argument to the Arizona Supreme Court that cannabis extracts aren't covered under the AMMA. This was in response to the infamous Jones Case. In a Phoenix New Times article on October 23rd, 2018 entitled "Facing Election, Mark Brnovich Changes Side on Cannabis Extracts Case," Brnovich's spokesman had this to say about the decision: ""Mark recognizes there are people who get legitimate medicinal value out of medical extracts, including friends of friends," Anderson said. "The last thing Mark Brnovich wants to do is stand in the way of patients getting legitimate medicine.""

(R) Blake Masters: I

Masters is an entrepreneur, author and was COO at Thiel Capital from 2018 to 2022. This first-time Congressional candidate did not respond to our survey despite myriad contacts. Unfortunately, our research did not uncover anything relative to Masters and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate him at this time.

(R) Jim Lamon: I

Lamon is a United States Army veteran who worked many years in the coal and gas-fired power plant industry prior to starting his own business called DEPCOM. This first time Congressional Senate candidate did not respond to our survey despite repeated contacts. We actually met with Lamon and had a general conversation. He was not familiar with the MORE Act or the SAFE Banking Act so we sent him information on both. While Lamon does want to keep the federal government out of individual lives, he was not specific to cannabis. Without survey responses for clarity and better research, we just don't feel comfortable rating Lamon at this time.

(R) Michael McGuire: I

McGuire is a retired United States Air Force veteran who also served as the Adjutant General (TAG) of the Arizona National Guard from 2013 to 2021. Despite repeated contacts, this first-time Congressional Senate candidate did not respond to our survey. Sadly, our research did not yield anything relative to McGuire and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate him at this time.

(R) Justin Olson: D

Olson first won a House seat in LD19 in 2010. He returned in 2012 to win a House seat in LD25 and was reelected to that seat in 2014. He then ran unsuccessfully for a Congressional House seat in District 5. Olson was appointed to the Arizona Corporation Commission in 2017 and then won a term on the Commission in 2018. He is seeking the United States Senate seat in this election cycle. Despite repeated attempts at contact, Olson did not respond to our survey.

Here's what Arizona NORML had to say about Olson in 2018: "An incumbent, Olson sat on the Judiciary Committee in the House where he aided prohibitionist extraordinaire, Eddie Farnsworth, in blocking reform bills."

In 2016, Olson sponsored HB2601 which required DHS to adopt rules about having all dispensaries display signage regarding the consumption of marijuana while pregnant and breastfeeding. In 2012, Olson voted in support of a HB2035 which was an unnecessary bill targeting doctors and others who perform medical qualifications to be deemed unprofessional if they recommend marijuana for any other reason than a debilitating condition.

Olson was a D rated candidate in 2018 and without survey responses to ascertain where he stands today, we see no reason to change that grade.

(R) Frank Bertone: A

Bertone is a write-in candidate who first ran unsuccessfully in 2018 for a New Hampshire House of Representatives Stafford 4 seat. He then ran unsuccessfully for a New Hampshire Senate seat in District 4. Bertone is running for the United States Senate for Arizona in this election cycle. Bertone responded to our survey expressing full support for enhancing the legal market through fairer competition, small business ownership and craft licensing. Bertone recognizes the medicinal

value of cannabis and strongly agreed that Autism Spectrum Disorder should be added to the list of qualifying conditions and that the cost of medical marijuana cards should be reduced. Furthermore, Bertone offered full-throated support of automatic expungements as well as ameliorating existing law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those types of offenses. Lastly, Bertone strongly disagreed that DCS should not penalize individuals who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the behest of a medical professional but he did agree that the presence of THC metabolites should not be used as the sole indicator of impairment.

(R) David Bozic: A

Bozic is running as a write-in candidate for the United States Senate seat. We actually spoke to Bozic and did the survey with him on the phone. Bozic is fully supportive of enhancing the legal market through fairer competition, small business ownership and craft licensing. Bozic recognizes the medicinal value of cannabis and was in strong agreement that Autism Spectrum Disorder should be added to the list of qualifying conditions and that the cost of medical marijuana cards should be reduced. Furthermore, Bozic was in full support of automatic expungements and making more non-violent cannabis offenses expungeable as well as defelonizing those types of offenses. Lastly, Bozic was adamant that DCS should not penalize anyone who consumed medical marijuana at the direction of a medical professional and that the mere presence of THC metabolites should not be the sole indicator of impairment.

(D) Mark Kelly: B

Kelly has flown combat missions and he was selected by NASA as an astronaut where he flew four missions. Kelly won the 2020 special election for the United States Senate and is back this year for a run at a full term in the United States Senate. Despite repeated contacts, Kelly did not respond to our survey.

On May 24th, 2022, Kelly tweeted his support for the SAFE Banking Act: "I support the bipartisan #SAFEBankingAct. It's time the federal government stopped forcing Arizona's cannabis businesses to operate as cash only and gave access to basic financial services. This is a common sense, pro-business effort that would improve safety and livelihoods."

Kelly also signed a letter of support in the Senate for the SAFE Banking Act in November of 2021.

A Benzinga article entitled "Democratic Senator and Former Astronaut Mark Kelly Joins Colleagues Against Federal Marijuana Reform dated April 13th, 2022, stated this regarding Kelly and the MORE Act: "Kelly, a retired NASA astronaut and retired U.S. Navy captain, noted that the bill should make operations easier for cannabis businesses in states that have legalized the plant, but "stopped short of endorsing it," writes azfamily." Kelly was further quoted as saying: ""I think in general, folks that are legally conducting businesses in states like Arizona should have access to the banking system, but I'll have to look at the details.""

Lastly, Kelly was supportive of legalization through Prop 207 in an article in the Phoenix New Times entitled "Mark Kelly Says He Supports Recreational Marijuana Legalization in Arizona" dated on October 14th, 2020.

In 2020, we didn't have enough information to rate Kelly. Despite his lack of response to our survey, we can grade him this year on the preceding information.

(LBT) Marc Victor: A

Victor is a United States Marine Corps veteran who works as an attorney. He unsuccessfully ran for United States Senate in 2012 and is back on the ballot this year in the general election in November. Victor responded to our survey and expressed full support for improving the existing legal market through fairer competition, craft licensing and small business ownership. While recognizing the medicinal value of cannabis, Victor was in strong agreement that Autism Spectrum Disorder should be added to the list of qualifying conditions and that the cost of medical marijuana cards should be reduced. Furthermore, Victor offered steadfast support for automatic expungements as well as adding more non-violent cannabis offenses to expungement law and defelonizing those aforementioned offenses. Lastly, Victor was adamant that DCS should not penalize individuals who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the behest of a medical professional and was vehemently opposed to the use of THC metabolites as the sole indicator of impairment.

In addition to his survey responses, Victor summed up his thoughts with the following comment: "I support the absolute rights of all competent adults to put whatever they want in their bodies. People own themselves."

United States Representative CD1

(R) Josh Barnett: B

Barnett is a businessman who ran unsuccessfully for the US House in CD7 in 2020. He is back this year running in CD1. Barnett was quick to respond to our survey and was supportive of ensuring fairer competition and allowing small business ownership in the legal market. He was in strong agreement that there are medicinal uses of cannabis and fully supports adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions as well as the reduction of medical marijuana card costs. While Barnett was neutral on allowing automatic expungements, he did offer support for making more non-violent cannabis offenses expungeable and defelonizing those offenses. Lastly, he was in disagreement regarding the use of THC metabolites not being the sole indicator of impairment but supported DCS not being able to penalize those individuals who consumed medical marijuana at the direction of a medical professional during pregnancy.

In 2020, we were able to research Barnett and found these quotes that were attributable to him in the past:

- "I've read many studies on this and, yes, medical marijuana is a much safer alternative to most opioids, etc."
- "I find it funny how people pick & choose what's healthy according to their views. The alcoholic telling the fit, healthy person they shouldn't drink diet soda because of the aspartame. The cigarette smoker tells the marijuana smoker it's bad for them. People will justify anything"
- Criticized Kamala Harris for throwing "thousand[s] of black men in jail for marijuana"
- "I support medical marijuana..."
- "I have never condoned the use of rec marijuana outside of Medical use. Cigarettes, fast food and alcohol kill more"
- The "major problem I have with" legalization is an increasing number of stoned drivers, "Along with the high potency stuff like 'shatter'"

(R) David Schweikert: C

Schweikert first served in the Arizona House of Representatives from 1991 to 1995. He was then elected to the Congressional seat in District 6 in 2010 and has served in that same capacity until today. He returns this year seeking the Congressional seat in District 1. Despite repeated attempts to contact him, Schweikert did not respond to our survey.

We'll provide you with a historical perspective on Schweikert from our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide: "Here's Schweikert's record on cannabis in Congress (Courtesy of Head Count's Cannabis Voter Project 2020):

- Has supported allowing cannabis business to use banks
- Has supported allowing VA doctors to recommend medical cannabis
- Has supported allowing states to legalize medical cannabis
- Has supported allowing states to legalize recreational cannabis
- Has not supported ending cannabis prohibition at the federal level
- Voted in favor of the SAFE Banking Act of 2019 which allows banks to work with cannabis businesses that are legal at the state level. (2019)
- Voted in favor of preventing the Justice Department from prosecuting medical marijuana patients and providers in states where it is legal. (2015)
- Voted in favor of preventing the Justice Department from prosecuting users and businesses in states where recreational marijuana is legal. (2015)
- Voted against allowing VA doctors to recommend medical marijuana for veterans in states where it is legal. (2016)
- Voted against preventing states from penalizing banks for providing financial services to legitimate cannabis businesses. (2014)"

Since the 2020 election, Schweikert has voted yes on HR5657 (The Medical Marijuana Research Act) and yes on the SAFE Banking Act of 2021. However, he voted no on the 2019 and 2022

versions of the MORE Act. Voting twice against the MORE Act is rather problematic and it forces us to significantly lower Schweikert's grade from 2020.

(R) Elijah Norton: I

Norton is an entrepreneur and business leader. This first-time Congressional candidate did not respond to our survey despite repeated contacts. Sadly, our research could not uncover anything relative to Norton and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate him at this time.

(D) Jevin Hodge: A

Hodge is a community and business leader who ran unsuccessfully for the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors District 1 in 2020. He returns this year with a run for CD1. Hodge responded to our survey in strong agreement that the legal market should be enhanced by fairer competition, craft licenses and small business ownership. He recognized the medicinal value of cannabis and fully supports adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and reducing medical marijuana card costs. Hodge is fully on board with automatic expungements, adding more non-violent cannabis offenses to expungement law and defelonizing those aforementioned offenses. Lastly, Hodge is adamant that DCS should not punish individuals who were pregnant and consumed medical marijuana at the recommendation of a medical professional and that the presence of THC metabolites should not be the sole indicator of impairment.

(D) Adam Metzendorf: I

Metzendorf is the former Director of Membership for the Phoenix Suns and a first-time Congressional candidate. Metzendorf did not respond to our survey despite attempts at contact via email. Unfortunately, we could not find anything relative to Metzendorf and cannabis-related issues in our research so we cannot rate him at this time.

(D) Delina DiSanto: A

DiSanto has worked as a finance director and as a registered nurse. She ran unsuccessfully for the Congressional seat in District 4 in 2018 and 2020. DiSanto returns this year as a write-in candidate for the Congressional seat in District 1. We had trouble contacting DiSanto's campaign as her emails were undeliverable so we could not get her to respond to our survey. However, DiSanto did respond to our survey in 2020 and her responses led us to rate her as an A candidate.

For perspective, here's what DiSanto said in her campaign website in 2020:

On criminal justice reform: **"**Over the last 40 years, the incarceration rate in our country has more than quadrupled and is now unprecedented. The failed War on Drugs has punished communities of color. We need to root out racial discrimination in the system and have humane standards for prisoners. We can no longer tolerate incarceration for children and teen abuses of minor offenses or school related offenses. We need to address that time spent in jail/prison means they paid their

debt to society. They deserve rehabilitation and not further punishment. Furthermore, they should not have to pay fees to be able to vote."

On marijuana: "First things first - we must decriminalize marijuana at the federal level. The failed War on Drugs policy unfairly targets minorities, imprisons non-violent offenders, and increases unemployment. I would vote "yes" to legalize recreational marijuana in my state; it would benefit Arizona's schools and infrastructure. I will fight for states to be able to opt to legalize recreational marijuana. Medicinal marijuana should be legal across the board."

United States Representative CD2

(R) Walter Blackman: D-

Blackman is a combat veteran who first won a House seat in LD06 in 2018. He has maintained that seat until today. This year, Blackman is running for the Congressional seat in District 2. Despite repeated contacts, Blackman did not respond to our survey.

For a historical perspective, here's what we had to say in our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide relative to Blackman: "In 2018, Blackman told us that he wasn't interested after repeated attempts to contact him for our survey. We have come a long way since then because Blackman did respond to our survey in 2020. Unfortunately, he had strong disagreement with six of the seven statements demonstrating that he is strongly against eliminating the federal prohibition of marijuana, strongly against supporting the medical marijuana program, strongly against the legalization of adult-use marijuana in Arizona, strongly against children never being removed from a parent due to the parent's choice to consume marijuana, strongly against eliminating harsh penalties that Arizonans face for non-violent marijuana offenses and strongly against expungement for those who have records of marijuana possession. For someone who fancies himself as a criminal justice reformer, Blackman's responses with respect to cannabis certainly aren't congruent with criminal justice reform. Sadly, Blackman is also in public opposition to Prop 207 and even mentioned in an interview on the Jeff Orvatis Show on September 25, 2020 that heroin, cocaine and another substance are in the initiative. Blackman did sponsor HB2638 in 2020 which created official policy for deflection programs and has had success with criminal justice bills in 2019. While we support Blackman's criminal justice efforts, we just can't get behind his positions relative to cannabis."

Wait…there's more. Here's the long version of what Blackman had to say about Prop 207 in 2020: "Arizona's children are our key to a bright future. That's why I'm adamantly opposing Proposition 207. Our children need healthy minds to have the best chance at success. But prop 207 would harm their developing brains. According to Staci Gruber, associate professor of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, "the brain is abnormally vulnerable during adolescence." Studies show that when marijuana use begins before the brain is developed (late 20's) and continues into adulthood, development is inhibited, the brain is altered and often damaged, and permanent IQ loss and long-term dependence can ensue. Prop 207 would also empower the Big Marijuana industry to target our kids. To continue making a profit, Big Marijuana needs to hook the next

generation of their customer base. Prop 207 would allow advertising on every platform, including social media, and prohibit most localities from choosing to ban retail pot shops. It would also allow the industry to sell marijuana products attractive to kids, including gummies, candy, cookies, sodas, and vape pens. The increased access, visibility, and appealing products combine to make our children incredibly vulnerable. And the data is pretty clear. States that choose to pass initiatives like this one have among the highest rates of adolescent use in the country. But we aren't doomed to make the mistakes that other states have made. Arizona can and MUST do better to protect our children and our future. I'm urging you to vote NO on prop 207. Walter J. Blackman Arizona State Representative Legislative District 6 Walter Blackman, Arizona State Representative Legislative District 6, Snowflake"

We actually met with Blackman during our lobby week this session and had a great conversation about Autism Spectrum Disorder. We even sent him information on the topic but Blackman never followed up with us. We respect Blackman for his service and appreciate the fact that he changed his vote on HB2050 when it truly counted by voting yes on reconsideration. That act has us feeling generous with Blackman so we'll bump his grade from 2020.

(R) Eli Crane: I

Crane is a United States Navy combat veteran and small business owner. Crane did not provide a campaign email or phone number in the Secretary of State listings so we were unable to contact his campaign. Sadly, our research yielded nothing relative to this first-time Congressional candidate and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate him at this time.

(R) Mark DeLuzio: I

DeLuzio has experience in the corporate world and is an entrepreneur. Sadly, this first-time Congressional candidate did not list a campaign phone number or email in the Secretary of State listings so we were unable to contact him. Our research did not uncover anything relative to DeLuzio and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate him at this time.

(R) Steven Krystofiak: I

Krystofiak is a local farmer and small business owner who is a first-time Congressional candidate. We spoke with Krystofiak and he informed us that his campaign is not responding to surveys for the primary election. Unfortunately, our research did not uncover anything relative to Krystofiak and cannabis-related issues so we are unable to rate him at this time.

(R) John W. Moore: C

Moore has been a police officer and has served on the Williams City Council. He is currently mayor of Williams. Despite myriad contacts, this first-time Congressional candidate did not respond to our survey. In an interview on the Jeff Oravits Show on January 18th, 2020, Moore was asked about the legalization of marijuana. Moore responded that he is not sure that we should legalize marijuana. He stated that he has always felt that it was a gateway drug to other drugs. However, Moore then said that if legal marijuana was more prevalent, then it might decrease the use of opioids. We don't like the insipid trope of marijuana being a gateway drug but studies have

shown that states with legalized forms of marijuana have seen reductions in opioid use. Without further information on Moore or survey responses, we'll rate him on the average of those two comments.

(R) Ron Watkins: I

Watkins is a computer scientist and the administrator of the imageboard website 8kun. This first-time Congressional candidate did not respond to our survey despite repeated contacts. Sadly, our research did not uncover anything relative to Watkins and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate him at this time.

(R) Andy Yates: I

Yates has experience working overseas and as a small business operator. This first-time legislative candidate did not respond to our survey despite myriad contacts. We could not find anything in our research regarding Yates and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate him at this time.

(D) Tom O'Halleran: A-

O'Halleran was an Arizona State Representative from 2001 to 2007. After that, he was an Arizona Senator from 2007 to 2009. In 2016, O'Halleran won the Congressional seat in District 1 and has held that seat until today. He is seeking the Congressional seat in CD2 this election cycle. Despite repeated contacts, O'Halleran did not respond to our survey.

For a historical perspective, here's what we had to say about O'Halleran in our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide: "His office did meet with the Arizona NORML delegation in 2019 during NORML's national lobby day in September of 2019. O'Halleran has typically avoided the cannabis conversation so we'll use outside information to examine his stances (courtesy of Head Count's Cannabis Voter Project 2020):

- Has supported allowing cannabis businesses to use banks
- Has not supported allowing VA doctors to recommend medical cannabis
- Has supported allowing states to legalize medical cannabis
- Has supported allowing states to legalize recreational cannabis
- Has not supported ending prohibition at the federal level
- Voted in favor of the SAFE Banking Act of 2019, which allows banks to work with cannabis businesses that are legal at the state level (2019)
- Voted in favor of preventing the Justice Department from prosecuting cannabis users and businesses in states where recreational cannabis is legal (2019)"

In the last two years since 2020, O'Halleran has voted yes on the 2019 and 2022 versions of the MORE Act, the SAFE Banking Act of 2021, and the Medical Marijuana Research Act. O'Halleran's impeccable record over the last two years demonstrates that he has evolved regarding cannabis-related issues and we'll certainly adjust his grade from 2020 to reflect that.

United States Representative CD3

(R) Jeffrey Zink: C-

Zink is a business owner who has also worked with several professional sports teams with respect to sports-related injuries. This first-time Congressional candidate responded to our survey in agreement that the legal market would benefit from fairer competition, craft licensing and small business ownership. Zink agrees that there are medical benefits to cannabis and that the cost of medical marijuana cards should be reduced while remaining neutral on the statement regarding Autism Spectrum Disorder. Furthermore, Zink was neutral regarding automatic expungements and enhancing current expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses but he did support defelonizing non-violent cannabis offenses. Lastly, Zink did agree that DCS should not punish individuals who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the recommendation of a medical professional but he disagreed that the simple presence THC metabolites should not be used as the sole indicator of impairment.

In addition to his survey responses, Zink offered the following statement: "Cannabis offenses should be a case by case basis. I think that you should not drink or consume anything and be under the influence of a drug legal or illegal."

(D) Ruben Gallego: A+

Gallego was first elected to a seat in the Arizona House in LD27 in 2010 and won that seat again in 2012. In 2014, he was elected to a Congressional seat in District 7 and has held that seat until today. Gallego is seeking the Congressional seat in District 3 this election cycle. Gallego's Chief of Staff did respond to our survey offering full support for fairer competition in the legal market and agreeing that the market should be expanded through small business ownership and craft licensing. Gallego recognizes the medicinal value of cannabis and agreed that the cost of medical marijuana cards should be reduced. However, Gallego remained neutral on adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions. Furthermore, Gallego supported automatic expungements and enhancing existing expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses. Gallego strongly agreed that those types of offenses should be defelonized as well. Lastly, Gallego was neutral regarding DCS penalizing individuals who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the direction of a medical professional and the use of THC metabolites being the sole indicator of impairment.

Gallego's Chief of Staff offered an explanation for his neutrality on some of his responses: "The answers that are marked "neutral" on are largely issues that Rep. Gallego has not had the opportunity to study at the federal level as they have been left mostly to state and local jurisdiction. He would welcome the opportunity to learn more about the science and evidence behind these issues."

For a historical perspective on Gallego, here's what we had to say about him in our 2020 General Election Guide: "Gallego was the first legislator in the state House to introduce legislation for full legalization of adult use in Arizona and has been a long-time advocate for cannabis reform. Here's his record in Congress (Courtesy of Head Count's Cannabis Voter Project):

- Has supported allowing cannabis businesses to use banks
- Has supported allowing VA doctors to recommend medical cannabis
- Has supported allowing states to legalize medical cannabis
- Has supported allowing states to legalize recreational cannabis
- Has supported ending cannabis prohibition at the federal level
- Co-sponsored the MORE Act, which would end the prohibition of cannabis at the federal level, expunge low-level cannabis convictions and levy a 5% tax on cannabis sales to fund grants for communities that have been disproportionately harmed by cannabis prohibition. (2020)
- Voted in favor of the SAFE Banking Act of 2019 which allows banks to work with cannabis businesses that are legal at the state level. (2019)
- Voted in favor of preventing the Justice Department from prosecuting users and businesses in states where recreational marijuana is legal. (2019)
- Co-sponsored the Ending Federal Marijuana Prohibition Act of 2019, which would end the prohibition of cannabis at the federal level. (2019)
- Co-sponsored the Regulate Marijuana Like Alcohol Act, which would legalize and regulate cannabis at the federal level. (2018)
- Co-sponsored the SAFE Banking Act of 2019, which would allow banks to work with cannabis businesses that are legal at the state level. (2019)
- Co-sponsored the SAFE Act of 2017, which would allow banks to provide services to legitimate cannabis businesses. (2017)
- Co-sponsored the Veterans Equal Access Act, which would allow VA doctors to recommend medical cannabis for veterans in states where it is legal. (2018)
- Voted in favor of preventing the Justice Department from prosecuting medical marijuana patients and providers in states where it is legal. (2015)
- Voted in favor of preventing the Justice Department from prosecuting users and businesses in states where recreational marijuana is legal. (2015)
- Voted in favor of allowing VA doctors to recommend medical cannabis for veterans in states where it is legal. (2016)"

In the last two years in the House, Gallego has voted yes on the 2019 version of the MORE Act, co-sponsored and voted yes on the SAFE Banking Act of 2021, co-sponsored the MORE Act in 2021 and then voted yes for it in 2022, and voted yes on the Medical Marijuana Research Act in 2022. Gallego's record on cannabis-related issues is stunning and we truly appreciate his support in Congress.

United States Representative CD4

(R) Dave Giles: B+

Giles has worked as a pilot, a consultant and an engineer. He ran unsuccessfully for the United States House of Representatives in CD9 in 2016, 2018 and 2020. He's back this year running in the newly minted CD4. Giles was quick to respond to our survey and was supportive of the legal market promoting fair competition and small business ownership. He was equally supportive of the medicinal value of cannabis, adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and reducing medical marijuana card costs. Giles was also in agreement that

expungements should be automatic and that expungement law should be expanded to include more non-violent cannabis offenses as well as defelonizing those aforementioned offenses. Lastly, Giles agreed that individuals who consumed medical marijuana at a medical professional's recommendation while pregnant should not be punished by DCS but he was neutral on THC metabolites being the sole indicator of impairment.

Giles was gracious enough to speak with us on the phone about his campaign and his positions. He also submitted this statement in addition to his survey responses: "I am running for US congress and my answers are based on the constitution which does not mention cannabis law and is therefore unconstitutional. The tenth amendment states that it should revert to the states or to the people. Hence all federal laws regarding cannabis are unconstitutional."

(R) Jerone Davis: B

Davis is a first-time candidate who is a pastor, author, speaker and former NFL football player. He responded to our survey with agreement that the legal market should enhance fair competition but was neutral on adding craft licenses and small business ownership. Davis fully acknowledged the medicinal value of cannabis while strongly supporting adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and agreeing to reducing the costs of medical marijuana cards. Furthermore, Davis was neutral on automatic expungements while strongly supporting the addition of more non-violent cannabis offense to expungement law and defelonizing those offenses. Lastly, Davis agreed that DCS should not penalize individuals who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the behest of a medical professional and that the mere presence of THC metabolites should not be the sole indicator of impairment.

Davis voiced his openness to further discussion on these issues with the following comment: "Some questions I find vague and so am more neutral on. I am open to discussions on these issues." If elected, we'll hold him to that promise.

(R) Rene Lopez: F

Lopez is a United States Navy veteran and he has served on the Chandler City Council since 2015. This first-time Congressional candidate responded to our survey and was strongly opposed to enhancing the legal market through fairer competition, small business ownership and craft licensing. Lopez was neutral relative to cannabis having medicinal value and he maintained neutrality regarding the addition of Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions as well as reducing the costs of medical marijuana cards. Furthermore, Lopez was strongly opposed to automatic expungements but he was neutral relative to adding more non-violent cannabis offenses to expungement law and defelonizing those types of offenses. Lastly, Lopez was adamant that DCS should penalize anyone who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the direction of a medical professional and he strongly believed that the mere presence of THC metabolites should be the sole indicator of impairment.

(R) Kelly Cooper: I

Cooper is a United States Marine Corps veteran who works in the restaurant business. This first-time Congressional candidate did not respond to our survey despite repeated contacts. Sadly, we could not find anything relevant to Cooper and cannabis-related issues in our research so we are unable to rate him at this time.

(R) Tanya Contreras Wheeless: I

Contreras Wheeless is a lawyer, community advocate and a small business owner. She also was the former deputy chief of staff for former Senator Martha McSally. This first-time Congressional candidate did not respond to our survey despite myriad contacts. Sadly, our research did yield anything relative to Contreras Wheeless and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate her at this time.

(D) Greg Stanton: A

Stanton served on the Phoenix City Council from 2000 to 2009. He then served as the Mayor of Phoenix from 2012 to 2018. He won the Congressional seat in District 9 in 2018 and has maintained that seat until today. Stanton returns this year with a run for the Congressional seat in District 4. Despite repeated contacts, Stanton did not respond to our survey.

For a historical perspective on Stanton, here's what we had to say about him in our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide: "Stanton did meet with the Arizona NORML delegation during NORML's national lobby day in September of 2019. Here's his record in Congress relative to cannabis reform (Courtesy of Head Count's Cannabis Voter Project 2020):

- Has supported allowing cannabis business to use banks
- Has supported allowing VA doctors to recommend medical cannabis
- Has supported allowing states to legalize medical cannabis
- Has supported allowing states to legalize recreational cannabis
- Has supported ending cannabis prohibition at the federal level
- Voted in favor of advancing the MORE Act, which would end the prohibition of cannabis at the federal level, expunge low-level cannabis convictions and levy a 5% tax on cannabis sales to fund grants for communities that have been disproportionately harmed by cannabis prohibition. (2019)
- Voted in favor of the SAFE Banking Act of 2019 which allows banks to work with cannabis businesses that are legal at the state level. (2019)
- Voted against preventing the Justice Department from prosecuting users and businesses in states where recreational marijuana is legal. (2019)
- Co-sponsored the SAFE Banking Act of 2019, which would allow banks to work with cannabis businesses that are legal at the state level. (2019)"

In the last two years, Stanton has voted yes on iterations of the MORE Act in both 2020 and 2022. Furthermore, he co-sponsored and voted yes on the SAFE Banking Act of 2021. Lastly, Stanton voted yes on the Medical Marijuana Research Act in 2022.

United States Representative CD5

(R) Andy Biggs: F

Biggs first served in the Arizona House of Representatives from 2003 to 2011. He was then elected to the Senate seat in LD22 in 2010. In 2012, he was elected to the Senate seat in LD12 and won that seat again in 2014. In 2016, Biggs won the Congressional seat in District 5 and has maintained that seat until today. He is seeking the Congressional seat in District 5 this election cycle as well. Despite repeated attempts at contact, Biggs did not respond to our survey.

Here's a historical perspective on Biggs from our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide: "We'll let Biggs's record in Congress speak for itself (Courtesy of Head Count's Cannabis Voter Project 2020):

- Has not supported allowing cannabis business to use banks
- Has not supported allowing VA doctors to recommend medical cannabis
- Has not supported allowing states to legalize medical cannabis
- Has not supported allowing states to legalize recreational cannabis
- Has not supported ending cannabis prohibition at the federal level
- Voted against the SAFE Banking Act of 2019, which allows banks to work with cannabis businesses that are legal at the state level (2019)
- Voted against preventing the Justice Department from prosecuting users and businesses in states where recreational marijuana is legal. (2019)
- During his tenure as President of the Arizona State Senate, Biggs introduced legislation that would have prohibited the state from spending any money from its general fund on medical cannabis research. (2014)"

In the last two years, Biggs has continued his prohibitionist streak in Congress. In 2020 and 2022, he voted no on two iterations of the MORE Act. In 2021, he voted no on the SAFE Banking Act. Lastly, Biggs was a no vote on the Medical Marijuana Research Act in 2022. Biggs was an F rated candidate in 2020 and we see no reason to alter that grade for 2022.

(R) Martin Callan: I

Callan owns a small farm and works in the car business. This first-time Congressional candidate who is running as a write-in did not respond to our survey despite repeated attempts at contact. Unfortunately, our research failed to uncover anything relative to Callan and cannabis-related issues so we cannot grade him at this time.

(R) Jim Beall: I

Beall is running as a write-in candidate this election cycle for the Congressional seat in District 5. Beall did not submit a campaign email or phone number in the Secretary of State listings so we had no way of contacting him. Furthermore, our research yielded nothing relative to campaign websites or social media platforms nor anything relative to Beall and cannabis-related issues. We simply have no way of grading Beall at this time.

(R) David Boels: I

We could not locate a campaign website or related social media platforms for this first-time Congressional candidate. Boels did not respond to our survey despite email outreach. Sadly, our research did not yield anything relative to Boels and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate him at this time.

(D) Javier Garcia Ramos: C

Ramos is a graduate of ASU's Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law and has worked as an attorney. He unsuccessfully ran for US House in CD5 in 2020. He returns this year for another run in CD5. He responded to our survey and agreed that the legal market should enhance fair competition but was neutral relative to the addition of small businesses and craft licenses. Ramos strongly agreed that there are medical applications for cannabis and that Autism Spectrum Disorder should be added to the list of qualifying conditions while agreeing that medical marijuana card fees should be reduced. Even though Ramos remained neutral regarding automatic expungements, he did agree that more non-violent cannabis offenses should be codified into expungement law and that those offenses should be defelonized. Lastly, Ramos was in agreement that DCS shouldn't impose penalties on anyone who consumed medical marijuana at the behest of a medical professional while pregnant but believes that THC metabolites should be used as the sole indicator of impairment.

While we fully disagree with Ramos relative to THC metabolites and impairment, he did submit the following comment to justify his position: "Question #3 indicates that there is impairment in the driving ability. Impairment due to the THC in the system should be illegal. Now if the question said that the only evidence is THC metabolites in the system; that should not be illegal because you have to have impaired driving."

United States Representative CD6

(R) Young Mayberry: D

Mayberry is a US Air Force retired Lieutenant Colonel who has also worked as a teacher and coach, private pilot and a farmer. This first-time Congressional candidate responded to our survey and agreed that the legal market should promote fairer competition. However, he disagreed that there should be more craft licenses and small business ownership in that market. Mayberry is in full support of the idea that there is medicinal value to cannabis and he agreed that medical marijuana card costs should be reduced but was neutral relative to adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions. Interestingly, Mayberry disagreed with expungements being automatic and was not in favor of expanding the list of expungeable offenses to include more non-violent cannabis offenses. However, he was neutral on defelonizing those offenses. Lastly, Mayberry disagreed that the presence of THC metabolites should not be used as the sole indicator of impairment but agreed that DCS should not penalize individuals who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the direction of a medical professional.

Mayberry also submitted the following comments in addition to his survey responses: "I believe marijuana has legitimate medical use value. I do not believe marijuana should be used for recreational use any more than I believe that any medication should be used outside its medical use. For example, a person who uses properly prescribed Oxycodone should not use Oxycodone as a means to "feel better" or to get high. Penalties for improper use of medications need to be in place. Even more importantly, counseling and follow-up care needs to be available to those who have become addicted to medically prescribed medication of any kind. As a nation, we need to wean ourselves from addictive drugs where much of that addiction has resulted from properly prescribed medication for legitimate medical use."

(R) Brandon Martin: B-

Martin served eleven years in the United States Army Reserves. He ran unsuccessfully for a Congressional seat in District 2 in 2018 and 2020. He returns this year with a run for the US House in CD6. He responded to our survey in strong agreement that fairer competition would enhance the legal market and contribute to more tax revenue but was neutral on adding craft licenses and increasing small business ownership. While Martin was neutral on the medicinal value of cannabis and adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions, he did offer full support for reducing medical marijuana card costs. Martin stated strong support for automatic expungements and adding more non-violent cannabis offenses to expungement law but he was neutral on defelonizing those offenses. Lastly, Martin was neutral relative to DCS penalizing those who consumed medical marijuana at the direction of a medical professional while pregnant but was adamant that the mere presence of THC metabolites should not be the sole indicator of impairment.

(R) Kathleen Winn: C

Winn was a local television reporter in Tucson prior to working in banking, lending and real estate. She had an unsuccessful run for a seat on the Mesa City Council in 2016 and won an at-large seat for the Maricopa County Community College District in 2018. She returns this year for a run at a US House seat in Congressional District 6. Winn responded to our survey in support of fairer competition relative to the legal market but remained neutral on enhancing that market through craft licensing and small business ownership. Winn recognizes the medicinal value of cannabis and supports adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and reducing the cost of medical marijuana cards. Interestingly, she disagreed with automatic expungements but agreed that existing law should be expanded to include more non-violent cannabis offenses. She remained neutral as to whether non-violent cannabis offenses should be defelonized. Lastly, Winn was neutral to DCS penalizing individuals who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the advice of a medical professional and she remained neutral on using the presence of THC metabolites as the sole indicator of impairment.

Winn offered these comments in addition to her survey responses: "I believe that we need to enforce laws, that being said if laws are changed to reflect those changes stated here, then my position would become stronger. When it comes to medical decisions, I believe those should be between a patient and their doctor and not the government. Medical decisions are based on many factors not just one and so the questions do not reflect that. Licensing and availability are a state decision as it effects the economy and regulations of each state. My answers here, reflect that as that is not my decision to make. Finally, law enforcement is bound to follow the law and enforce current statues. I believe that the welfare of children is critical and clear guidelines need to be set forth as to felonies and what is charged. Medical treatment is between a doctor and patient and distribution of treatment needs to adhere to the law."

(R) Juan Ciscomani: I

Ciscomani is the Senior Advisor for Regional and International Affairs with the Office of the Arizona Governor, Douglas A. Ducey, and he has worked for the Tucson Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. He also ran unsuccessfully in 2008 for a House seat in LD29. This first-time Congressional candidate did not respond to our survey despite myriad contacts. Sadly, we just couldn't uncover anything relative to Ciscomani and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate him at this time.

(R) Lucretia Free: I

Free has a background in marketing and she served as the South East Regional Representative for District 4 Supervisor Steve Christy. She is also the Chair of the Pima County Transportation Advisory Committee. This first-time Congressional candidate did not respond to our survey despite repeated contacts. Unfortunately, we were unable to uncover anything relative to Free and cannabis-related issues in our research so we cannot to rate her at this time.

(R) Jordan Flayer: I

Flayer is running this year as a write-in candidate for CD6. He ran unsuccessfully as a write-in candidate in both 2018 and 2020 in Congressional District 2. Flayer did not provide a campaign email or phone number with the Secretary of State listings so we couldn't contact him. Unfortunately, our research yielded nothing regarding Flayer and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate him at this time.

(D) Avery Anderson: A-

Anderson is an engineer who has worked in sustainable energy and is currently employed by Raytheon. This first-time Congressional candidate responded to our survey expressing full support for fairer competition in the legal market and he agreed that small business ownership and craft licensing would enhance that aforementioned market. Anderson acknowledges the medicinal value of cannabis and he offered strong support for adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions while agreeing that the cost of medical marijuana cards should be reduced. Furthermore, Anderson agreed that expungements should be automatic while offering full-throated support for amending existing expungement law to include more

non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those types of offenses. Lastly, he agreed that DCS should not penalize individuals who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the behest of a medical professional but remained neutral relative to the presence of THC metabolites being used as the sole indicator of impairment.

In addition to responding to our survey, Anderson offered the following comments regarding his neutral stance on THC metabolites: "I'm not well read enough on THC metabolites to have a strong opinion on the matter. This is something I do not have a problem looking further into, but anything that is proven to impair driving abilities and safety I would be against."

(D) Kirsten Engel: A

Engel is an environmental lawyer, public servant and an educator. She was elected to two terms in the House in LD10 in 2016 and 2018. She was then elected to the Senate in LD10 in 2020 but withdrew from the office in September of 2021 to run for the Congressional seat in Distirct 6. Despite repeated contacts, Engel did not respond to our survey.

Here's what we had to say about Engel in our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide: "Engel responded to our survey and strongly supported all seven statements. Engel has been an ally in the legislature and is always more than willing to meet to discuss cannabis-related issues. An example of her legislative interest in cannabis reform is HB2178, a bill she sponsored in 2020 that sought to provide automatic expungement for marijuana possession. Here's what Engel had to tell us in the survey: "Too many lives have been ruined by the criminalization of the recreational use of marijuana. I support legalization and the expungement of the criminal records of those convicted of marijuana possession. We should legalize, tax and regulate recreational marijuana and ensure that persons from communities most harmed in the past by the criminalization of marijuana, communities of color, benefit economically from this legalization.""

In her last year in the legislature, Engel sponsored SB1192 which allowed for school administrators to send students who violated the drug-free school zone to a district program for at-risk students instead of reporting them to law enforcement. She also co-sponsored HB2250 which would have allowed nurse practitioners and physician assistants to qualify medical marijuana patients. Arizona NORML fully supported both these bills.

(D) Daniel Hernandez: B-

Hernandez first won a House seat in LD02 in 2016 and he has held that seat until today. He is running for the Congressional seat in District 6 this election cycle. Hernandez has also served on the Sunnyside Unified School District Governing Board. Hernandez did not respond to our survey despite repeated contacts.

Here's what we briefly had to say about Hernadez in our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide: "Hernandez has been supportive in the legislature and has also been a prime and co-sponsor on cannabis-related bills. In fact, he led on bills adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions for the medical marijuana program in 2018 and 2019."

Sadly, Hernandez has fallen from grace by voting against rural medical marijuana patients, veterans and social equity licensees. We were incredibly disappointed that Hernandez voted no on HB2050 without even consulting us regarding a bill that we championed this session.

United States Representative CD7

(R) Nina Becker: A

Unfortunately, the link to Becker's website didn't seem to work and we were unable to find any social media platforms relative to her campaign. However, Becker did respond to our survey and was in full support of enhancing the legal market with fairer competition, craft licenses and small business ownership. Becker recognizes the medicinal value of cannabis and strongly agreed that Autism Spectrum Disorder should be added to the list of qualifying conditions and that the cost of medical marijuana cards should be reduced. While she was in agreement with making expungements automatic, Becker was fully supportive of adding more non-violent cannabis offenses to existing expungement law and defelonizing those offenses. Lastly, Becker insisted that DCS should not penalize people who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the behest of a medical professional and strongly agreed that the presence of THC metabolites should not be used as the sole indicator of impairment.

Since she is running for Congress, Becker offered this sentiment relative to federal prohibition: "I think the controlled substances act of 1972 is unconstitutional and should be repealed."

(R) Luis Pozzolo: I

Pozzolo is a small business owner with a diverse work background. This first-time legislative candidate did not respond to our survey despite myriad contacts. Sadly, we were unable to find anything relative to Pozzolo and cannabis-related issues in our research. We kept getting soup recipes until we discovered that we had googled Pozole.

(R) David Reetz: I

Reetz is a write-in candidate who appears to be a first-time Congressional candidate as well. Despite repeated contacts, he did not respond to our survey. Unfortunately, our research did not uncover anything regarding Reetz and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate him at this time.

(D) Raul Grijalva: A+

Grijalva served on the Tucson Unified School District's Governing Board from 1974 to 1986. He then served as a Pima County Supervisor from 1989 to 2002. Grijalva first won his Congressional seat in what was then District 7 in 2002. Grijalva has served in that capacity until today (the district eventually became District 3). Grijalva is now seeking the Congressional seat in the new District 7. Despite repeated contacts, Grijalva did not respond to our survey.

For a historical perspective, here's what we had to say a about Grijalva in our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide: "Grijalva has been a phenomenal advocate relative to cannabis reform for many years. We'll let his record speak for itself (Courtesy of Head Count's Cannabis Voter Project 2020):

- Has supported allowing cannabis business to use banks
- Has supported allowing VA doctors to recommend medical cannabis
- Has supported allowing states to legalize medical cannabis
- Has supported allowing states to legalize recreational cannabis
- Has supported ending cannabis prohibition at the federal level
- Co-sponsored the MORE Act, which would end the prohibition of cannabis at the federal level, expunge low-level cannabis convictions and levy a 5% tax on cannabis sales to fund grants for communities that have been disproportionately harmed by cannabis prohibition. (2020)
- Voted in favor of the SAFE Banking Act of 2019 which allows banks to work with cannabis businesses that are legal at the state level. (2019)
- Voted in favor of preventing the Justice Department from prosecuting users and businesses in states where recreational marijuana is legal. (2019)
- Co-sponsored the Marijuana Justice Act of 2019, which would end cannabis prohibition at the federal level, expunge federal cannabis convictions, reinvest in the communities that have been most harmed by cannabis prohibition, and penalize states that continue to disproportionately arrest people of color and low-income individuals for cannabis-related crimes. (2019)
- Co-sponsored the Ending Federal Marijuana Prohibition Act of 2017, which would end cannabis prohibition at the federal level. (2017)
- Co-sponsored the CARERS Act of 2017 which would prevent the federal government from interfering with state medical marijuana policy, end the federal prohibition of CBD and allow VA doctors to recommend medical marijuana for veterans in states where it is legal. (2017)
- Co-sponsored the SAFE Banking Act of 2019, which would allow banks to work with cannabis businesses that are legal at the state level. (2019)
- Co-sponsored the SAFE Act of 2017, which would allow banks to provide services to legitimate cannabis businesses. (2017)
- Co-sponsored the Veterans Equal Access Act, which would allow VA doctors to recommend medical cannabis for veterans in states where it is legal. (2017)
- Co-sponsored the CARERS Act of 2017, which would prevent the federal government from interfering with state medical cannabis policy and end the federal prohibition of CBD. (2017)
- Co-sponsored the Veterans Equal Access Act, which would allow VA doctors to recommend cannabis for veterans in states where it is legal. (2017)
- Co-sponsored the Charlotte's Web Medical Access Act of 2017, which would end the federal prohibition of CBD. (2017)
- Voted in favor of preventing the Justice Department from prosecuting medical marijuana patients and providers in states where it is legal. (2015)

- Voted in favor of preventing the Justice Department from prosecuting users and businesses in states where recreational marijuana is legal. (2015)
- Voted in favor of allowing VA doctors to recommend medical cannabis for veterans in states where it is legal. (2016)
- Voted in favor of preventing states from penalizing banks for providing financial services to legitimate cannabis businesses. (2014)
- Endorsed the legalization of cannabis in Arizona.

Perhaps, we should take a moment to reflect on Grijalva's body of work relative to cannabis reform!"

In the last two years, Grijalva has co-sponsored and voted yes on two incarnations of the MORE Act in 2020 and 2022. He also co-sponsored and voted yes on the SAFE Banking Act in 2021. Lastly, Grijalva did not vote on the Medical Marijuana Research Act in 2022.

United States Representative CD8

(R) Debbie Lesko: F

Lesko first won an Arizona House seat in LD09 in 2008 and won the seat again in 2010. In 2012, she won the House seat in LD21. In 2014, Lesko won the Senate seat in LD21 and won it again in 2016. Lesko then won a special election to serve in Congress in District 8 and then won the general election in 2018. She has continued to serve in capacity until today. She seeks the Congressional seat in the new District 8 this election cycle. Despite repeated attempts to contact her, Lesko did not respond to our survey.

In our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide, we had this to say about Lesko: "Here's her less than stellar record in Congress (Courtesy of Head Count's Cannabis Voter Project 2020):

- Has not supported allowing cannabis business to use banks
- Has not supported allowing VA doctors to recommend medical cannabis
- Has not supported allowing states to legalize medical cannabis
- Has not supported allowing states to legalize recreational cannabis
- Has not supported ending cannabis prohibition at the federal level
- Voted against advancing the MORE Act, which would end the prohibition of cannabis at the federal level, expunge low-level cannabis convictions and levy a 5% tax on cannabis sales to fund grants for communities that have been disproportionately harmed by cannabis prohibition. (2019)
- Voted against the SAFE Banking Act of 2019, which allows banks to work with cannabis businesses that are legal at the state level (2019)
- Voted against preventing the Justice Department from prosecuting users and businesses in states where recreational marijuana is legal. (2019)
- When activists turned in enough petition signatures to put a cannabis legalization initiative on the Arizona ballot, Lesko tweeted: "Bad news for Arizona. This will only lead to more drug abuse and problems." (2016)
- Declared her opposition to legalizing recreational cannabis in an op-ed piece. (2016)"

Lesko certainly wasn't a fan of legalization in 2020. Here's her anti-207 missive: "Eleven states have now legalized marijuana, and not one example is successful. The legalization of marijuana across the country has brought many problems to some states. In Colorado for example, a report found that for every dollar Colorado earns from legal marijuana, the state spends over four times more to combat public health and safety issues. In 2018, California was expected to earn over a billion dollars in tax revenue from the sale of marijuana, and it barely earned a third of what was projected. Not only are the fiscal projections and impacts worrisome, our roadways will become less safe. Since Colorado legalized recreational marijuana, fatal traffic accidents involving stoned drivers have skyrocketed. Someone dies in an accident involving a stoned driver every 2.5 days. Car wreck insurance claims and fatal crashes involving marijuana increased in Colorado and Washington after they legalized recreational marijuana. We have made great strides in making our roadways safer by cracking down on impaired driving. We cannot rollback the gains we have made in driver safety. Some also say that legalization is needed because of over incarceration. However, this couldn't be further from the truth. Of the 42,312 people in an Arizona prison at the end of fiscal year 2019, only 0.5 percent had been sentenced for marijuana possession. Nationally, fewer than 100 people were in a federal prison for marijuana possession in 2017. We don't need this in Arizona. There is no upside to legalizing recreational marijuana. For those who need it for pain or to ease chemo-induced nausea, medical marijuana is legal. That won't change. But why would we want to allow recreational use when we know the harm it will do based on what has happened in other states. I urge you to vote no. Debbie Lesko, Congresswoman, Peoria"

In the last two years, Lesko has continued to maintain her horrific record relative to cannabis. In 2020 and 2022, she voted no on two iterations of the MORE Act. In 2021, she voted no on the SAFE Banking Act, and in 2022 she voted no on the Medical Marijuana Research Act. If it's marijuana, we can count on Lesko to be a no and her 2022 grade continues to reflect that sad reality.

United States Representative CD9

(R) Adam Morgan: B

[Morgan](#) served in the United States Army as a Ranger and an Airborne Qualified Infantry Officer and has worked in technology with the United States government and law enforcement. This first-time candidate responded to our survey in strong disagreement as to fairer competition in the legal market promoting more tax revenues and reigning in the illicit market but he did agree that the legal market should be enhanced by craft licenses and small business ownership. Morgan recognized the medicinal value of cannabis while strongly supporting adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and agreeing that the cost of medical marijuana cards should be reduced. Even though Morgan was neutral on automatic expungements, he strongly agreed that more non-violent cannabis offenses should be added to expungement law and that those offenses should be defelonized. Lastly, Morgan was neutral as to whether or not DCS should penalize individuals who consumed medical marijuana at the recommendation of a medical professional while pregnant but fully supported the idea that the mere presence of THC metabolites should not be used as the sole indicator of impairment.

Morgan also offered this comment in addition to his survey responses: "Federal laws regarding Marijuana should be repealed and autonomy provided to the states."

(R) Sandra Dowling: I

Dowling is a United State Marine Corps veteran who has worked in insurance and realty. She also served multiple terms as the Maricopa County Superintendent of Schools. Dowling ran unsuccessfully for the Congressional seat in District 8 in 2018. Unfortunately, Dowling did not provide a campaign email or phone number in the Secretary of State listings so we were unable to contact her. Furthermore, our research yielded nothing relative to Dowling and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate her at this time.

(R) Paul Gosar: F

Gosar was first elected to a seat in Congress in District 1 in 2010. Following redistricting, Gosar was then elected to a seat in District 4 in 2012 and has maintained that seat until today. He is seeking the Congressional seat in District 9 this election cycle. Despite repeated attempts to contact him, Gosar did not respond to our survey.

For perspective, here's what we had to say about Gosar in our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide: "We'll let Gosar's record speak for itself (Courtesy of Head Count's Cannabis Voter Project 2020):

- Has not supported allowing cannabis business to use banks
- Has not supported allowing VA doctors to recommend medical cannabis
- Has not supported allowing states to legalize medical cannabis
- Has not supported allowing states to legalize recreational cannabis
- Has not supported ending cannabis prohibition at the federal level
- Voted against the SAFE Banking Act of 2019, which allows banks to work with cannabis businesses that are legal at the state level (2019)
- Voted against preventing the Justice Department from prosecuting users and businesses in states where recreational marijuana is legal. (2019)
- Voted against preventing the Justice Department from prosecuting medical marijuana patients and providers in states where it is legal. (2015)
- Voted against preventing the Justice Department from prosecuting users and businesses in states where recreational marijuana is legal. (2015)
- Voted against allowing VA doctors to recommend medical marijuana for veterans in states where it is legal. (2016)
- Voted against preventing states from penalizing banks for providing financial services to legitimate cannabis businesses. (2014)"

In the last two years, Gosar continued to disappoint by voting no on two iterations of the MORE Act in 2020 and 2022. He also voted no on the SAFE Banking Act in 2021. Lastly, Gosar voted no on the Medical Marijuana Research Act in 2022. We'll keep Gosar's grade where it has been for many years.

(R) Randy Kutz: I

Kutz is a United States Marine Corps veteran and an entrepreneur. He also worked for former Congressman Trent Franks for 8 years. This first-time Congressional candidate did not respond to

our survey despite myriad contacts. Sadly, we were unable to uncover anything relative to Kutz and cannabis-related issues in our research so we cannot rate him at this time.

(R) Jack Harper: F

We couldn't find a campaign related website or any social media platforms for Harper. He also did not submit a phone number or email for his campaign in the Secretary of State listings. Therefore, we were unable to contact Harper. Harper won the Arizona Senate seat in LD04 in 2002 and maintained that seat until he won a House seat in LD04 in 2010 and served one term in that position.

An article featured in KNAU on February 18th, 2010 entitled "State voters may be able to create a medical marijuana law," discussed a preemptive legislative tax on medical marijuana if the initiative in 2010 were to pass. Here's what Harper had to say about voting no on the measure: "I feel that enacting the tax preemptively would encourage the general public to pass the citizens initiative, which I am not in favor of. I don't think that the citizens should be prodded by saying, look, if you legalize marijuana, it'll also help our fiscal problems."

Without further information, we'll rate Harper on what appears to be his opposition to even medical marijuana.

(D) David Lucier: B

Lucier is president and CEO of the Arizona Veterans and Military Leadership Alliance. He served as a Green Beret in the Vietnam War. He ran unsuccessfully for a Senate seat in LD26 in 2016 and he returns this year as a Congressional write-in candidate for District 9. Lucier did not provide a phone or email in the Secretary of State listings so we were unable to contact him. We also could not find a campaign website or related social media.

In an article that appeared in azcentral.com on July 22nd, 2014, Lucier defended Dr. Sue Sisley and her research into PTSD and marijuana: "David Lucier, a veteran with PTSD and president of the Arizona Veterans and Military Leadership Alliance, said the university's decision not to continue the research with Sisley as the leader hampers not only potential treatment for veterans, but academic freedom. Lucier said he would like to see the research continue so policies can fall into place based on the results. "Let the science dictate the next step," he said."

(D) Gene Scharer: I

Scharer served in the United States Army and has a background in education. We couldn't find a campaign website or related social media platforms for Scharer. He did not list an email or phone number in the Secretary of State listings so we couldn't contact him. This write-in candidate ran unsuccessfully for a Congressional seat in District 8 in 2012 and 2018. He ran unsuccessfully for a Congressional seat in District 2 in 2002, 2004 and 2006. Lastly, Scharer ran unsuccessfully for a Congressional seat in District 3 in 2000. Unfortunately, our research did not yield any results for Scharer and cannabis-related issues so we cannot grade him at this time.

State House LD01

(R) Judy Burges: C

Burges first served in the Arizona House of Representatives in LD04 from 2005 to 2012. In 2012, Burges won a Senate seat in LD22 and won that seat again in 2014 and 2016. She then won a House seat in LD01 in 2020 and returns this year to defend that seat. Burges did answer our survey but inexplicably left 5 of the 10 responses blank. We tried to contact Burges to remedy this but she did not respond. Burges was fully supportive of a legal market with fairer competition and agreed to enhancing that market through small business ownership and craft licensing. She recognized the medicinal value of cannabis and agreed to the reduction of medical marijuana card costs. However, she did not respond to our statement relative to Autism Spectrum Disorder but did offer a comment about it at the end of our survey. While Burges did agree to defelonizing non-violent cannabis offenses, she did not offer a response relative to automatic expungements nor to expanding current expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses. Lastly, Burges did not respond to the statements regarding DCS or THC metabolites.

Burges did offer this comment in addition to her survey responses: "People diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder should have the medical freedom to medicate with cannabis. If one is an adult and has a full understanding of the use and outcome of the medication."

Burges was a C rated candidate in 2020 but we just aren't certain as to where she truly stands today based on her missing responses regarding our survey.

For a full perspective, here's what we had to say about Burges in 2020 in our General Election Candidate Guide:

"In 2018, Burges was a co-sponsor for SB1420 which sought to provide testing for medical marijuana. Burges also co-sponsored a bill that established the industrial hemp program. In 2016, Burges penned an op-ed against recreational marijuana. In the ivoterguide, Burges disagreed with a statement about her support for the legalization of recreational marijuana. However, in a Prescott Talks Facebook interview on December 6, 2019, Burges was pressed on whether or not she supported recreational marijuana. Burges stated that if people would like to do that on their own time and spend their money that way, then it is up to them. Pressed again if she supported recreational marijuana, Burges simply stated if people wish to do that. The interviewer reiterated that Burges did support recreational marijuana and Burges did not say anything to contradict the statement."

Lastly, Burges flipped her vote to yes on HB2050 this session when it counted on reconsideration and was even the person to bring the bill to the floor for another vote. We are grateful to her for such action.

(R) Selina Bliss: I

Bliss has worked as a nurse and nurse educator. She first ran unsuccessfully for a House seat in LD01 in 2020 and returns this year for another run at the same seat. Bliss did not respond to our survey and we could not find anything attributable to her and cannabis in our research.

(R) Ryan Cadigan: I

Cadigan served in the United States Navy from 2016 to 2020. He ran for a House seat in LD06 in 2020 but withdrew prior to the Republican primary. He returns this year for a run at a House seat in LD01. Cadigan did not respond to our survey and our research yielded nothing relative to him and cannabis-related issues.

(R) Quang Nguyen: D

Nguyen has worked for Northrop Corporation and founded Caddis Advertising. He first won a House seat in LD01 in 2020 and is seeking that same seat in this year's election. Quang did not respond to our survey despite repeated contacts and a phone conversation.

We were able to find one small piece of information on Nguyen in 2020. In the ivoterguide, Nguyen responded to a statement asking if he supported the legalization of recreational marijuana. Nguyen was in strong disagreement with that statement. While Quang did vote in favor of the marijuana research bill (HB2298) in 2021, he refused to meet with us during our virtual lobby week in 2021 and 2022. Nguyen was a D rated candidate in 2020 and he did flip his yes vote to a no vote upon reconsideration of HB2050 this session, so we see no reason to change his grade this year.

(D) Cathy Ransom: A

Ransom is a professional administrator and a micro-business owner. This first-time legislative candidate responded to our survey expressing full support of enhancing the legal market through fairer competition and she agreed to the addition of craft licenses and small business ownership. Recognizing the medicinal value of cannabis, Ransom agreed to adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and reducing the cost of medical marijuana cards. Furthermore, Ransom agreed that expungements should be automatic while offering full support for adding more non-violent cannabis offenses to existing expungement law and defelonizing those types of offenses. Lastly, Ransom was adamant that DCS should not penalize any individual who consumed medical marijuana at the behest of a medical professional while pregnant and she agreed that the mere presence of THC metabolites should not be the sole indicator of impairment.

In addition to her survey responses, Ransom offered this comment: "Marijuana should be treated like liquor; no penalty unless other laws are broken."

(D) Neil Sinclair: A-

Sinclair is a clean water advocate, solar electric system designer and an electric transportation executive. This first-time legislative candidate responded to our survey offering full support for fairer competition in the legal market while agreeing that the market should be enhanced by small business ownership and craft licensing. Sinclair recognizes the medicinal value of cannabis and he strongly agreed that Autism Spectrum Disorder should be added to the list of qualifying conditions while supporting the reduction in cost of medical marijuana cards. Furthermore, Sinclair was in full support of automatic expungements and he agreed that existing expungement law should be expanded to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and that those types of offenses should be defelonized. Lastly, Sinclair agreed that DCS should not penalize anyone who

consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the behest of a medical professional and that the presence of THC metabolites should not be used as the sole indicator of impairment.

Sinclair offered the following comment in addition to his survey responses: "Some of your questions involve complex issues. Under ideal circumstances I would appreciate delving deeper into those complexities."

State House LD02

(R) Justin Wilmeth: B

Wilmeth ran successfully for a House seat in LD15 in 2020. He returns this year for a run at a House seat in LD02. Despite repeated contacts, Wilmeth did not respond to our survey. However, Wilmeth was the sponsor of HB2050 which is a bill that Arizona NORML fully supported this legislative session. We appreciate Wilmeth's willingness to allow his bill to become a strike everything amendment that evolved into an excellent piece of cannabis legislation.

(R) Christian Lamar: I

Lamar has worked in Information Technology for 21 years. Despite repeated attempts to contact this first-time candidate, he did not respond to our survey. Unfortunately, our research yielded nothing relative to Lamar and cannabis-related issues so we just don't have enough information to rate him.

(R) Pierce Waychoff: I

Waychoff is a chiropractic physician and first-time legislative candidate. Sadly, Waychoff did not respond to our survey despite repeated contacts. We were unable to find any information on Waychoff and cannabis-related issues and as such, cannot rate him.

(D) Judy Schwiebert: A

Schwiebert is a retired teacher and librarian who also co-founded Theater Works. As a first-time candidate in 2020, she won a House seat in LD20 and returns this year for a run at a House seat in LD02. Schwiebert responded to our survey with full support of enhancing the legal market through fairer competition, craft licensing and small business ownership. She recognizes the medicinal value of cannabis while being in strong agreement that Autism Spectrum Disorder should be added to the list of qualifying conditions and that the cost of medical marijuana cards should be reduced. Schwiebert also voiced full support for automatic expungements, ameliorating expungement law to include more non-violent expungement offenses and defelonizing those aforementioned offenses. Lastly, Schwiebert was adamant that DCS should not penalize individuals who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the direction of a medical professional but remained neutral relative to the presence of THC metabolites being used as the sole indicator of impairment. However, Schwiebert added this comment to explain her neutrality: "I am neutral on the question that says, "Individuals should

not be convicted of driving under the influence if the only evidence of impairment is THC metabolites in their system." because I need to learn more about this issue before I can give an informed opinion." We appreciate Schwiebert's honesty and we'll certainly help her to learn more regarding this issue.

Lastly, Schwiebert was willing to meet with us to discuss HB2050 and we are truly appreciative of her yes votes on the bill.

State House LD03

(R) Ernest Anderson: I

We could not find a website or any social media platforms related to Anderson's campaign. In fact, we only have an email contact. Despite myriad attempts at reaching Anderson, this first-time legislative candidate and retired law enforcement officer did not respond to our survey. Unfortunately, our research did not yield any useful information on Anderson and cannabis-related issues so we cannot not rate him.

(R) Nicole Cantelme: I

Cantelme has worked as an attorney and is a first-time legislative candidate. Despite myriad attempts to reach her, Cantelme did not respond to our survey and our research did not yield enough information to rate her.

(R) Joseph Chaplik: F

Chaplik owns an investment firm and ran successfully for a House seat in LD23 in 2020. He returns this year to run for a House seat in LD03. We tried repeatedly to contact Chaplik but he did not respond to our survey. We rated Chaplik as a D candidate in 2020 based on the following information: When asked if he supported the legalization of marijuana in ivoterguide, Chaplik responded that he disagreed with legalization. Without survey responses relative to his positions on cannabis and given the fact that Chaplik has never met with us during his tenure in the House, we would have maintained his grade from 2020. However, Chaplik voted no twice on HB2050 so that forces us to round down his grade this year.

(R) Alexander Kolodin: I

Kolodin is an attorney with the Kolodin Law Group who first ran unsuccessfully for a House seat in LD23 in 2020. He returns this year with a run for a House seat in LD03. Sadly, Kolodin did not respond to repeated contacts regarding answering our survey. Furthermore, we were unable to find anything relative to Kolodin and cannabis-related issues in our research which precludes our ability to rate him.

(R) Darin Mitchell: C

Mitchell first won a House seat in LD13 in 2012 and maintained that seat through elections in 2014 and 2016 before losing that seat in the 2018 primary. He returns this year with a run for a House seat in LD03. During our contact period, we did not have an email or phone number for Mitchell's campaign. In 2017, he co-sponsored a bill that sought to add marijuana to tobacco campaigns aimed at curtailing use as well as adding health warning signs in medical dispensaries. He also co-sponsored a bill related to industrial hemp and licensing in 2017. In 2018, he co-sponsored a bill that sought to defelonize possession of up to 3 ½ grams of marijuana. In 2015, Mitchell co-sponsored a bill that expanded the list of entities that are not required to reimburse relative to the costs associated with medical marijuana use. In 2018, Arizona NORML rated Mitchell as a C candidate. Without current survey responses and based his voting record, we'll keep that grade until we have convincing evidence to change it.

State House LD04

(R) Jana Jackson: C

Jackson has a background in education and first ran unsuccessfully for a House seat in LD28 in 2020. She is back this year with a run for a House seat in LD04. Jackson responded to our survey in agreement that fairer competition would enhance the legal market but she remained neutral as to the addition of small business ownership and craft licensing to that market. Jackson acknowledged the medicinal value of cannabis while agreeing to the addition of Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and the reduction of medical marijuana card costs. Furthermore, Jackson was in support of automatic expungements, ameliorating expungement law to add more non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those types of offenses. Lastly, Jackson disagreed that DCS should not penalize individuals who consumed medical marijuana at the behest of a medical professional while pregnant and she was in disagreement that the presence of THC metabolites should not be the sole indicator of impairment.

Jackson offered the following comment in addition to her survey responses: "People that have a felony on their records for laws we are now enacting should have the felony expunged off their record and given a right to vote."

(R) John Arnold: I

Arnold is a small business owner and first-time legislative candidate who did not respond to our survey despite repeated contacts. Unfortunately, our research was less than fruitful on Arnold so we just don't have enough information to rate him.

(R) Kenneth Bowers: I

Bowers is a veteran and retired Department of Corrections employee. He first unsuccessfully ran for a House seat in LD28 in 2016. He then ran unsuccessfully for the Senate seat in LD28 in 2018. Bowers returned in 2020 for an unsuccessful run at a House seat in LD28. He is back this year seeking a seat in the House in LD04. Bowers did not respond to our survey despite repeated

attempts to contact him. Unfortunately, our research did not uncover any information relative to Bowers and cannabis-related issues. Therefore, we simply do not have enough data to grade Bowers at this time.

(R) Vera Gebran: I

Gebran has a background in fashion and international business. This first-time legislative candidate did not respond to our survey despite myriad contacts. Unfortunately, our research was unable to uncover anything relative to Gebran and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate her at this time.

(R) Matt Gress: I

Gress served on the Governing Board of the Madison Elementary School District from 2017 to 2021. He currently works in the Arizona's Governor's Office of Strategic Planning and Budgeting. Despite repeated contacts, this first-time legislative candidate did not respond to our survey. Sadly, our research did not uncover anything regarding Gress and cannabis-related issues so we are unable to rate him.

(R) Maria Syms: F

Syms is an attorney who won a House seat in LD28 in 2016 but unsuccessfully ran for that same seat in 2018. She returns this year with a run at a House seat in LD04. Syms did not respond to repeated requests to answer our survey. In our General Election Candidate Guide in 2018, here's what we had to say about Syms: "During the 2018 session, Syms was a continuous purveyor of misinformation. Here's the deceptions she advanced in her AZ Central interview: "We need only to look to the problem associated with recreational marijuana legalization in Colorado to see that it is a bad idea for Arizona. Since legalization, teen use of marijuana has increased by more than 70% of the national average. As a former member of the Governor's Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership, I understand the social, economic and health problems associated with legalization here in Arizona. In recent months, our public conversation has focused on maximizing the quality of education for Arizona children so they have the best chance to fulfill their potential. Recreational marijuana presents a direct threat to that effort. The increased potency also exposes our citizens to increased health risks, higher traffic fatalities, and increased workplace danger due to impairment. While some contend legalization will bring tax benefits are erased by the increased costs to the state for health care and social services."" Wait…was this written in 2018 or in 1948? Since Syms refused to respond to our survey to possibly clarify her views, we'll curve her 2018 D- down to an F.

(D) Laura Terech: I

Terech is a teacher and community organizer. This first-time legislative candidate did not respond to repeated attempts to contact her about responding to our survey. Sadly, our research yielded nothing relative to Terech and cannabis-related issues so we simply cannot assign her a rating.

State House LD05

(R) Jennifer Treadwell: I

Treadwell is running as a write-in candidate this year for a House seat in LD05. This first-time legislative candidate did not respond to our survey. Sadly, our research was insufficient in finding anything relative to Treadwell and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate her at this time.

(D) Brianna Westbrook: A

Westbrook ran for US House in CD8 in 2018 and has worked in politics as well as starting a non-profit to advocate for safe and affordable housing. She responded to our survey in strong agreement that the legal market should be enhanced by fairer competition and small business ownership. Westbrook was fully supportive of adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions, reducing medical marijuana card costs and she fully recognizes the medicinal value of cannabis. She also offered full support for automatic expungements, expanding expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those offenses. Lastly, Westbrook is against DCS penalizing individuals who consumed medical marijuana at the behest of a medical professional while pregnant and does not support the use of THC metabolites as the sole indicator of impairment.

Westbrook added these sentiments to our survey as well: "In the United States today, we are wasting our time and resources on the failed War on Drugs. We are arresting and jailing millions of Americans, disproportionately people of color, for nonviolent drug offenses. Not only is this counterproductive, it is racially biased and morally wrong. It is past time for us to end the War on Drugs and bring about true justice in our society. One important way to do this is by legalizing marijuana. Legalizing marijuana would immediately remove the criminal elements from the sale and use of the drug. It would also generate revenue through taxation that could be used to invest in education, treatment, and prevention programs. These investments would go a long way toward making our communities safer and healthier. In addition, legalizing marijuana would help reduce the overcrowding in our prisons and relieve the burden on our court system. It is time for us to come together as a nation and move forward on sensible drug policies that will improve the lives of all Americans. Legalizing marijuana is an important step in that direction."

(D) Jennifer Longdon: B-

Longdon first won a House seat in LD24 in 2018 and was reelected to that seat in 2020. She is now running for a House seat in LD05. Longdon has been a long-time advocate and supporter in the legislature who actually worked in the early days of the industry. Longdon responded to our survey in strong support of enhancing fair competition in the legal market and support for small business ownership and craft licenses. She recognizes the medicinal value of cannabis while fully supporting adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and reducing the cost of medical marijuana cards. Longdon was equally supportive of automatic expungements, adding more non-violent cannabis offenses to expungement law and defelonizing those types of offenses. Lastly, Longdon was adamant that DCS should not

penalize individuals who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the behest of a medical professional and agreed that THC metabolites should not be the sole indicator of impairment. In fact, she supported her position with this sentiment: "Individuals should not be convicted of driving under the influence if the only evidence of impairment is THC metabolites in their system. However, as recognized in Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 36-2852(B), driving while impaired by marijuana to even the slightest degree is not acceptable."

In addition, Longdon submitted the following comment regarding the legal market: "It is important that diverse entrepreneurs and small business owners have a level playing field to enter the marijuana industry."

We do appreciate Longdon's responses to our survey but we are saddened that she was a no vote twice on HB2050. Unfortunately, Longdon did not meet with us to discuss HB2050 and simply echoed industry talking points in her opposition to the bill.

(D) Sarah Liguori: B

Liguori has a background in economics and commercial real estate who is also a licensed financial advisor. She was appointed to a House seat in LD28 in October of 2021. Liguori responded to our survey and agreed that the legal market would benefit from fairer competition, craft licenses and small business ownership. Liguori recognizes the medicinal value of cannabis while fully supporting the addition of Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and agreeing that the cost of medical marijuana cards should be reduced. Furthermore, she agreed that expungements should be automatic, fully supported reforming expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and agreed to defelonizing those offenses. Lastly, Liguori was in agreement that DCS should not penalize anyone who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the behest of a medical professional and that the mere presence of THC metabolites should not be the sole indicator of impairment.

In addition to answering our survey, Liguori offered these additional remarks: "Marijuana received an unfair reputation from the government classifying it as a Schedule 1 drug. Contrary to this classification, marijuana has been proven to be a safer alternative to other types of drugs and has a proven scientific place as a medicinal alternative. We are on the path to reclassifying this drug as it should be and expunging the records of those that have been caught in the criminal justice system because of it. Not only this, but through legalization, marijuana will have better oversight as a product, decrease the cartel drug trade violence, and open up new pathways for people that can use the medicinal components of it with ease."

Liguori met with us regarding HB2050 and was a yes vote on the floor but then she inexplicably flipped to a no vote upon reconsideration. We were truly disappointed by that turn of events and have adjusted her grade to reflect our consternation.

(D) Aaron Marquez: A

Marquez is a United States Army veteran who recently won an at-large seat on the Phoenix Union High School District Governing board in 2020. He also unsuccessfully ran for a House

seat in LD27 in 2014. Marquez did respond to our survey offering full support of ameliorating the legal market through fairer competition, small business ownership and craft licensing. Marquez recognized the medicinal value of cannabis and he was in strong agreement that Autism Spectrum Disorder should be added to the list of qualifying conditions and that the cost of medical marijuana cards should be reduced. Furthermore, Marquez provided full-throated support for making expungements automatic as well as enhancing expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those types of offenses. Lastly, Marquez was adamant that DCS should not penalize any individual who consumed medical marijuana at the behest of a medical professional while pregnant and he was steadfast that the mere presence of THC metabolites should not be the sole indicator of impairment.

(D) Amish Shah: B

Shah first won a House seat in LD24 in 2018 and has retained that seat until today. He is seeking a House seat in LD05 this year. Despite repeated attempts to contact Shah, he did not respond to our survey. Here's what we had to say about Shah in our General Election Candidate Guide in 2020: "Shah did co-sponsor HB2533 in 2020 which attempted to change the language for the class 6 felony possession of marijuana from a speck to 2 pounds relative to fines. The bill changed the language that a judge MAY fine you $750 as opposed to current language of SHALL fine you $750. That's a step in the right direction but we'll need more from Shah if reelected."

Unfortunately, Shah has not met with us during our last two lobby weeks. In fact, he kept rescheduling our meetings but they just never came to fruition. We rated Shah as a B- candidate in 2020 but it's past time for him to up his game relative to cannabis. However, Shah did flip his no vote to a yes vote on HB2050 after speaking with a legitimate social equity licensee. We also appreciate his willingness to meet with us to discuss HB2050.

State House LD06

(D) Deydrek Scott: A

Scott has been active in local and state politics for 13 years and serves as a Planning and Zoning Member to the Tó Nanees Dizí Local Government. This first-time legislative candidate responded to our survey expressing full support to enhancing the legal market through fairer competition, craft licensing and small business ownership. Deydrek acknowledges the medicinal value of cannabis and strongly agreed to adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and reducing the cost of medical marijuana cards. He was in favor of automatic expungements and offered full-throated support for expanding expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those types of offenses. Lastly, Deydrek insisted that DCS should not penalize individuals who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the advice of a medical professional and that the mere presence of THC metabolites should not be the sole indicator of impairment.

(D) Myron Tsosie: C

Tsosie first won a House seat in LD07 in 2018 and he has maintained that seat until today. He returns this year with a run for a House seat in LD06. Tsosie also serves on the Chinle Unified School District School Board. He did not respond to our survey despite repeated attempts at contact. Tsosie has not sponsored or co-sponsored any cannabis-related bills in his tenure in the House. He has met with us once in the last two years during one of our lobby weeks. We just don't have a real understanding as to where Tsosie stands on cannabis-related issues but he did vote yes on HB2050 this session so we see promise in working with Tsosie into the future.

(D) Mae Peshlakai: I

We could not find a campaign website or related social media platforms for Peshlakai. She appears to be a first-time legislative candidate who works with silversmithing. Peshlakai did not respond to our survey despite email attempts to reach her. Unfortunately, our research found nothing relative to Peshlakai and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate her at this time.

State House LD07

(R) John Fillmore: B

Fillmore is a veteran, businessman and entrepreneur who currently serves in the House in LD16 having won elections for that seat in 2018 and 2020. He also served one term in the House in LD23 having been elected to that seat in 2010. Fillmore unsuccessfully ran for a House seat in LD16 in 2012, 2014 and 2016. He is running this year for a House seat in LD07. Fillmore responded to our survey in strong agreement that the legal market should promote fairer competition and supported the addition of craft licenses and small business ownership. He recognizes the medicinal value of cannabis while supporting adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and reducing medical marijuana card costs. Furthermore, Fillmore agreed that expungements should be automatic, that expungement law should be expanded to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and that those offenses should be defelonized. Lastly, Fillmore did not agree that DCS should penalize individuals who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the advice of a medical professional but supported the mere presence of THC metabolites being used as the sole indicator of impairment.

It is interesting to note that Fillmore has apparently evolved on his positions relative to cannabis. In 2020, he was an Arizona NORML F rated candidate. To see that juxtaposition of where he was in 2020 versus today, we have included our appraisal of him from our last candidate guide in 2020:

"Fillmore responded to our survey by stating his strong support for eliminating the federal prohibition of marijuana and expungement or marijuana possession and use charges. He offered support for working to end harsh penalties for non-violent marijuana offenses and his understanding of the science behind medical marijuana. Lamentably, Fillmore than veers off the rails in his strong opposition to the medical marijuana program, having children never removed from a parent due to marijuana and the legalization of adult-use in Arizona. Fillmore is also publicly opposed to Prop 207. Lastly, in 2018, Fillmore was quoted by AZ Central "I am NOT in support of legalizing recreational marijuana nor introducing any new intoxicating or impairment

assistance of any kind into our society. We already have enough crazies and an overabundance of BOTH LEGAL and ILLEGAL substances abused." With this type of sentiment, our grade is obvious.""

Lastly, Fillmore voted yes twice on HB2050 so we are appreciative of his support of that bill this session.

(R) David Cook: C-

Cook first won a House seat in 2016 in LD08 and has maintained that seat until today. He is seeking a House seat in LD07 this election cycle. Cook did not respond to our survey even though we contacted him by phone and emails.

Here's what we had to say about Cook in our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide: "Relative to a September 8, 2020 General Election LD08 Candidate Debate sponsored by the AZCCEC, the Pinal Central wrote this about Cook: "Cook said he would not be voting for the initiative. The situation should have been handled in the Legislature, he said. There are also unanswered questions about what to do with all of the people who have been convicted for marijuana violations who are currently sitting in jail. He suggests an ad hoc committee to research the situation and contact other states, such as Colorado, that have legalized marijuana.""

We continued: "We like that Cook is willing to consider legalization through the legislature but that just didn't work out really well in the last legislative session. Lastly, we were not pleased to see Cook as a co-sponsor of the disastrous bill HCR2045 this year that sought a 2% THC cap for the medical marijuana program. We'll give Cook the benefit of the doubt relative to his grade because he has been supportive of hemp and testing in the past."

Without survey responses to allow us to ascertain where Cook stands today on cannabis-related issues and given the fact the he flipped to a no vote on reconsideration relative to HB2050, we'll add a minus to his 2020 grade for this year.

(R) David Marshall: I

Marshall is a first-time legislative candidate who has served in the United States Air Force and was a law enforcement officer with the Santa Ana Police Department. He has also managed a safe house for battered women and is currently an ordained minister. Marshall did not respond to our survey despite myriad contacts. Sadly, our research did not yield any results relative to Marshall and cannabis-related issues so we simply cannot rate him at this time.

State House LD08

(R) Caden Darrow: A

Darrow works in the retail jewelry industry and engages in volunteerism. This first-time legislative candidate responded to our survey by expressing full support to ameliorate the legal market through fairer competition, craft licensing and small business ownership. Darrow acknowledges the medicinal value of cannabis while strongly supporting the addition of Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and the reduction of medical marijuana card costs. While Darrow was neutral on automatic expungements, he offered full-throated support to enhancing expungement law through the addition of more non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those offenses. Lastly, Darrow agreed that DCS should not penalize anyone who consumed medical marijuana at the direction of a medical professional while pregnant but remained neutral on allowing the mere presence of THC metabolites to be the sole indicator of impairment.

(R) Bill Loughrige: F

Loughrige is a small business owner-operator who served 35 years in local and federal law enforcement. Loughrie first ran unsuccessfully for a House seat in LD26 in 2020 and he returns this year for a run at a House seat in LD08. Despite myriad attempts at contact, Loughrie did not respond to our survey. We vividly remember Loughrige from the general election in 2020 as he hung up on one of our volunteers. Here's what we had to say about him then: "Sadly, Loughrige told our volunteer that he would not answer our survey and then hung up on him. Thankfully, the ivoterguide revealed how Loughrige views the legalization of marijuana. Loughrige was in strong disagreement relative to his support of legalization. Given his incivility to our volunteer, his strong opposition to legalization and his unwillingness to respond to our survey to clarify his views, Loughrige leaves us no choice but to grade him harshly." Without new information or survey responses, we'll assume Loughrige hasn't changed much since 2020 and maintain his grade from that year.

(D) Athena Salman: A+

Salman first won a House seat in LD26 in 2016 and has maintained that seat until today. She is back this year with a run for a House seat in LD08. Salman responded to our survey by expressing strong support for a legal market with fairer competition, craft licensing and small business ownership. Recognizing the medicinal value of cannabis, Salman strongly agreed that Autism Spectrum Disorder should be added to the list of qualifying conditions and she supported the idea that the cost of medical marijuana cards should be reduced. Furthermore, she offered full-throated support for automatic expungements as well as adding more non-violent cannabis offenses to existing expungement law and defelonizing those types of offenses. Lastly, Salman was adamant that DCS should never penalize anyone who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the recommendation of a medical professional and that the presence of THC metabolites should not be used as the sole indicator of impairment.

Salman made a special trip to the capitol to vote yes twice on HB2050 and we truly appreciate her willingness to discuss the bill with us and her full support.

(D) Melody Hernandez: A+

Hernandez is a first responder who first won a House seat in LD26 in 2020. She returns this year for a run at a House seat in LD08. She responded to our survey offering full support to enhancing the legal market through fairer competition, small business ownership and craft licensing. Recognizing the medicinal value of cannabis, Hernandez strongly agreed that Autism Spectrum Disorder should be added to the list of qualifying conditions and that the cost of medical marijuana cards should be reduced. Furthermore, Hernandez lent full-throated support to automatic expungements, ameliorating current expungement law to include more non-violent offense as well as defelonizing those types of offenses. Lastly, Hernandez was adamant the DCS should not penalize individuals who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant and she strongly agreed that the presence of THC metabolites should not be used as the sole indicator of impairment.

Hernandez was more than willing to discuss HB2050 with us this year and we truly appreciate her full support and her yes votes on that bill.

State House LD09

(R) Mary Ann Mendoza: C

We couldn't find a website or social media platform related to Mendoza's campaign. She is a first-time candidate who responded to our survey in agreement that there should be fairer competition and small business ownership in the legal market. She was also in agreement that cannabis has medicinal value and supported adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions as well as reducing the costs of medical marijuana cards. Mendoza was neutral on automatic expungements and expanding expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses but was supportive of defelonizing non-violent cannabis offenses. Lastly, Mendoza remained neutral on whether DCS should penalize individuals who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the direction of a medical professional and agreed that THC metabolites should be the sole indicator of impairment.

(R) Kathy Pearce: I

Pearce runs a nonprofit that assists returning veterans. Pearce first ran unsuccessfully for a House seat in LD25 in 2020 and returns this year with a run for a House seat in LD09. Pearce did not respond to our survey despite repeated contacts. Sadly, we could not find anything related to Pearce and cannabis in our research so we simply cannot rate her at this time.

(D) Lorena Austin: I

Austin has worked in the public, private and non-profit sectors. This first-time legislative candidate did not respond to our survey even though we made repeated attempts at contact. Furthermore, our research yielded nothing relative to Austin and cannabis so we simply cannot rate her at this time.

(D) Seth Blattman: C

[Blattman](#) works in his family furniture business and first ran for the Senate seat in LD23 in 2020. He returns this year with a run at a House seat in LD09. Blattman responded to our survey expressing support for fairer competition in the legal market but he remained neutral relative to the addition of craft licensing and small business ownership. Blattman recognizes the medicinal value of cannabis but he was neutral regarding adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and reducing the cost of medical marijuana cards. Furthermore, Blattman agreed that expungements should be automatic while offering full support of enhancing current expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and he agreed that those types of offenses should be defelonized. Lastly, Blattman remained neutral relative to DCS punishing people who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the direction of a medical professional and he maintained neutrality with regard to the presence of THC metabolites being used as the sole indicator of impairment.

State House: LD10

(R) Justin Heap: I

[Heap](#) is a first-time legislative candidate running for a House seat in LD10. His campaign does not have a website and he did not provide any contact information for his campaign in the Arizona Secretary of State candidate listings. With no way to contact Heap and having found nothing on him regarding our research, we cannot rate him at this time.

(R) Barbara Parker: I

Unfortunately, we couldn't find a campaign website or concomitant social media platforms for Parker. This first-time legislative candidate did not respond to our survey regardless of our repeated contacts and our research did not uncover anything relative to Parker and cannabis-related issues. Therefore, we cannot rate her at this time.

(D) Helen Hunter: I

[Hunter](#) has worked in underserved populations for over 30 years and has served in roles as an organizer, social justice advocate, pastor, chaplain and businesswoman. Hunter first ran unsuccessfully for a House seat in LD16 in 2020. She returns this year for a run at a House seat in LD10. Despite multiple contacts, Hunter did not respond to our survey. Unfortunately, our research from 2020 yielded nothing on Hunter and cannabis-related issues and we still cannot find anything on her for 2022. Therefore, we are unable to rate her again this election cycle.

State House LD11

(D) Marcelino Quiñonez: A+

Quiñonez has been a drama teacher and served on the Governing Board of the Roosevelt Elementary School District. He unsuccessfully ran for a House seat in LD27 in 2014 and was appointed to his current House seat in LD27 in December of 2021. He is running for a House seat in LD11 in this election cycle. Quiñonez responded to our survey expressing full support for enhancing the legal market through fairer competition, craft licensing and small business ownership. While recognizing the medicinal value of cannabis, Quiñonez was in strong agreement relative to adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and the reduction of medical marijuana card costs. Furthermore, he was steadfast in his support of automatic expungements and improving existing expungement law by adding more non-violent cannabis offenses. Furthermore, Quiñonez agreed that non-violent cannabis offenses should be defelonized. Lastly, he was neutral on having DCS punish individuals who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the behest of a medical professional and he remained neutral on whether the presence of THC metabolites alone constitute impairment. We can certainly discuss these issues with Quiñonez as he has been more than willing to meet with us this legislative session.

In addition to his survey responses, Quiñonez offered this powerful statement: "Thank you Arizona NORML for your advocacy and leadership. I have enjoyed our working relationship and look forward to the opportunity to continue expanding on our efforts." As do we!

We would be remiss if we didn't mention Quiñonez's engagement of the HB2050 conversation and his willingness to discuss the bill at length with us this session. We are also truly appreciative of his yes votes on HB2050.

(D) Naketa Ross: A

Ross is currently a member of the Phoenix Union High School District Governing Board and is running for a seat in the House for the first time. She responded to our survey and offered full support of enhancing the legal market through fairer competition, craft licenses and small business ownership. Ross recognizes the medicinal value of cannabis and strongly agreed that Autism Spectrum Disorder should be added to the list of qualifying conditions and that the cost of medical marijuana cards should be reduced. Furthermore, Ross strongly supports automatic expungements, adding more non-violent cannabis offenses to current expungement law and defelonizing those offenses. Lastly, she agreed that DCS should not punish individuals who consumed medical marijuana at the direction of a medical professional while pregnant and that the presence of THC metabolites should not be the sole indicator of impairment.

Ross offered the following justification for agreeing but not strongly agreeing to the statements regarding DCS and THC metabolites: "On the two issues I marked "agree" rather than "strongly agree", I think it is important to make an evidence based decision. These are overall positive policies, but the nuance and detail in crafting them is important. We only need look at some of the issues of the first legalization ballot initiative in Arizona to understand why crafting a strong policy requires more than just a general agreement with the overall principle. As an elected official, my leadership style is to rely heavily on the voices of those most impacted by any public policy. I look forward to working with NORML on further informing marijuana policy in Arizona." We certainly look forward to working with Ross as well.

(D) Oscar De Los Santos: A

De Los Santos works in public policy and is a first-time legislative candidate this year. He responded to our survey in strong support of enhancing the legal market through fairer competition and the addition of craft licenses and small business ownership. Recognizing the medicinal value of cannabis, De Los Santos fully agreed to adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and reducing the cost of medical marijuana cards. Furthermore, he strongly believes in automatic expungements as well as ameliorating expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those aforementioned offenses. Lastly, De Los Santos agrees that DCS should not penalize anyone who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the recommendation of a medical professional and he fully supports not using the mere presence of THC metabolites as the sole indicator of impairment.

De Los Santos offered the following narrative in addition to his survey responses: "Oscar De Los Santos was born to working-class immigrant parents. He's dedicated his life and career to public service and progressive values. As a teacher at a low-income school in South Phoenix, he's been on the frontlines of the fight for better-funded schools and better teacher pay. As head of public policy at the Association of Arizona Food Banks, he represented Arizona's 1,200 food banks and food pantries in the Arizona Legislature and in Congress. He fought for state laws that promote economic justice—and won. Working in partnership with local community groups, the legislature, and the governor, he successfully led the fight to pass a bill that doubled the state's cash assistance program for low-income families. He also spearheaded a coalition that passed legislation to restore access to food assistance programs for people with felony records, including felonies related to marijuana possession and use. Today, Oscar works at the Arizona Democracy Resource Center, where he helps support free Marijuana Expungement Clinics for our community that help restore community members' civil and voting rights. Before working on public policy in Arizona, Oscar served in the Obama White House, where he worked for one of President Obama's senior economic advisors, gaining valuable experience in national economic affairs. Oscar has been recognized locally and internationally for his leadership. He was awarded a Rhodes Scholarship, earned a master of public policy at the University of Oxford, and was invited by the White House to a private meeting with President Obama. In office, Oscar will fight for a fully-funded education system, to reform our criminal justice system, and to bring good jobs with living wages to our community."

(D) Michael Butts: A

Butts has worked as a Cincinnati Police Officer and a teacher. This first-time legislative candidate did our survey over the phone with us and he was in strong agreement for enhancing the legal market through fairer competition, small business ownership and craft licensing. Butts acknowledged the medicinal value in cannabis while offering full support for adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and reducing the cost of medical marijuana cards. Furthermore, Butts strongly agreed to automatic expungements as well as ameliorating expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those types of offenses. Lastly, Butts was adamant that DCS should not penalize anyone who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the recommendation of a medical professional and he strongly agreed that the mere presence of THC metabolites should not be used as the sole indicator of impairment.

In addition to his responses, Butts provided us with the following comments: "There are constituents who are concerned about marijuana-related charges mostly impacting people of color. We need to ensure that the expungement process is applied in a very equitable manner. My constituents are concerned about the business licensing aspect of the industry and that the licensing is both fair and equitable."

(D) Shams AbdusSamad: I

AbdusSamad is a city employee and first-time legislative candidate. She did not respond to our survey despite repeated attempts to contact her. Unfortunately, we simply could not find anything in our research regarding AbdusSamad and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate her at this time.

(D) Wesley Leasy: I

Leasy is a former NFL linebacker for the Arizona Cardinals as well as a coach, public speaker and a board member of various organizations. We communicated with this first-time legislative candidate through his Twitter account and he stated that he would fill out our survey. Unfortunately, that never happened and our research did not yield anything related to Leasy and cannabis-related issues. Therefore, we cannot rate him at this time.

(R) Tatiana Peña: I

Peña is an educator and musician who first ran unsuccessfully for a House seat in LD27 in 2020. She returns this year with a run for a House seat in LD11. Despite repeated attempts to contact Peña, she did not respond to our survey. Unfortunately, our research did not yield anything relevant to Peña and cannabis-related issues so we are unable to rate her at this time.

State House LD12

(R) James Chaston: I

Chaston has worked in accounting for over 30 years and is the owner of a CPA firm. This first-time legislative candidate did not respond to our survey even though we reached out to him many times. Sadly, our research did not uncover anything related to Chaston and cannabis. Therefore, we cannot rate him at this time.

(R) Terry Roe: C

Roe is a retired peace officer who currently serves on the Chandler City Council having first been elected as an at-large member in 2014. Roe responded to our survey remaining neutral to ideas to ameliorate the legal market such as fairer competition, small business ownership and craft licensing. Recognizing the medicinal value of cannabis, Roe agreed to the reduction of medical

marijuana card costs while expressing neutrality relative to adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions. Furthermore, Roe was in support of both automatic expungements and enhancing expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses but he remained neutral as to defelonizing such offenses. Lastly, Roe was in agreement that the presence of THC metabolites should not be the sole indicator of impairment but he disagreed that DCS should not penalize anyone who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the recommendation of a medical professional.

(D) Anastasia Travers: A

Travers is a veteran of the United States Army who has worked with AMVETS as an advocate for veterans' issues regarding women, homelessness and the disabled. The first-time legislative candidate responded to our survey expressing full support for fairer competition in the legal market as well as improvements through the addition of craft licenses and small business ownership. Travers understands the medicinal value of cannabis while being in strong agreement that Autism Spectrum Disorder should be added to the list of qualifying conditions and that the cost of medical marijuana cards should be reduced. Travers was steadfast in her support of automatic expungements, enhancing expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those types of offenses. Lastly, Travers was adamant that DCS should never penalize anyone who consumed medical marijuana at the behest of a medical professional while pregnant and that the mere presence of THC metabolites should never be the sole indicator of impairment.

(D) Sam Huang: B-

Huang served on the Chandler City Council from 2017 to 2021 after being elected in 2016. He ran unsuccessfully for the US House in CD9 in 2020 and was unsuccessful in a bid for Chandler City Council in 2014. Huang responded to our survey offering strong agreement for enhancing the legal market through fairer competition, small business ownership and craft licensing. Recognizing the medicinal value of cannabis, Huang was in full support of reducing the cost of medical marijuana cards but remained neutral relative to the addition of Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions. Furthermore, Huang was in agreement that expungements should be automatic as well as ameliorating existing expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those types of offenses. Lastly, Huang did not respond to the statement regarding DCS and penalizing individuals who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the direction of a medical professional and he remained neutral relative to the presence of THC metabolites being used as the sole indicator of impairment.

In addition to responding to our survey, Huang submitted the following comment: "Marijuana business should be normalized as a business similar to tobacco business."

(D) Patricia Contreras: A

Contreras recently retired from the City of Phoenix and is seeking office for the first time. She quickly responded to our survey with support for enhancing fair competition and allowing small business ownership in the legal market. Contreras strongly agreed to there being medicinal uses of cannabis, adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and reducing the cost of medical marijuana cards. Furthermore, she offered full support of automatic expungements, expanding expungeable non-violent cannabis offenses as well as defelonizing those offenses. Contreras was very clear that she did not support DCS penalizing individuals who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant. Lastly, Contreras was neutral relative to the presence of THC metabolites being used as the sole indication of impairment. However, Contreras offered this explanation as to her stance: "I indicated neutral on this question, "Individuals should not be convicted of driving under the influence if the only evidence of impairment is THC metabolites in their system" mainly because I am not familiar with what impairments occur when THC metabolites are in a person's system and how age, size, gender, or amount affects people differently. I need more information on this question to answer responsibly." We certainly appreciate her honesty and will work to get Contreras up to speed on this issue.

(D) Ajlan Kurdoglu: C-

Kurdoglu is a small business owner who first ran unsuccessfully for the Senate seat in LD17 in 2020. He returns this year for a run at a House seat in LD12. Sadly, Kurdoglu did not respond to our survey despite repeated attempts to contact him. We were able to find this sentiment attributable to Kurdoglu from the Copper Courier on October 8th, 2020: "Kurdoglu said that Prop 207 is a result of the legislature's inability to pass laws surrounding marijuana legalization. He added that, while he has not decided whether or not he supports the measure, his priority in office would be to regulate the marijuana industry in a similar manner to the tobacco industry as to avoid public health risks." Being uncertain on Prop 207 less than a month before the general election in 2020 isn't very convincing as to Kurdoglu's commitment relative to marijuana and we would certainly like to know more about his regulatory plan. Kurdoglu's unwillingness to respond to our survey in 2020 and 2022 does not provide us clarity as to his positions on cannabis but we'll rate him with what we have.

(D) Paul Weich: I

Weich is a journalist and attorney who is a first-time legislative candidate running for a House seat in LD12 this year. We spoke with Weich on the phone and he committed to doing our survey but it never happened despite more attempts to contact him. Unfortunately, our research did not yield anything useful relative to Weich and cannabis-related issues precluding our ability to rate him.

State House LD13

(R) Josh Askey: D

Askey is a Controller for a locally-owned real estate developer who also ran unsuccessfully in 2018 for an at-large seat on the Chandler Unified School District Governing Board. Askey started off our survey with agreement that the legal market should promote fairer competition and small business ownership. While he agreed that there are acceptable medical uses for cannabis, Askey remained neutral on adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and reducing medical marijuana card costs. He then veered off path by disagreeing that expungements should be automatic and that more non-violent cannabis offenses should be included in expungement law. Askey was neutral about defelonizing those non-violent cannabis offenses. Lastly, he was neutral on DCS penalizing those individuals who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the advice of a medical professional and disagreed that THC metabolites should not be the sole indicator of impairment.

In addition to responding to our survey, Askey offered the following comment: "I believe marijuana is an acceptable medicinal treatment for patients under a doctor's care." While we appreciate that sentiment, Askey's responses were just not enough to propel him to a C rating.

(R) Ron Hardin: I

Hardin is a small business owner and first-time legislative candidate. Despite myriad attempts at contact, Hardin did not respond to our survey. Unfortunately, our research did not yield any results with respect to Hardin and cannabis-related issues so we simply cannot rate him at this time.

(R) Liz Harris: D

Harris is a real estate broker/business owner who first ran unsuccessfully for a House seat in LD17 in 2020. She is back this year with a run for a House seat in LD13. We actually spoke with Harris and she stated that she would respond to our survey. In fact, we sent an email to her with the survey link and she replied: "You aren't going to like my answers...Sorry!" That certainly piqued our interest but Harris offered no further communication and never responded to our survey.

We were able to find one quote from Harris regarding legalization that appeared in the Copper Courier on October 8th, 2020: "Harris said that, while she supports the use of medicinal marijuana, but she does not support expanding its legal use for recreational purposes.

With her lack of support for full legalization and her unwillingness to respond to our survey for clarity on her positions, we'll grade Harris accordingly.

(R) Don Maes: I

Maes is a United States Marine Corps veteran and first-time legislative candidate. Despite myriad contacts, Maes did not respond to our survey. Sadly, our research was incomplete relative to Maes and cannabis-related issues so we simply cannot rate him at this time.

(R) Julie Willoughby: I

Willoughby is a Trauma ER RN who first ran unsuccessfully for a House seat in LD17 in 2018. She returns this year with a run for a House seat in LD13. Willoughby did not respond to our survey despite repeated attempts to contact her. Unfortunately, our research did not uncover anything related to Willoughby and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate her at this time.

(D) Jennifer Pawlik: C

Pawlik first ran unsuccessfully for a House seat in LD17 in 2016 but then won a House seat in LD17 in 2018 and has maintained that seat until today. She is seeking a House seat in LD13 this election cycle. Despite repeated attempts to contact her, Pawlik did not respond to our survey. An article in the Copper Courier on October 8th, 2020 stated the following regarding Pawlik: "Pawlik said she opposes the use of recreational marijuana and plans to vote against Prop 207."

Furthermore, here's what Arizona NORML reported relative to Pawlik in 2018: "On cannabis, Pawlik told AZ Central that she does not back legalization: "No, however, I am in favor of decriminalizing marijuana which would help to reduce our huge prison population." In 2016, Pawlik was asked if she supported legalization via Prop 205. Pawlik stated that she did not support Prop 205 and wrote: "I oppose the marijuana ballot proposition. Because legalized marijuana is a relatively new idea, long-term studies to report on the impact of legalization have yet to be completed. Short-terms studies in Washington State have shown an increase in traffic fatalities linked to marijuana usage and homeless rates and the need for social services have dramatically increased in Colorado.""

Clearly, Pawlik does not favor adult-use legalization but she does meet with us during our lobby week each year and she did vote yes twice on HB2050 this session.

State House LD14

(R) Natalie DiBernardo: I

DiBernardo is a realtor and small business owner and first-time legislative candidate. Unfortunately, the only contact information we had for DiBernardo was an email address which proved not to work. Therefore, we had no real way of contacting her campaign. Furthermore, our research yielded nothing relative to DiBernardo and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate her at this time.

(R) Travis Grantham: C-

Grantham first ran unsuccessfully for US House in 2012 in Congressional District 9. He returned in 2016 to win a House seat in LD12 and has continued in that seat until today. He is seeking a House seat in LD14 in this election cycle. Despite repeated contacts, Grantham did not respond to our survey.

Here's what we had to say about Grantham in our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide: "Grantham was quoted in azmarijuana.com this year regarding legalization: "Grantham believes a legislative approach for major laws, such as legalizing marijuana for adult use, makes more sense." In addition, Grantham told AZ Central in 2018: "The recreational use of marijuana and the effects of those in close proximity to the product is problematic. Additionally, I do believe that some steps towards decriminalization can and should be taken.""

We'd certainly like to see Grantham committed to more than just decriminalization and we are disappointed that he was a no vote on HB2050 this session.

(R) Laurin Hendrix: C-

We could not locate a campaign website or associated social media platforms for Hendrix. Hendrix won a House seat in LD22 in 2008 but lost that seat in the 2010 election. In 2016, Hendrix won a seat on the Maricopa County Community College District, District 1 but lost that seat in the 2020 election. Hendrix also won a seat on the Gilbert City Council in a special primary election in 2020. He returns this year for a run at a House seat in LD14. Despite repeated contacts, Hendrix did not respond to our survey.

Hendrix has acknowledged in more than one article that he voted against Prop 207. However, he was the only dissenting vote on a Gilbert Town Council set of amendments that sought to address safety issues surrounding residential marijuana cultivation and extractions. With just this amount of information, we'll mark Hendrix down for a no vote on Prop 207 but congratulate him for his dissenting vote on those amendments.

(R) Suzanne Lunt: I

Lunt is an educator and first-time legislative candidate. Lunt did not respond to our survey despite myriad contacts. Unfortunately, our research yielded nothing relative to Lunt and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate her at this time.

(D) Brandy Reese: A-

Reese is a first-time candidate who has worked as a forensic scientist. She responded to our survey in strong agreement that fairer competition would enhance the legal market as well as provide more tax revenue and she supported the idea of adding craft licenses and small business ownership to that market. Reese recognizes the medicinal value of cannabis while fully supporting adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and agreeing

that the cost of medical marijuana cards should be reduced. Furthermore, she strongly supported automatic expungements and expanding expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and she agreed to defelonizing those offenses. Finally, Reese insisted that DCS should not penalize individuals who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the recommendation of a medical professional and agreed that the mere presence of THC metabolites should not be used as the sole indicator of impairment.

Additionally, Reese offered the following comments to supplement her responses: "From Oct 1997 through June 1998, I was employed as a marijuana analyst in the Drug ID Unit of the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation. My personal feelings about marijuana and its medicinal and recreational uses aside, as a Schedule I illegal substance, my job required the analysis and identification of marijuana for criminal prosecution. Since then, I have become aware of the growing body of scientific evidence that has shown that there are many appropriate medical applications for marijuana use. Further, the decriminalization of marijuana would have many positive societal benefits including decreased strain on police resources, decreased incarcerations and prison spending, and increased resources from taxation and regulation."

State House LD15

(R) Neal Carter: F

Carter is an attorney who has also worked for a tech company. He was appointed to a House seat in LD08 in October of 2021 and returns this year for a run at a House seat in LD15. Carter responded to our survey and was neutral regarding fairer competition in the legal market but he disagreed that the market should be enhanced by small business ownership and craft licensing. Carter strongly disagreed that there are acceptable medical uses for marijuana. Yep...you read correctly…Carter strongly disagrees that there are acceptable medical uses for marijuana. Moving back into the 21st century, Carter was adamant that Autism Spectrum Disorder should not be added to the list of qualifying conditions but he strongly agreed to the reduction of medical marijuana card costs. Carter remained neutral relative to automatic expungements and defelonizing more non-violent cannabis offenses but he did agree to expanding expungement law to include more of those non-violent cannabis offenses. Lastly, Carter disagreed that DCS should not penalize anyone who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the behest of a medical professional and he was neutral as to whether the mere presence of THC metabolites should be used as the sole indicator of impairment.

Given Carter's survey responses and his no vote twice on HB2050, we'll rate him accordingly.

(R) Jacqueline Parker: D-

Parker has practiced law in a private firm and has been a legal policy advisor. She successfully ran for a House seat in LD16 in 2020 and returns this year for a run at a House seat in LD15. Despite repeated attempts, Parker did not respond to our survey.

Here's what we had to say about her in our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide: "Parker did not respond to our survey despite attempts to reach her via phone and email. In the ivoterguide, Parker was asked if she supported the legalization of recreational marijuana. She strongly disagreed to legalization." Given her lack of support for legalization as well as the fact that Parker has refused to meet with us for both of our lobby weeks during her legislative tenure, we'll keep Parker's grade where it was in 2020 but add a minus given her no votes on HB2050 this session.

State House LD16

(R) Rob Hudelson: I

Hudelson is a pastor and first-time legislative candidate who served on the Coolidge City Council. We spoke with Hudelson and he was unable to complete the survey at this time. Sadly, our research did not uncover anything relative to Hudelson and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate him.

(R) Teresa Martinez: I

Martinez has a long history of working in politics and was appointed to a House seat in LD11 in October of 2021. She returns for a run at a House seat in LD16 this election cycle. Despite repeated attempts at contact, Martinez did not respond to our survey. Unfortunately, she hasn't served long enough at the legislature for us to see any patterns in her voting or bills that she supports and our research was insufficient to provide her with a rating even though she was no vote twice on HB2050.

(D) Keith Seaman: I

Seaman is a first-time legislative candidate and is Vice President of the Coolidge Unified School District board. This retired educator did not respond to our survey despite repeated attempts to contact him. Sadly, our research did yield anything relative to Seaman and cannabis-related issues so we are unable to rate him at this time.

State House LD17

(R) Cory McGarr: B+

McGarr works in pest control and is a first-time candidate this year. He responded to our survey by agreeing that the legal market would benefit from fairer competition, craft licenses and small business ownership. McGarr strongly agreed that there are acceptable medical uses for cannabis and that Autism Spectrum Disorder should be added to the list of qualifying conditions while agreeing that medical marijuana card costs should be reduced. Furthermore, McGarr agreed that expungements should be automatic and include more non-violent cannabis offenses as well

as defelonizing those aforementioned offenses. Lastly, he was in agreement that DCS should not penalize individuals who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the advice of a medical professional and that the mere presence of THC metabolites should not be the sole indicator of impairment.

In addition to answering our survey, McGarr offered the following explanations for his responses: "1) I always side on free and fair competition. 2)I believe strongly in medical freedom 3) I am assuming that this means the individual is not currently high but that it is still detectable in their system from previous use. 4&5) If it became legal the former convictions should be removed as long as there weren't other mitigating factors like violence. 6) If a prescription is given by a doctor, DCS should not be involved. 7) This has become accepted science 8) Agreed. 9) Government fees are often excessive and punitive. I'm always in favor of reducing them. 10) If licensing is in place it should be readily available. In full disclosure this is not an issue I am well versed on but medical freedom is very important to me."

(R) Kirk Fiehler: B

Fiehler is a first-time candidate who is a Pinal County precinct committeeman and has management experience with many companies. He answered our survey in strong agreement that the legal market should promote fairer competition and agreed that the market should be enhanced by small business ownership and craft licenses. Fiehler fully recognizes the medicinal value of cannabis and he agreed that Autism Spectrum Disorder should be added to the list of qualifying conditions and that medical marijuana card costs should be reduced. While he was neutral on automatic expungements, Fiehler offered support for expanding expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those same offenses. Lastly, Fiehler was in agreement that DCS should not penalize individuals who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the direction of a medical professional but remained neutral on whether the presence of THC metabolites should be the sole indicator of impairment.

(R) Rachel Jones: I

Jones has a background in business management and is a first-time legislative candidate. Jones did not respond to our survey despite myriad attempts to contact her. Unfortunately, our research did not uncover anything relative to Jones and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate her at this time.

(R) Anna Orth: I

Orth is a small business owner who has recently worked as an organizational behavior consultant. Despite myriad contacts and an email exchange, this first-time legislative candidate did not respond to our survey. Sadly, we were unable to find anything regarding Orth and cannabis-related issues with our research so we simply cannot grade her at this time.

(R) Sherrylyn Young: I

Young ran a small business medical practice and is now retired. She won a seat on the Tanque Verde Unified School District Governing Board in 2000 but was recalled in 2003. This first-time legislative candidate did not respond to our survey despite repeated contacts and our research was inconclusive to allow us to rate her.

(D) Brian Radford: B

Radford is a former Special Education Teacher's Assistant and a recently retired Corrections Officer. He ran unsuccessfully in 2020 for the Pima County Board of Supervisors in District 1. He returns this year with a run at a House seat in LD17. Radford responded to our survey offering strong support for fairer competition in the legal market and was in agreement that the aforementioned market should be enhanced through small business ownership and craft licensing. Radford recognizes the medicinal value of cannabis and was in agreement that Autism Spectrum Disorder should be added to the list of qualifying conditions and that the cost of medical marijuana cards should be reduced. Furthermore, Radford supported automatic expungements and enhancing expungement law by adding more non-violent cannabis offenses while strongly agreeing to defelonizing those types of cannabis offenses. Lastly, Radford disagreed that DCS should not penalize anyone who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the behest of a medical professional but he agreed that the presence of THC metabolites should not be the sole indicator of impairment.

(D) Dana Allmond: I

Allmond is a veteran, veterans advocate and a graduate of the United States Military Academy. Despite repeated contacts, this first-time legislative candidate did not respond to our survey. Sadly, our research did not yield anything regarding Allmond and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate her at this time.

State House LD18

(R) Linda Evans: I

Evans has written plays and musicals. This first-time legislative candidate did not respond to our survey even though we emailed her myriad times. Unfortunately, our research did not uncover anything relative to Evans and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate her at this time.

(D) Nathan Davis: A

Davis is a first-time candidate who has taught in TUSD and is currently a substitute teacher there while running a small family business. Davis was in strong agreement to all 10 statements in the survey meaning he fully supports the promotion of fairer competition and the allowance of small business ownership in the legal market. He also strongly believes in medicinal uses for cannabis, adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and reducing the costs of medical marijuana cards. Furthermore, Davis fully supports automatic expungements with an expansion of expungeable non-violent cannabis offenses as well as the defelonization of those offenses. Finally, Davis opposes DCS penalizing those individuals who were pregnant and consumed medical marijuana at the advice of a medical professional and does not support using the presence of THC metabolites as the sole indication of impairment.

(D) Charles Verdin: A

Verdin is a businessman who is a first-time legislative candidate. He responded to our survey in full support of fairer competition as well as small business ownership and craft licenses relative to our legal market. Verdin strongly believes that cannabis has medicinal value while completely supporting the addition of Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and the reduction in cost of medical marijuana cards. Furthermore, he strongly agrees that expungements should be automatic and that expungement law should be expanded to include more non-violent cannabis offenses as well as defelonizing those offenses. Lastly, Verdin was adamant that DCS should not penalize individuals who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the direction of a medical professional and that the mere presence of THC metabolites should not be the sole indicator of impairment.

In addition to his responses to the survey, Verdin offered the follow sentiments: "I fully support legal and responsible use of marijuana, whether for medical or recreational purposes. Prosecution of marijuana possession and distribution has disproportionately affected communities of color, and those who were incarcerated for marijuana-related crimes should no longer be paying for what is no longer a crime."

(D) Nancy Gutierrez: A

Gutierrez is a yoga teacher at Tucson High School and is a first-time candidate seeking a House seat in LD18. She responded to our survey in strong agreement that the legal market would benefit from fairer competition and enhanced through craft licenses and small business ownership. Gutierrez is fully aware of the medicinal value of cannabis and strongly supports the addition of Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions as well as the reduction of medical marijuana card costs. Furthermore, she completely agreed that expungements should be automatic and that expungement law should be expanded to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and that those offenses should be defelonized. Lastly, Gutierrez was adamant that DCS should not penalize anyone who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the behest of a medical professional and she supported the idea that the presence of THC metabolites should not be the used as the sole indicator of impairment.

In addition to her survey responses, Gutierrez offered the following comments: "I appreciate the work that you all do and I appreciate your time to teach me about these issues. I am a public school teacher running for the AZ State House in LD18 to fight for fully funding public education. I believe that our right to vote is sacred and that voting should be convenient. I will fight for the right to have autonomy over our own bodies and to make decisions about abortion without the government. We must protect our water in Arizona and I will work to do that. Thank you for your time and consideration. I appreciate it."

Gutierrez reached out to us relative to the survey and we were able to meet with her for over an hour to discuss cannabis issues. She was more than willing to learn and was fully engaged in our discussion. We certainly appreciate any candidate willing to take the time to understand the issues that they will face while in office and applaud Gutierrez for her diligence and concern.

(D) Kat Stratford: A

Stratford has worked as a waitress and with political campaigns in addition to engaging in volunteerism. This first-time legislative candidate responded to our survey and offered full support for a legal market enhanced by fairer competition, craft licensing and small business ownership. Stratford is fully aware of the medicinal value of cannabis and in strong agreement to adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and reducing current medical marijuana card costs. Furthermore, Stratford was steadfast in her support of automatic expungements as well as improving expungement law to include more non-violent offenses and defelonizing those types of offenses. Lastly, she was adamant that DCS should not penalize individuals who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the behest of a medical professional and was wholly opposed to the mere presence of THC metabolites being used as the sole indicator of impairment.

In addition to her survey responses, Stratford submitted the following comments: "Both my parents are cancer survivors who benefitted from medical marijuana, and I can't overstate the change in my mother: medical marijuana restored her appetite and her smile. Automating the expungement process is one of my legislative priorities."

(D) Chris Mathis: I

Mathis teaches health care law at the University of Arizona and was appointed to a House seat in LD09 in December of 2021. He returns this year with a run for a House seat in LD18. Despite myriad contacts, Mathis did not respond to our survey. He did meet with us during our lobby week this year. We regret that Mathis flipped his yes vote to a no vote on HB2050 in reconsideration but we just don't have enough information to rate Mathis given our research and the fact that he was newly appointed to the legislature last year.

State House LD19

(R) Lupe Diaz: D+

Diaz is a pastor and member of the Benson City Council. He was appointed to a House seat in LD14 in November of 2021 and he is seeking a House seat in LD19 in this election cycle. Despite repeated contacts, Diaz did not respond to our survey. Diaz was one of six Benson City Council members who voted this year to adopt Ordinance 608 which called for the prohibition of a recreational marijuana facility in Benson. That just doesn't reflect very well on Diaz's perspective relative to marijuana. However, he did flip to a yes vote on HB2050 during reconsideration in the House this session so we'll add a plus to his grade to recognize his support of that bill.

(R) Gail Griffin: F

Griffin has been involved in Arizona politics for many years. She served in the House from 1997 to 2001. Griffin then won a Senate seat in LD25 in 2010. In 2012, she won a Senate seat in LD14 and maintained that seat until 2016. Griffin then returned to the House in LD14 in 2018 has maintained that seat until today. She is running for a House seat in LD19 this election cycle. Griffin did not respond to our survey despite repeated contacts.

Here's what we had to say about Griffin in our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide: "Despite numerous calls and emails, Griffin did not respond to our survey. We really don't need survey responses to grade Griffin.   She is a staunch opponent who doesn't even support medical marijuana. In 2018 caucus speeches, she equated cannabis with heroin and medical marijuana patients with junkies. In 2016, she opposed legalization in an Arizona Trucking Association Candidate Survey. She has opposed lower medical marijuana card costs and was a co-sponsor this year of the dreaded HCR2045 (the bill that sought a 2% cap on THC in the medical marijuana program). Griffin gives new meaning to the words "term limits.""

Since Griffin didn't respond to our survey again this year, we have no evidence of change relative to her perspective on marijuana.   Furthermore, she voted no twice on HB2050 this session. Therefore, we'll keep her grade where it was two years ago.

(D) Sanda Clark: A

Clark is a retired concert pianist running for the first time this year. She responded to our survey and offered her support of promoting a legal market steeped in fairer competition and welcoming of small business ownership. Clark clearly recognizes the medicinal use of cannabis and was very supportive of adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions as well as reducing medical marijuana card fees. Furthermore, Clark was fully supportive of defelonizing non-violent cannabis offenses and expanding expungement law to include more of these offenses. She was also supportive of automatic expungements. Lastly, Clark agreed that the presence of

THC metabolites should not be used as the sole indicator of impairment and she professed full support for DCS not being able to punish individuals who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant. Clark provided the following statement in addition to her survey responses: "I have known several people that battled cancer who were aided greatly by using marijuana. For some it is a God 's sent."

State House LD20

(D) Andrés Cano: B+

Cano first won a House seat in LD03 in 2018 and maintained that seat in the 2020 election. He returns this year for a run at a House seat in LD20. Cano responded to our survey expressing strong agreement for improving the legal market through fairer competition, small business ownership and craft licensing. In addition to acknowledging the medicinal value of cannabis, Cano offered full-throated support for adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and reducing the current cost of medical marijuana cards. Furthermore, he fully backed automatic expungements as well as adding more non-violent cannabis offenses to existing expungement law and defelonizing those kinds of offenses. Lastly, Cano agreed that DCS should not penalize any individual who consumed medical marijuana at the direction of a medical professional while pregnant but he remained neutral on whether or not the presence of THC metabolites should be the sole indicator of impairment.

We were disappointed in Cano's flip relative to his vote on HB2050. Cano was initially a yes vote but switched to no on reconsideration. We are appreciative of Cano's support in the legislature but we must hold him accountable for that no vote and drop his A to a B+.

(D) Alma Hernandez: B

Hernandez first won a House seat in LD03 in 2018 and has maintained that seat until today. She returns this year for a run at a House seat in LD20. Despite repeated contacts, Hernandez did not respond to our survey. While Hernandez has met with us during our lobby weeks and has been supportive in the legislature, we'd really like to ascertain her thoughts relative to the statements in our survey. Without that, we'll maintain her grade from 2020. We do appreciate this quote which appeared in the Tucson Weekly on August 16th, 2018: "Additionally, Hernandez the incarceration of nonviolent drug offenders, especially marijuana users. She said the state is spending money on incarcerating people who smoke weed instead of funding education programs. She also opposes private prisons."

Hernandez did not meet with us to discuss HB2050 and was not at the capitol to vote on the bill. We would have liked to have seen her more engaged on this important bill during the session.

State House LD21

(R) Deborah McEwen: B-

McEwen has an extensive background in criminal justice and first ran for a House seat in LD02 in 2020. She returns this year with a run at a House seat in LD21 as a write-in candidate. Unfortunately, we couldn't seem to find a campaign website or social media platform for McEwen. She did respond to our survey and agreed that the legal market could be enhanced by fairer competition, small business ownership and craft licensing. McEwen also agreed to adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions while acknowledging the medicinal value of cannabis. However, she disagreed that the cost of medical marijuana cards should be reduced. McEwen offered support for automatic expungements and enhancing expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses but she remained neutral on the defelonization of those types of offenses. Lastly, McEwen was neutral relative to DCS penalizing anyone who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the direction of a medical professional but did agree that the presence of THC metabolites should not be the sole indicator of impairment.

McEwen offered the following comments in addition to her survey responses: "When a Peoples Initiative goes into affect there are always unknown/hidden correlating costs that occur. Therefore it is necessary to offset costs by regulating fees. That is just one of the downfalls of Initiatives and Referendums. Having worked in the Criminal Justice Field I would have to have specific examples of non-violent offenses. Pregnant users vs. DCS is a complex issue (child's health vs users health vs DCS criteria)"

(R) Damien Kennedy: A-

Kennedy has worked in the cannabis industry for over four years in strain acquisition, development and management. He is running this year as a write-in candidate for a House seat in LD21. We could not find a campaign website or related social media platforms for Kennedy. However, Kennedy did respond to our survey and he agreed that the legal market should be enhanced through fairer competition and he strongly supported the addition of small business ownership and craft licensing. Kennedy recognizes the medicinal value of cannabis and he agreed that Autism Spectrum Disorder should be added to the list of qualifying conditions while offering full throated support for the reduction in cost of medical marijuana cards. Furthermore, Kennedy was in support of automatic expungements as well as ameliorating expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those types of offenses. Lastly, Kennedy was adamant that DCS should not penalize anyone who consumed medical marijuana at the recommendation of a medical professional while pregnant and he agreed that the mere presence of THC metabolites should not be used as the sole indicator of impairment.

(D) Akanni Oyegbola: A

Oyegbola has been a student as well as a spokesperson, a local political aide and a small business owner. He responded to our survey with strong support for the legal market to promote both fair competition and encourage small business ownership. He fully recognizes the medicinal value of

cannabis, strongly supports the addition of Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and reducing medical marijuana card costs. Furthermore, Oyegbola is a proponent of automatic expungements, expanding expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those aforementioned offenses. Interestingly, Oyegbola's stance on impairment relative to THC metabolites and DCS penalizing individuals who consumed medical marijuana at the behest of a medical professional while pregnant was neutral. We'll need to educate him on these two scenarios but his strong support for everything else in our survey still merits an A rating.

(D) Stephanie Stahl Hamilton: A+

Stahl Hamilton is an ordained minister who first won a House seat in LD10 in 2020. She was then appointed to the Senate seat in LD10 in October of 2021. She returns this year with a run at a House seat in LD21. Stahl Hamilton responded to our survey in agreement that the legal market would be enhanced by fairer competition, craft licensing and small business ownership. She understands the medicinal value of cannabis and is fully supportive of adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and reducing the cost of medical marijuana cards. Furthermore, Stahl Hamilton offered unwavering support for automatic expungements as well as enhancing existing expungement law through the addition of more non-violent cannabis offenses and the defelonizing those types of offenses. Lastly, Stahl Hamilton was steadfast that DCS should not penalize anyone who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the behest of a medical professional and strongly agreed that the mere presence of THC metabolites should not be the sole indicator of impairment.

We truly appreciate Stahl Hamilton's willingness to meet with us to discuss HB2050 and her yes vote on the bill to move it out of the Senate this session.

(D) Consuelo Hernandez: A

Hernandez is currently Board President for the Sunnyside Unified School District's Governing Board having won a seat on that board in 2018. She ran unsuccessfully for the Pima County Board of Supervisors in District 5 in 2020. She is seeking a House seat in LD21 in this election cycle. We did the survey with Hernandez on a Zoom call and were able to discuss cannabis-related issues in Arizona as well. Hernandez expressed full support for ameliorating the legal market through fairer competition, small business ownership and craft licensing. She recognized the medicinal value of cannabis while offering strong agreement to the addition of Autism Spectrum Disorder and the reduction in cost of medical marijuana cards. Furthermore, she voiced strong support for automatic expungements while agreeing that existing law should be expanded to include more non-violent cannabis offenses. Additionally, she was in full support of defelonizing non-violent cannabis offenses. Lastly, Hernandez was adamant that DCS should not penalize anyone who consumed medical marijuana at the behest of a medical professional while pregnant and agreed that the presence of THC metabolites should not be the sole indicator of impairment.

State House LD22

(R) Jay Nagamalla: I

Nagamalla is a scholar, technologist, businessman and policy advisor who is running as a write-in candidate for a House seat in LD22. Nagamalla did not provide a campaign phone number or email in the Secretary of State listings so we were unable to contact him. Unfortunately, we did not uncover anything on this first-time legislative candidate and cannabis-related issues in our research so we cannot rate Nagamalla at this time.

(D) Natacha Chavez: A

Chavez is a volunteer and activist who is running for the first time for a House seat in LD22. She responded to our survey expressing overwhelming support for improving the legal market with fairer competition and agreed to the addition of craft licensing and small business ownership. Chavez was quick to recognize the medicinal value of cannabis and strongly agreed to adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and reducing the cost of medical marijuana cards. Furthermore, Chavez offered strong support for automatic expungements, enhancing expungement law with the addition of more non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those offenses. Lastly, Chavez was steadfast that DCS should not penalize anyone who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the direction of a medical profession and agreed that the presence of THC metabolites should not be the sole indicator of impairment.

(D) Lorenzo Sierra: A

Sierra has worked in corporate communications who first ran unsuccessfully for a House seat in LD19 in 2012. He returned in 2018 to win that same House seat in LD19 and has maintained the seat ever since. This year, he is running for a House seat in LD22. Sierra responded to our survey offering full-throated support for enhancing the legal market through fairer competition, craft licensing and small business ownership. Recognizing the medicinal value of cannabis, Sierra was in strong agreement that Autism Spectrum Disorder should be added to the list of qualifying conditions and that the cost of medical marijuana cards should be reduced. Sierra was steadfast in his support of automatic expungements, ameliorating existing expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those types of offenses. Finally, Sierra insisted that DCS should not penalize anyone who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the direction of a medical professional and that the mere presence of THC metabolites should not be the sole indicator of impairment.

In addition to responding to our survey, Sierra offered the following comment: "In my family, medical marijuana has quite literally been a life saver. I am in favor of laws that allow patients to use medical marijuana for their ailments."

We should also note that in 2020, Sierra was the co-sponsor of HB2049 with his seatmate Representative Espinoza. HB2049 sought to add autism spectrum disorder and opioid use disorder to the list of qualifying conditions for the medical marijuana program. This issue was Arizona NORML's flagship concern in the 2020 legislative session and we were truly appreciative of Sierra's support. Finally, we appreciate the fact that Sierra flipped his no vote on HB2050 to a yes vote upon reconsideration this session.

(D) Leezah Sun: A

Sun has a background in pharmaceutical consulting and sales and has served as a community organizer. She unsuccessfully ran for House in LD19 in 2020. Sun responded to our survey and was in strong agreement relative to the legal market enhancing fairer competition and promoting small business ownership. She was fully supportive of the idea that cannabis has medicinal value, adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and decreasing medical marijuana card costs. Furthermore, Sun offered strong support for automatic expungements, increasing the number of non-violent cannabis offenses that can be expunged and defelonizing those offenses. Lastly, Sun strongly agreed that DCS should not penalize individuals who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the behest of a medical professional and that the presence of THC metabolites should not be used as the sole indicator of impairment.

(D) Lupe Contreras: B

Contreras first won a House seat in LD19 in 2012. He moved over to the Senate in LD19 in 2014 and has held that seat until today. He is back this year with a run at a House seat in LD22. In 2020, Contreras responded to our survey in full support of all seven of our statements. However, he did not respond to our survey this year despite repeated attempts at contact. Contreras has agreed to meet with us during our last two lobby weeks but he would constantly reschedule our meetings through the week until we were simply unable to meet with him. We'd certainly like to ascertain his thoughts relative to our survey statements this year so that we could maintain his A rating from 2020. While we are appreciative of Contreras's yes vote on HB2050 this year, we are not particularly fond of his inability to meet with us over the last two years and his unwillingness to respond to our survey. Because of that, we'll drop Contreras a letter grade for 2022.

State House LD23

(R) Michele Pena: I

Pena is running as a write-in candidate for a House seat in LD23 this year. While Pena did provide a campaign website and email in the Secretary of State listings, the link to the website was broken and the email bounced back. Therefore, we had no way of contacting Pena regarding our survey. Sadly, our research was unsuccessful in finding anything relative to Pena and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate her at this time.

(D) Mariana Sandoval: A

Sandoval has worked as a paralegal and has served on the governing board for the Agua Fria Union High School District. She responded to our survey in full support of fairer competition and small business ownership in the legal market. Sandoval was also in strong agreement that cannabis has medicinal value and fully supports adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions as well as reducing medical marijuana card costs. Additionally, she is supportive of automatic expungements, expanding the law to include more expungeable non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those offenses. Lastly, Sandoval is strongly opposed to DCS penalizing individuals who consumed medical marijuana at the recommendation of a medical professional while pregnant and supports the idea that the presence of THC metabolites should not be the sole indicator of impairment.

(D) Jesus Lugo, Jr.: C

Lugo is a first-time candidate whose experience includes healthcare, mental health, substance abuse, immigration, law and government. Lugo responded to our survey and was in strong agreement that the legal market should provide for fairer competition but was neutral relative to opening the market up to small business owners and craft licenses. While he fully recognized the medicinal value of cannabis, Lugo was neutral on adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions but he supported the idea of reducing medical marijuana card costs. Lugo was supportive of automatic expungements and strongly agreed to expanding expungement laws to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those offenses. Lastly, Lugo was in strong disagreement that THC metabolites should not be used as the sole indicator of impairment and disagreed that DCS should not penalize individuals for their consumption of marijuana while pregnant at the behest of a medical professional.

State House LD24

(D) Hector Jaramillo: A

Jaramillo is a therapist for children with Autism who is a first-time candidate this year. He responded to our survey in strong agreement that the legal market should promote both fairer competition and small business ownership. Jaramillo offered full support for adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying condition and reducing medical marijuana card costs while strongly agreeing that cannabis has medicinal value. Furthermore, Jaramillo is a proponent of automatic expungements, reforming expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those aforementioned offenses. Lastly, he was adamant that DCS should not penalize individuals who consumed medical marijuana at the direction of a medical professional while pregnant and was strongly opposed to using THC metabolites as the sole indicator of impairment.

Jaramillo also submitted these comments in addition to his survey responses: "Marijuana has a wide variety of medical and clinical uses. As part of the war on drugs, the prohibition on marijuana has been used to criminalize working and middle class people across the country. Legalizing marijuana has much more benefits than it does to keep it illegal. It is also a more affordable option to those with medical conditions, and is often the preferred option."

(D) Analise Ortiz: A

Ortiz is a civil rights activist and a former journalist. This first-time candidate responded to our survey in full support of enhancing the legal market through fairer competition and small business ownership. Ortiz was in full recognition of the medicinal value of cannabis while offering strong support of adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and reducing the cost of medical marijuana cards. She is a strong proponent of automatic expungements, increasing the number of expungeable non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those offenses. Lastly, Ortiz was resolute in her belief that individuals should not be penalized by DCS for consuming medical marijuana while pregnant at the behest of a medical professional and that THC metabolites should not be the sole indicator of impairment.

(D) Anna Abeytia: A

Abeytia is an organizer and former educational assistant who currently serves on the Cartwright Elementary School District Governing Board. This is her first run for a legislative seat. Abeytia responded to our survey in full support of fairer competition and its benefits relative the legal market and agreed to the addition of craft licenses and small business ownership. She recognizes the medicinal value of cannabis and is in strong agreement that Autism Spectrum Disorder should be added to the list of qualifying conditions and that medical marijuana card costs should be reduced. Furthermore, Abeytia fully supports automatic expungements, adding more non-violent cannabis offenses to existing expungement law and defelonizing those types of offenses. Lastly, Abeytia was adamant that DCS should not penalize anyone who consumed medical marijuana at the direction of a medical professional while pregnant and that the mere presence of THC metabolites should not be used as the sole indicator of impairment.

In addition to her survey responses, Abeytia offered the following remarks: "Specific craft licenses should be more available to diversify the market and promote small business ownership (e.g., craft licenses for specific activities like cultivation, product manufacturing, and infused food products). I agree that we should make more of these licenses available to diversity the market, but I want to be intentional about how we do that. I want to make sure we're not leaving behind communities of color that have been disproportionately effected by the prohibition of marijuana. That means we have to make these licenses more accessible to those communities and small business owners first. I was also a field organizer with Prop 207 to legalize marijuana. I managed petitioners to make sure daily goals were met so we couldn't qualify the initiative for the November 2020 ballot and ensure that voters were education on why voting Yes on Prop 207 was crucial to our state."

(D) Pedro Lopez: B

We couldn't locate a campaign website or related social media platforms for this first-time legislative candidate. Lopez currently serves on the Governing Board of the Cartwright Elementary School District and is seeking a House seat in LD24 this election cycle. Despite repeated contacts, Lopez did not respond to our survey. While our research did not uncover a treasure trove of information on Lopez, we did find one interesting fact. Lopez endorsed Prop 207 as a school board member and elected official. We'd certainly need more detailed information regarding Lopez and his positions with respect to cannabis to fully rate him but we'll give him the benefit of the doubt with that Prop 207 endorsement.

(D) Lydia Hernandez: I

Hernandez has served on the Cartwright School District Governing Board since 2003. She won a House seat in LD29 in 2012 but then lost that seat in the 2014 election. Hernandez then ran unsuccessfully for a House seat in LD29 in 2016. She ran unsuccessfully as well in a special general election in 2019 for District 5 with the Phoenix City Council. Hernandez returns this year for a run at a House seat in LD24. Despite myriad attempts at contact, Hernandez did not respond to our survey. Unfortunately, our research found nothing of significance on Hernandez and cannabis-related issues despite the length of her political career. Therefore, we simply cannot rate her at this time.

State House LD25

(R) Tim Dunn: D-

Dunn is a businessman was first elected to a House seat in LD13 in 2018 and won the same seat in 2020. He returns this year with a run for a House seat in LD25. He responded to our survey in support of increasing fairer competition in the legal market but was neutral on small business ownership and craft licenses. While he agreed that there are medical aspects to cannabis, he was neutral on adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and was actually against decreasing the costs of medical marijuana cards. Furthermore, Dunn opposes automatic expungements while supporting the increase of non-violent cannabis offenses relative to expungement law but he is not in favor of defelonizing those offenses. Lastly, he agrees that DCS should penalize individuals who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the direction of a medical professional but he remained neutral relative to THC metabolites being the sole indicator of impairment.

Dunn did not provide additional comments this year in our survey but provided these remarks to us in 2020: "I do not believe we should legalize marijuana in az further than the medical that is current. This will create a problem in the work place with enforcement. Medical marijuana's rules of obtaining prescriptions need to be tightened up."

Unfortunately, Dunn flipped his yes vote to a no vote upon reconsideration in the House regarding HB2050 so we'll add a minus to his grade for that action.

(R) Joel John: C-

John is a former teacher and family business owner who won a House seat in LD04 in 2020. He is seeking a House seat this year in LD25. Unfortunately, John didn't respond to our survey despite repeated contacts. While we appreciate John's willingness to meet with us during our lobby weeks, he hasn't led on cannabis issues and we just don't truly know where he stands. However, John was a no vote twice on HB2050 and that concerns us.

(R) Michael Carbone: I

Carbone is a small business owner and first-time legislative candidate. Carbone did not respond to our survey despite repeated attempts at contact via email. Sadly, we couldn't find anything relative to Carbone and cannabis-related issues in our research so we are unable to rate him at this time.

State House LD26

(R) Frank Roberts: I

Roberts is running as a write-in candidate for a House seat in LD26 this year. Roberts did not provide a campaign website, email or phone number in the Secretary of State listings so we were unable to contact him. Furthermore, we could not find anything relative to this first-time legislative candidate and cannabis-related issues in our research so we cannot rate him at this time.

(D) Cesar Aguilar: A-

Aguilar is the Executive Director of Arizona Students Association and serves on the Governing Board of Balsz Elementary School District. This first-time legislative candidate responded to our survey in strong agreement that fairer competition as well as craft licenses and small business ownership would ameliorate our existing legal market. Aguilar fully recognizes the medicinal value of cannabis and strongly supports the reduction of medical marijuana card costs but remained neutral on adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions. Furthermore, Aguilar was fully supportive of automatic expungements, adding more non-violent cannabis offenses to expungement law and defelonizing those aforementioned offenses. Lastly, he agreed that DCS should not penalize anyone who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the recommendation of a medical professional but he disagreed that the presence of THC metabolites should not be used as the sole indicator of impairment.

In addition to his survey responses, Aguilar offered the following comments: "I am not too sure about the Autism Spectrum Disorder, I would need more information. I was able to find some information on both sides of the argument but would like to know more actual stories and what they think. In terms of convicting drivers under the influence if the only evidence of impairment is THC metabolites in their system. I would also need more information on this. Is the problem with this that the metabolites stay in your system for a while and could mean that you are not actually impaired? Because I do believe individuals should be charged with a DUI if the driver is impaired but I have heard of individuals getting charged even though they were not high but had smoked that morning or the day before. If this is the case I would be open to other ways of testing and investing money on research to find alternative more accurate ways. I am a strong believer that Medical Marijuana and visits to the doctors that entail prescription for medical marijuana should be covered under Medicaid and Medicare. Both are federally funded but I would be a lawmaker who is vocal that we need those programs to expand to cover medical marijuana." We can certainly get Aguilar up to speed on Autism Spectrum Disorder and THC metabolites and appreciate his honesty relative to the issues.

(D) Flavio Bravo: A

Bravo has experience as an educator, Congressional staffer and in the nonprofit sector. This first-time legislative candidate responded to our survey and offered his support for ameliorating the legal market through fairer competition, small business ownership and craft licensing. While recognizing the inherent medicinal value of cannabis, Bravo was in support of adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and reducing the cost of medical marijuana cards. Furthermore, Bravo was steadfast in his support of automatic expungements as well as the expansion of expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those types of offenses. Lastly, Bravo was adamant that DCS should not penalize anyone who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the behest of a medical professional and he offered support that that the mere presence of THC metabolites should not be the sole indicator of impairment.

(D) Gil Hacohen: A

Hacohen is the Principal of Lawyers For Less, PLLC who is a first-time legislative candidate this cycle. Hacohen responded to our survey expressing full support for ameliorating the legal market through fairer competition, craft licensing and small business ownership. He is fully aware of the medicinal value of cannabis and was steadfast in believing that Autism Spectrum Disorder should be added to the list of qualifying conditions. Furthermore, Hacohen strongly agreed to reducing the cost of medical marijuana cards. Hacohen offered full-throated support of automatic expungements as well as improving existing expungement law through the addition of more non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those types of offenses. Lastly, Hacohen was adamant that DCS should not penalize anyone who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the behest of a medical professional and was emphatic that the mere presence of THC metabolites should not be used as the sole indicator of impairment.

In addition to responding to our survey, Hacohen offered the following remarks: "Cannabis should be removed as a federal class 1 drug. Cannabis prescriptions should be covered by AHCCCS same as any other medication. Hemp cultivation should be subsidized to promote its use across the spectrum of products that can be made with it."

(D) Christian Solorio Acuña: B

Solorio Acuña serves on the Alhambra Elementary School Board Governing Board after being elected to that position in 2018. He was appointed to a House seat in LD30 in November of 2021 and is seeking a House seat in LD26 this election cycle. Despite repeated contacts, Solorio Acuña did not respond to our survey. Solorio Acuña did meet with us this year during our lobby week but our research just didn't uncover anything relative to him and cannabis-related issues. However, Solorio Acuña did cast two yes votes on HB2050 which shows great promise so we'll rate him accordingly.

State House LD27

(R) Jay Griffin: I

Griffin is a health care professional and first-time legislative candidate. Despite repeated contacts, Griffin did not respond to our survey. Sadly, our research yielded nothing on Griffin with respect to cannabis-related issues so we simply cannot rate him at this time.

(R) Brian Morris: I

The link to Morris's campaign website did not work and we couldn't find any campaign-related social media for him. Morris is a business owner and first-time legislative candidate. Morris did not respond to our survey despite myriad contacts. Unfortunately, our research did not uncover any useful material regarding Morris and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate him at this time.

(R) Kevin Payne: B+

Payne first won a House seat in LD21 in 2016 and has held that seat until today. He is seeking a House seat in LD27 in this election cycle. Despite repeated attempts to contact him, Payne did not respond to our survey.

For perspective, here's what we had to say about Payne in our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide: "Payne has been a strong advocate in the House and has met regularly with Arizona NORML. In fact, here's what we had to say about him in 2018: "The real deal, Payne was the driving force in the House behind testing bill HR1820 and plans an aggressive reform agenda for the 2019 legislative session." We were right. Payne was the prime sponsor of one cannabis reform

bill and co-sponsored three more in 2019. This year, Payne was the prime sponsor of HB2784 which sought to establish a medical marijuana research committee to oversee and provide grants for marijuana research studies on the safety and efficacy of using marijuana for medical purposes."

Furthermore, Payne sponsored HB2298 in 2021 which was a significant research bill that we fully supported and helped to get passed.

We truly appreciate Payne's previous efforts in the legislature but he has not responded to us all session and did not respond to repeated requests to meet with us during our lobby week. Without an idea of where he stands now with respect to our survey, we are forced to drop Payne a bit this year in his rating but we are grateful for his yes votes on HB2050 this session.

(R) Ben Toma: B+

Toma has worked as a real estate broker and served on the Peoria City Council. He won a House seat in LD22 in 2018 and has maintained that seat until today. He returns this year with a run at a House seat in LD27. Toma did not respond to our survey despite repeated contacts. Here's what we had to say about Toma in our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide: "Toma has done some good work in the legislature during his tenure with respect to cannabis. He sponsored HB2362 (an expungement bill) in 2019. He was co-sponsor of HB2554 (which sought to redefine cannabis by statute in response to the Jones Case) and HB2404 (which decriminalized up to 2 ½ ounces of marijuana). Toma also sponsored a bill (HB2359) in 2020 that sought to prevent applicants from being denied licenses due to drug or cannabis charges. Oddly, Toma was also co-sponsor of Representative Bower's horrendous bill, HCR2045 (the bill that sought a 2% THC cap on the medical marijuana program). Despite the latter misgiving, we'll give Toma the benefit of the doubt."

Sadly, Toma has not met with us in our last two lobby weeks and has not led on any cannabis-related bill in the last two years. However, we'll honor his history and the fact that he was a yes vote on HB2050 by maintaining his rating from 2020 and adding a plus.

(D) Don Kissinger: I

Kissinger is a retired engineer who is running as a write-in candidate for a House seat in LD27. He did not provide a campaign website, email or phone number in the Secretary of State listings so we were unable to contact him. Unfortunately, our research did not uncover anything relative to this first-time legislative candidate and cannabis-related issues so we simply cannot rate Kissinger at this time.

State House LD28

(R) Susan Black: F

Black is a small business owner who has served on the Board of Adam's Traditional School for eight years. This first-time candidate responded to our survey in agreement that the legal market would benefit from fairer competition but then strongly disagreed to enhancing the legal market through craft licenses and small business ownership. While she recognized the legitimacy of medical marijuana, Black was neutral on adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and was against the reduction of medical marijuana card costs. She also disagreed that expungements should be automatic, did not support enhancing expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and was against defelonizing those non-violent cannabis offenses. Lastly, Black was neutral as to whether DCS should penalize individuals who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant and was in support of using the mere presence of THC metabolites as the sole indicator of impairment.

Black offered the following thoughts in addition to her survey responses: "I believe there are medical related issues where cannabis can benefit the patient. I also believe that cannabis is the gateway drug to other drugs and this issue should be strictly monitored and controlled."

(R) David Livingston: C

Livingston was first elected to a House seat in LD22 in 2012 and maintained the seat until 2018 when he was elected to the Senate seat in LD22. He has maintained that Senate seat until today. Livingston returns this year seeking a House seat in LD28. Despite repeated contacts, Livingston did not respond to our survey. Here's what we had to say about him in our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide: "In 2016, Livingston was opposed to the initiative to legalize adult-use in Arizona as stated in an Arizona Trucking Association survey. However, according to ivoterguide, Livingston is now neutral relative to his support of the legalization of marijuana. There's certainly some growth there from opposition to neutrality. Livingston was helpful with a testing bill in 2018 as well."

Livingston has not me with us in the last two years of his tenure in the Senate. He's not particularly hostile to cannabis but we'd like to see him more engaged on the issue. We are grateful for Livingston's yes vote on HB2050 but we'll maintain his grade from 2020 for this year.

(R) Beverly Pingerelli: D-

Pingerelli serves on the Peoria Unified School District Governing Board having first been elected to the board in 2014. She won a House seat in LD21 in 2020 and returns this year seeking a House seat in LD28. Despite repeated attempts at contact, Pingerelli did not respond to our survey. However, here's what we had to say about her in our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide: "In the ivoterguide, Pingerelli strongly disagreed with a statement asking if she supported the legalization of recreational marijuana. Without further information on Pingerelli and her unwillingness to respond to our survey for clarity on her positions, we'll grade Pingerelli on her strong opposition to legalization."

Pingerelli has not met with us in the last two years despite requests to meet for our lobby week. Since we only have limited information on Pingerelli and do not have survey responses this year to inform our rating, we'll keep Pingerelli's grade from 2020 but add a minus to reflect her no votes on HB2050.

(D) Stephanie Holbrook: A

Holbrook is running for the first time this year and is a wife, business owner, endurance athlete and veteran. Holbrook was quick to respond to our survey and she expressed support for the promotion of fairer competition and small business ownership in the legal market. She strongly believes in the medicinal use of cannabis and adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions as well as reducing the costs of medical cards. Additionally, Holbrook offered support for automatic expungements, the expansion of expungeable non-violent cannabis offenses and the defelonization of those offenses. Lastly, Holbrook doesn't want to see DCS penalize those individuals who were pregnant and consumed medical marijuana at the advice of a medical professional nor does she support using the presence of THC metabolites as the sole indication of impairment. Holbrook's affirms that her support extends beyond just cannabis by stating: "In addition to marijuana, I believe other types of plant medicines should be available to the public."

State House LD29

(R) Steve Montenegro: D

Montenegro was first elected to the House in 2008 in LD12 and was reelected to that seat in 2010. He then successfully ran for a House seat in LD13 in 2012 and was then reelected to that seat in 2014. Montenegro was then elected in 2016 to the Senate seat in LD13 but resigned that seat to run unsuccessfully for a United States House seat in CD8 in 2018. Montenegro returned in 2020 for an unsuccessful run at a House seat in LD13. He is running for a House seat in LD29 this election cycle. Montenegro did not respond to calls about our survey and his campaign did not list an email in his Secretary of State filing.

In 2016, Montenegro co-signed a letter in vociferous opposition to legalization via Prop 205 entitled "Prop 205 is a dangerous, costly mistake we can't afford to make." That letter appeared in EastValley.com on October 8th, 2016.

Given the fact that we cannot ascertain Montenegro's thoughts on cannabis today, we'll use the prohibitionist missive that he signed as the basis for Montenegro's grade.

(R) Hop Nguyen: I

Nguyen first ran unsuccessfully for a House seat in LD22 in 2020. He returns this year for a run at a House seat in LD29. Despite myriad contacts, Nguyen did not respond to our survey. Sadly, our research yielded absolutely nothing on Nguyen and cannabis-related issues so we simply cannot rate him at this time.

(R) Austin Smith: I

Smith is a first-time legislative candidate who has experience as an activist. Despite myriad attempts to contact him, Smith did not respond to our survey. Unfortunately, our research did not uncover anything relative to Smith and cannabis-related issues so we are simply unable to rate him at this time.

(R) Trey Terry: I

Terry is a United States Army combat veteran who first ran unsuccessfully for a House seat in LD13 in 2018. He then won an at-large seat on the Agua Fria Union High School District Governing Board in 2020. Terry returns this year seeking a House seat in LD29. Despite repeated contacts, Terry did not respond to our survey. Lamentably, our research did not provide us with anything meaningful with regard to Terry and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate him at this time.

(D) Scott Eric Podeyn: B-

Podeyn is retired from the US Air Force and is a first-time candidate. He responded to our survey in agreement that there should be fairer competition in the legal market and strongly agreed to the addition of craft licenses and small business ownership. Podeyn wholly recognized that there are medical applications relative to cannabis and was in full support of adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions as well as reducing medical marijuana card costs. While he was neutral on making expungements automatic, Podeyn strongly agreed to expanding expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and he agreed that those offenses should be defelonized. Lastly, Podeyn remained neutral on the statements regarding DCS and THC metabolites.

Besides responding to our survey, Podeyn submitted the following statement to address his neutrality on certain issues: "On the question I replied neutral are only because I have question on the current law and also peer reviewed studies to determine the science. On pregnancy's and cannabis I'll need more information. In regards to driving under the influence of THC I would need more information." We are confident that we can provide more information to Podeyn if he is elected relative to these concerns.

State House LD30

(R) Marianne Salem: D

We could not find a website or any social media platform relative to Salem's campaign. She has been a member of the Kingman Republican Women since 2013 and is active in the community. This first-time legislative candidate responded to our survey in a rather non-committal manner by remaining neutral on 7 of the 10 statements. She was neutral on fairer competition improving the legal market and enhancing tax revenue but did support the addition of craft licensing and small business ownership. Salem also recognizes the medicinal value of cannabis and supported adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions but was neutral relative to decreasing medical marijuana card costs. Furthermore, she offered neutral responses to automatic expungements, improving expungement law through the addition of more non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those types of offenses. Lastly, Salem was neutral on whether DCS should penalize anyone who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the encouragement of a medical professional and was neutral on whether the presence of THC metabolites should be the sole indicator of impairment.

(R) Nohl Rosen: B

Rosen is a business owner who founded the Patriots of Wickenburg and Rally for Law Enforcement. This first-time legislative candidate responded to our survey in agreement that the legal market would benefit from fairer competition, small business ownership and craft licensing. Recognizing the medicinal value of cannabis, Rosen offered support for adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and reducing medical marijuana card costs. Even though he was neutral on automatic expungements, Rosen agreed that existing expungement law should be expanded to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and those types of offenses should be defelonized. Lastly, Rosen was in agreement that DCS should not penalize anyone who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the behest of a medical professional and that the mere presence of THC metabolites should not be used as the sole indicator of impairment.

Rosen offered the following comments as well: "In regards to expungement being automatic I don't think there's an easy answer to that one which is why I chose neutral to that question. I think it would have to depend on the seriousness of the crime and the circumstances. If it's a non-violent crime that didn't involve endangering a child, another adult or even an animal, then there should be a smoother process to expunge a person's record as marijuana is now legal in the state of Arizona. I think it would be best to consult an attorney on the best course of action or at least get familiar with Arizona law before petitioning the court for expungement. If the crime did involve a violent act against a child, adult or even an animal then the court definitely would need to be involved and expunging a person's record should be decided on by a judge and if the person wishes to have one, a trial by jury which is guaranteed under the United States Constitution as well as the Arizona Constitution."

"As for the Government issued marijuana card, the fees to process both the application and the card are pretty high and should be made more affordable especially among low income individuals. Due to the passing of Prop 207 and it becoming law in Arizona individuals are no longer required to have to purchase a medical marijuana card or have one issued to them when purchasing cannabis from a dispensary within the state. However, there are still laws that must be followed like being 21 years to purchase and possess it, limits to the amount you're allowed to have and also laws on growing it. I always recommend that people get familiar with the laws so they don't have problems later on."

(R) Leo Biasiucci: D-

Biasiucci first ran for a House seat in LD05 as a Green Party candidate in 2016. He returned as a Republican in 2018 and won a House seat in LD05. Biasiucci has maintained that seat until today. He is seeking a House seat in LD30 this year. Despite myriad contacts, Biasiucci did not respond to our survey.

Without survey responses, we'll refer to our 2020 General Election Guide: "In 2018, Arizona NORML addressed Biasiucci's conversion from Green party to the Republican Party and how it affected his views on cannabis: "A former Green Party candidate, Biasiucci had claimed to support cannabis reform measures in 2016. However, his dramatic party shift current billing as a "Trump Conservative" bring all his positions into question. For example, as of 2018, Biasiucci now professes to CAP that he opposes legalization." Biasiucci told the Today's News-Herald Havasu News.com on October 16, 2019 that he opposes Prop 207. He also demonstrated his lack of support for the medical marijuana program and patients by co-sponsoring the awful HCR2045 which sought a 2% cap on THC in the medical marijuana program earlier this year."

"Here's what Biasiucci had to tell the Today's News-Herald Havasu News.com on July 20, 2018 relative to legalization: "As far as I know, a test does not exist that can determine at what point someone consumed marijuana. This concerns me because let's say someone is involved in a workplace accident or traffic accident. Usually, a drug/alcohol test is administered to determine if the individual was impaired. The problem is, current test can't show if the individual consumed the marijuana 3 hours ago or 23 days ago. So can you imagine the court cases and tax dollars wasted on dealing with this gray area? So until that accurate tests exists that will help law enforcement, I can't support any measure related to the legalization of marijuana.""

Without survey responses to indicate where Biasiucci stands today and the fact that he refuses to meet with us during our lobby weeks, we would have been forced to maintain his grade from 2020. However, Biasiucci did support HB2050 and vote yes on the bill in the House. Given that, we'll bump his grade from 2020.

(R) John Gillette: D

Gillette is a United States Army veteran and first-time legislative candidate. He ran unsuccessfully for Mohave County Sheriff in 2016. Even though we had a rather lengthy and good conversation with Gillette, he did not respond to our survey. On July 27th, 2016, The Mohave County Daily News featured an article on the Mohave County Sheriff Republican candidate forum where candidates were asked if they favored legalizing marijuana for recreational use. Here's what the article stated with respect to that question: "Gillette: Opposed. Sees it as a gateway drug." Ouch…the ol' gateway drug argument. Without survey responses, we'll have to grade Gillette accordingly.

(R) William Hardt: I

Hardt has been active in the Republican party since 2015 and has worked in the insurance industry. This first-time legislative candidate did not respond to our survey despite repeated contacts. Unfortunately, our research did not yield anything regarding Hardt and cannabis-related issues so we are unable to rate him at this time.

(R) Donna McCoy: I

McCoy served on the Lake Havasu City Council from 2012 to 2020. This first-time legislative candidate did not respond to our survey even though we spoke with her and sent myriad emails. Sadly, our research did not uncover anything relative to McCoy and cannabis-related issues so we are not sure how real this McCoy is. We'll refrain from rating her.

State Senate LD01

(R) Ken Bennett: D

We could not find a campaign website or affiliated social media for Bennett. Furthermore, he did not list an email or phone number regarding his Secretary of State filing so we could not reach out to him. Bennett started his political career in 1985 by serving on the Prescott City Council until 1992. He was then appointed to the Arizona State Board of Education in 1992 and served there until 1998. Bennett then served in the House in LD01 in 1998 and 1999. He was then elected and served four terms in the Senate from 1999 to 2007 when he was termed out of the seat. Bennett was then appointed by Jan Brewer to the Secretary of State position in 2009 and then won a full term in 2010. In 2014, Bennett ran unsuccessfully for Governor and he ran unsuccessfully for a United States House seat in CD1 in 2016. He returned in 2018 for another unsuccessful run for Governor. Finally, Bennett returns this year with a run at the Senate seat in LD01.

One would think that there would be a wealth of information regarding cannabis and Bennett given his long history in politics. However, we were shocked at how little information we could find on him. However, Arizona NORML did grade him as a gubernatorial candidate in 2018. It was quick and simple: "A former Arizona Secretary of State, Bennett has spoken against cannabis repeatedly." Without further information on Bennett, we'll keep his grade from 2018.

(R) Steve Zipperman: I

Zipperman is a veteran who has both an MBA and a law degree. He has experience in environmental law, medical malpractice and real estate. This first-time legislative candidate informed one of our volunteers that he would not be responding to our survey. Unfortunately, our research did not yield anything relative to Zipperman and cannabis-related issues so we are unable to rate him at this time.

(D) Mike Fogel: A

Fogel is retired educator who currently serves on the Chino Valley School Board. This first-time legislative candidate responded to our survey offering strong support for the legal market to be enhanced through fairer competition, small business ownership and craft licensing. Fogel recognizes the medicinal value of cannabis and strongly agreed that Autism Spectrum Disorder should be added to the list of qualifying conditions and that the cost of medical marijuana cards should be reduced. Furthermore, Fogel was in full support of automatic expungements and ameliorating current law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses as well as defelonizing those types of offenses. Lastly, Fogel was adamant that DCS should not penalize anyone who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the behest of a medical professional and that the mere presence of THC metabolites should not be used as the sole indicator of impairment.

State Senate LD02

(R) Steve Kaiser: F

Kaiser is a small business owner and veteran who first ran unsuccessfully for a House seat in LD06 in 2010. He returned in 2020 to win a House seat in LD15. He is now running for the Senate seat in LD02 this election cycle. Despite repeated contacts, Kaiser did not respond to our survey. Since our research yielded nothing relative to Kaiser and cannabis-related issues, we'll revisit what we had to say about him in our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide: "One of our volunteers reports back relative to a phone call with Kaiser: "Won't be voting for prop 207, and won't be filling out survey, then hung up on me." Had Kaiser taken the time to talk with us further, we might have been able to give him a better grade based on clarifying his position. Since our research yielded nothing on Kaiser, we'll go with his statements to our volunteer and curve down due to his incivility."

Given the fact that Kaiser has not met with us during his tenure in the legislature and that he voted no twice on HB2050, we'll maintain his 2020 rating.

(D) Jeanne Casteen: A

Casteen is an educator who served on the Governing Board of the Creighton School District from 2013 to 2020. She ran unsuccessfully for Maricopa County School Superintendent in 2020. Casteen responded to our survey in strong agreement that the legal market should be enhanced by fairer competition and the addition of craft licenses and small business ownership. She was fully supportive of the idea that cannabis has medicinal value, adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and reducing medical marijuana card costs. Furthermore, Casteen offered her full support for automatic expungements, expanding expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those aforementioned offenses. Finally, Casteen offered strong support for not using THC metabolites as the sole indicator of impairment and was fully opposed to DCS penalizing individuals who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the direction of a medical professional.

Casteen adding this additional comment to our survey: "I also believe that non-violent drug offenders should be able to obtain a teaching certificate to legally teach in the state of Arizona."

State Senate LD03

(R) Jan Dubauskas: I

Dubauskas is an attorney and nationally recognized healthcare expert. This first-time legislative candidate did not respond to our survey despite repeated contacts. Sadly, we could not find any information regarding Dubauskas and cannabis-related issues in our research so we simply cannot rate her at this time.

(R) John Kavanagh: D-

Kavanagh previously served in the House in LD23 from 2007 to 2015. He was then elected to the Senate in LD23 in 2014 through 2016. He then won the House seat in LD23 in 2018 and has maintained that seat until today. This year, he seeks the Senate seat in LD03. Not unexpectedly, Kavanagh did not respond to our survey despite repeated contacts.

We'll let our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide summarize Kavanagh: "When contacted by our volunteer, here's what Kavanagh said: "You don't want to hear what I have to say!" Yeah…Kavanagh's probably right, we really don't want to hear what he has to say. In fact, here's what Arizona NORML had to say about Kavanagh in our 2018 General Election Candidate Guide: "Kavanagh is another GOP legislator aiming to cycle between the House and Senate until well into next century. "His antics would be easy to tolerate if this guy wasn't also AZ's most colorful and most dogged prohibitionist."" Kavanagh's cruelty knows no bounds as he attempted to create a bill in 2013 to rescind the entire medical marijuana program in Arizona. In 2018, he voted no on SB1420 (an early testing bill) because the bill lowered patient card costs. In 2020, Kavanagh has taken a public stance against Prop 207. We've seen enough and don't appreciate his treatment of our volunteer."

Kavanagh is an avowed prohibitionist but he did vote yes twice on HB2050. We'll show Kavanagh some love and round his perpetual F to a D- for this election cycle.

(D) Thomas Dugger: I

Dugger is retired but he has worked as a CIO of a consulting firm and in information security and network engineering. This first-time legislative candidate did not respond to our survey despite myriad contacts. Sadly, we were unable to uncover anything relative to Dugger and cannabis-related issues so we cannot grade him at this time.

State Senate LD04

(R) Jeff Silvy: I

Silvey is a write-in candidate who did not provide an email or phone number for his campaign in the Secretary of State listing. Therefore, we have no way to contact him. Furthermore, we could not find anything on him regarding cannabis-related issues in our research. We simply cannot rate him.

(R) Nancy Barto: D-

Barto was first elected to a House seat in LD07 in 2008. In 2010, Barto was elected to the Senate in LD07. She moved over to the Senate in LD15 in 2012 and maintained that seat until being elected to a House seat in LD15 in 2018. She then won the Senate seat in LD15 in 2020 and has maintained that seat until today. She is back this year with a run at the Senate seat in LD04. Despite myriad attempts to contact her, Barto did not respond to our survey.

Here's what we had to say about Barto in our 2020 General Election Guide: "In the ivoterguide, Barto strongly disagreed with the legalization of recreational marijuana. Barto has also been quoted as saying: "If we're serious about preventing youth suicide and mental illness, we should be warning them about the cannabis link. It's real. It's deadly."

"If that's not enough to trouble you, here's what Arizona NORML had to say about Barto in 2018: "Continuing to be a font of misinformation, Barto needs to be reeducated due to beliefs rooted in propaganda. Blocked key reform votes and promoted misinformation during opioid discussions. Consider this reply to AZ Central: "No. Arizona's medical marijuana law has already proliferated marijuana use by far more people than most voters intended. Most who voted for the measure envisioned helping vulnerable cancer patients but its lax rules far more often accommodate cardholders between 18-35 with "chronic pain." It also sent the message to teens that marijuana is harmless. It's not and its potency is exponentially higher than in the 70's (3% vs 15-80% in todays depending if it is smoked, eaten or vaped). Legalized recreational marijuana has increased addiction, compromises a person's judgment and increases serious auto injuries and death. With all of our concerns about students' mental health and academic achievement, we should listen

when studies link marijuana use to lower academic achievement and motivation, increased risk of psychotic symptoms and schizophrenia-like psychoses and increased testicular cancer. The dangers and unintended consequences of legalizing pot far outweigh any public benefit.""

And just for kicks, here's Barto's insufferable missive regarding Prop 207: "As a legislator, advocating for Arizona's families is a top priority. That's why I am voting NO on the initiative to legalize recreational marijuana – and I urge you to do the same. While there are many problems with this initiative that should concern us, there are two that trouble me the most. First and foremost, this initiative would make marijuana more accessible to your kids and empower Big Marijuana to target them. The data is clear. More kids use marijuana in states that legalize it for recreational use. The initiative will keep most localities from banning recreational pot shops, permit rampant social media advertising, and authorize the industry to sell marijuana gummies, candies, soda, cookies, and vape pens. A multitude of studies show the damage adolescent use of marijuana does to our children's developing brains. Until they turn 25, the prefrontal cortex (responsible for decision making, judgment and impulsivity) is still developing. Sadly, permanent IQ loss and long-term dependence can result when kids begin using young and continue that use. As a mother and grandmother, I don't want to see our children's potential robbed. We must protect them. Second, the initiative will put your family at risk on the road. Legalization of recreational marijuana increases the number of impaired drivers on the road, putting us all in danger and at times ending in tragedy. In Colorado – which legalized recreational marijuana in 2012 – one-third of marijuana users admit they drive stoned every day. Arizona families can't afford to take that same risk. For the sake of our children, our future, and our families, I urge you to vote NO. Nancy Barto, Representative, Phoenix"

While we certainly don't like Barto's rhetoric regarding cannabis, we will recognize that she did vote yes on HB2050 this year to move the bill out of the Senate and over to the House. In a demonstration of our gratitude, we'll bump her consistent F up to a D- this year.

(D) Christine Marsh: B+

Marsh is a former teacher who first ran unsuccessfully for the Senate in LD28 in 2018. She returned in 2020 to win that same Senate seat. Marsh is now seeking the Senate seat in LD04 in this election cycle. Marsh responded to our survey offering strong support for fairer competition in the legal market and agreed to enhancing that market through small business ownership and craft licensing. Marsh fully recognized the medicinal value of cannabis and agreed that the cost of medical marijuana cards should be reduced. Furthermore, Marsh strongly agreed that expungements should be automatic and that more non-violent cannabis offenses should be added to existing expungement law while offering support for the defelonization of those types of offenses. Lastly, Marsh did not respond to our statements regarding Autism Spectrum Disorder, DCS and THC metabolites.

Marsh has impressed us during her last two years in the legislature. She has met with us during both our lobby weeks and was more than willing to meet with us regarding HB2050. We also

truly appreciated Marsh's yes vote on HB2050 which clearly demonstrated her commitment to patients and veterans.

State Senate LD05

(R) Francisco Hernandez, Jr.: I

Hernandez is running as a write-in candidate for a House seat in LD05. He did not provide any contact or campaign information in the Secretary of State listings so we were unable to reach Hernandez. Furthermore, our research did not uncover anything relative to Hernandez and cannabis-related issues so we simply cannot rate him at this time.

(R) Jeff Silvey: I

Silvey is running as a write-in candidate for a House seat in LD05. This first-time legislative candidate did not respond to our survey and our research did not reveal anything relative to Silvey and cannabis-related issues. Therefore, we are unable to rate him at this time.

(D) Sarah Tyree: A

Tyree is a US Army veteran who served for eight years. She is also a small business owner who has had stints in the non-profit sector as well as serving more recently as a Medical Special Needs Coordinator at Luke AFB. She ran unsuccessfully in 2020 for the Senate seat in LD22. She returns this year for a run in LD05. Tyree was an A rated candidate in 2020 and here is what she had to say then: "I have been an advocate for legalization for a while now and have even been able to convert my running mate Kathleen Honne! We had Mikel Weisser on one of our Donuts and Dish Sessions and she was able to really educate herself on the pros to the initiative. My only concern, is that I want to ensure that we are creating space and avenues for small businesses owned by people of color to flourish, rather than continuing to put money in the pockets of large corporations owned by the same people who want to keep communities of color in jail. I support the Safe and Smart Act and would love to not only bring on more people of color and veterans, but become one of the leading legislative advocates for its legalization!"

Tyree was quick to respond to our survey and was strongly supportive of promoting a fairer market with opportunities for small business ownership. She strongly believes in the medicinal value of cannabis, adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and reducing the cost of medical marijuana cards. Additionally, Tyree favors automatic expungement, making more non-violent cannabis offenses expungeable and defelonizing those aforementioned offenses. Lastly, Tyree is strongly opposed to DCS penalizing individuals who consumed medical cannabis while pregnant at the behest of a medical professional and believes that the mere presence of THC metabolites is not indicative of impairment. As in 2020, Tyree submitted comments along with her survey responses. Here's what she had to say: "I do have my MMC, it is expensive. I

WOULD support keeping the price if those monies went to supportive causes for the community. I believe some of the monies are being allocated now as a way to capture and deter folks. If this could not be agreed upon by the legislature then yes, I would support fees that are only for processing."

(D) Al Jones: I

We had a rather difficult time accessing Jones' website so we'll provide you with his campaign [Facebook](#) page. Jones is service-disabled veteran who is a first-time candidate. Despite myriad contacts, Jones did not respond to our survey. Sadly, our research yielded absolutely nothing with respect to Jones and cannabis-related issues. Therefore, we cannot rate him at this time.

(D) Lela Alston: B+

[Alston](#) has served many years in the Arizona legislature. She served in the Arizona Senate from 1976 to 1995. She later served in the House in LD24 from 2011 to 2019. She was then elected to the Senate in LD24 in 2018 and has maintained that seat until today. Alston has also served on the Phoenix Union High School District Governing Board since 2008. Alston is seeking the Senate seat in LD05 this year.

Here's what we had to say about the venerable Alston in our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide: "Alston responded to our survey and did not support the legalization of adult-use in Arizona. She was neutral relative to an understanding of the science behind medical marijuana and supporting the elimination of federal prohibition. Alston was supportive of not having children removed from a parent due to cannabis use. She was strongly supportive of the medical marijuana program, working to reduce drastic penalties for non-violent marijuana offenses and expungement of records on marijuana possession or use. Alston provided us with this quote as well: "I do support decriminalizing marijuana use and legalizing medical marijuana at the federal level." Alston has also co-sponsored a couple of cannabis reform bills including SB1372 which sought to decriminalize 5 grams of marijuana or less and SB1479 which sought to add autism spectrum disorder to the list of qualifying conditions to the AMMA."

Alston has been willing to meet with us over the last two legislative sessions. She also met with us regarding HB2050 recently and supported that bill with a yes vote to move it out of the Senate.

State Senate LD06

(D) Theresa Hatathlie: B

[Hatathlie](#) assumed office in the Senate in LD07 in January of 2022. She is running for the Senate seat in LD06 this year. Despite repeated contacts, Hatathlie did not respond to our survey. She met with us during our lobby week and she recently took an hour of her time to talk with us regarding HB2050. In that meeting, Hatathlie provided us with her perspective on marijuana and

how her culture influences her thinking. We truly appreciate the insight that Hatathlie provided us and were grateful for her yes vote on HB2050. Since she is running unopposed, we look forward to working with Hatathlie in the upcoming legislative sessions.

(LBT) Jeff Daniels: I

Daniels is running as a write-in candidate for the Senate seat in LD06. He also ran as a write-in candidate in 2016 for the US House in District 4. The link to Daniels' website was broken and we couldn't find any related social media platforms. Daniels did not respond to our survey and our research did not yield anything relative to Daniels and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate him at this time.

State Senate LD07

(R) Wendy Rogers: F

Rogers is a retired veteran and business owner who first ran unsuccessfully in 2010 for a Senate seat in LD17. She returned in 2012 and 2014 to unsuccessfully run for US House in District 9. She then unsuccessfully ran for US House in District 1 in 2016 and 2018. Rogers finally won the Senate seat in LD06 in 2020. She returns this year with a run for the Senate seat in LD07. Rogers did not respond to our survey despite repeated attempts to contact her.

Here's what we had to say about Rogers in our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide: "Rogers responded to a question in VoteSmart asking if she supported the legalization of recreational marijuana. Rogers responded no and stated that it is a state issue. Ummm…MORE Act? Rogers also strongly disagreed to a statement in the ivoterguide asking is she supported the legalization of recreational marijuana. Lastly, in 2010, Rogers indicated in a Center for Arizona Policy candidate questionnaire that she opposed "[l]egalizing the use of marijuana for medical purposes." Opposition to the legalization of both adult-use and medical marijuana just doesn't sit well with us."

Rogers has refused to meet with us over the last two years of her tenure in the legislature. While we appreciate the fact that she did vote yes on HB2050 recently, we just don't think that is enough to raise her grade from 2020.

(R) Kelly Townsend: F

Townsend first won a House seat in LD16 in 2012 and held the seat through 2020. In 2020, she won the Senate seat in LD16. She returns this year seeking the Senate seat in LD07. Townsend did not respond to our survey despite myriad contacts.

Here's what we had to say about Townsend in our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide: "In 2016, Townsend sponsored HB2061 which sought to make it a crime for a pregnant woman to

consume medical marijuana. Townsend even went further by allowing the bill to override a physician's finding that marijuana would be appropriate for a pregnant patient. Due to legal issues, this bill was watered down to creating signage in dispensaries with pregnancy warnings. In 2018, Arizona NORML wrote this about Townsend: A leading source of misinformation and opposition, Majority Whip Townsend is the bitterest prohibitionist at the capitol."

Townsend has refused to meet with us in the last two years of her tenure at the legislature and simply does not support anything related to cannabis. She even made herself unavailable so as to be a no vote on HB2050 recently in the Senate. We just see no reason to alter Townsend's grade from 2020 so we'll maintain it.

(D) Kyle Nitschke: A

Nitschke is a first-time candidate who got his start in organizing and working for a Congressional campaign. He has the unique distinction of being the first candidate to respond to our survey. Based on those responses, it is clear that Nitschke supports the promotion of fairer competition and small business ownership relative to the legal market. He believes in the medicinal use of cannabis, favors adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and supports reducing the costs of medical marijuana cards. Furthermore, Nitschke voiced his support for automatic expungements, the expansion of expungeable non-violent cannabis offenses and the defelonization of those offenses. Lastly, Nitschke was fully supportive of DCS not penalizing people who were pregnant and consumed medical marijuana at the advice of a medical professional and believes that the mere presence of THC metabolites should not be used as the sole measurement of impairment.

State Senate LD08

(R) Roxana Holzapfel: I

Holzapfel has owned small businesses and worked in many professional fields. This first-time legislative candidate did not respond to our survey despite repeated contacts. Unfortunately, we were unable to uncover any information on Holzapfel and cannabis-related issues so we simply cannot rate her at this time.

(D) Juan Mendez: A+

Mendez was first elected to a House seat in LD26 in 2012 and was reelected to that seat in 2014. Mendez then switched to the Senate in LD26 in the 2016 election and has maintained that Senate seat until today. He is seeking the Senate seat in LD08 this election cycle. Mendez responded to our survey and strongly agreed that the legal market would benefit from fairer competition, small business ownership and craft licensing. He recognizes the medicinal value of cannabis while being strongly in favor of adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and reducing the cost of medical marijuana cards. Mendez was steadfast in his support of automatic

expungements as well as ameliorating expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those types of offenses. Lastly, Mendez was adamant that DCS should not penalize any individual who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the behest of a medical professional and strongly agreed that the presence of THC metabolites should not be used as the sole indicator of impairment.

Mendez summed up his thoughts with following the comment: "I want to end the war on drugs."

We are grateful to Mendez for his conversations surrounding HB2050 and his commitment to come to the capitol and vote yes on the bill twice.

State Senate LD09

(R) Tyler Pace: C

Pace was first elected to the Senate seat in LD25 in 2018 and won that same seat again in 2020. He returns this year seeking the Senate seat in LD09. Despite myriad contacts, Pace did not respond to our survey.

Here's what we had to say about Pace in our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide: "Here's what the Tucson Weekly had to say about Pace on January 23, 2020: "Senator Tyler Pace (R) seeks to simplify Arizona's rambling drug statutes, which include more than 200 classifications of drugs. Pace's SB1095 would define cannabis as "marijuana" but last year's concentrate case cleared up the commotion concerning conflation." That's a start!"

Pace has not met with us during our lobby week in the last two years of his tenure in the Senate. We do appreciate Pace's yes vote on HB2050 this session but without survey responses to ascertain his current perspective on cannabis-related issues, we'll maintain Pace's grade from 2020.

(R) Robert Scantlebury: C

Scantlebury is a retired Mesa Police officer who is also a small business owner. He ran unsuccessfully for the Mesa City Council District 4 in 2018 and he is seeking the Senate seat in LD09 this election cycle. Despite repeated contacts, Scantlebury did not respond to our survey. It is interesting to note that Scantlebury responded to a Facebook post by Mesa City Councilmember Jeremy Whittaker on November 19, 2020 about the City of Mesa prohibiting such things as adult-use sales, marijuana testing facilities and adult-use delivery. Scantlebury offered the following comment: "They always seem to go against whatever the vote is. I hope someone organizes a smoke-in at the opening of the Downtown Mesa ASU campus." We'll go out on a limb and make a rather large assumption that Scantlebury seems to honor the will of the voters relative to Prop 207 and grade him accordingly.

(D) Eva Burch: I

Burch started her career in emergency nursing in 2012. This first-time legislative candidate did not respond to our survey. Sadly, our research yielded no information with respect to Burch and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate her at this time.

State Senate LD10

(R) David Farnsworth: F

Farnsworth served in the Arizona Senate in LD16 from September 2013 through January of 2021. Despite repeated contacts, Farnsworth did not respond to our survey. In 2016, Farnsworth co-signed a letter in vociferous opposition to legalization via Prop 205 entitled "Prop 205 is a dangerous, costly mistake we can't afford to make." That letter appeared in EastValley.com on October 8th, 2016.

In a 2018 summary of bills, here's what Arizona NORML had to say about Farnsworth's legislative wisdom: "In the Senate, anti-cannabis Sen. David Farnsworth (R-LD16) has three bills targeting the industry. The bill garnering the most attention is SB1032, which prohibits cannabis outdoor advertising along highways. Farnsworth's two other bills were initially intended to be one bill. SB1060 targets the state's emerging cannabis delivery industry and makes publishing erroneous information about the address or products of a dispensary a class six felony. After meeting with Arizona NORML, Senator Farnsworth assures that this bill is expected to face substantial revisions. Current wording targets companies like Leafly or AZMarijuana.com instead of unscrupulous delivery companies themselves. Farnsworth's SB1061 was originally a second part of the SB1061, which addressed funding for the crackdown on delivery drivers. Farnsworth is calling for five million dollars from the state's medical marijuana fund to pay for the crackdown."

Between Farnsworth and Bowers, we have very serious concerns about this race in LD10. Bowers is an avowed prohibitionist and Farnsworth isn't that far behind him. Speaking of Bowers…

(R) Russell Bowers: F

Bowers was first elected to a House seat in LD21 in 1996 and was reelected to serve in that same seat in 1998 and 2000. He returned in 2014 to win a House seat in LD25 and has maintained that same seat until today. Bowers began serving as the Speaker of the House in 2019 as well. Bowers returns this year with a run for the Senate seat in LD10. Bowers actually spoke to one of our board members regarding our survey. He simply stated that whatever we are for he is STRONGLY AGAINST. Got it. So…Bowers is strongly opposed to fairer competition in the legal market and he is fully opposed to enhancing that market through craft licensing and small business ownership. Bowers is in complete disagreement that cannabis has medicinal value and he is completely opposed to adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and reducing the costs of medical marijuana cards. Furthermore, Bowers is in strong opposition to automatic expungements and he is vociferously opposed to ameliorating existing expungement law to include

more non-violent cannabis offenses, and he is equally against defelonizing those types of offenses. Lastly, Bowers fully supports DCS penalizing individuals who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the behest of a medical professional and he fully supports using the mere presence of THC metabolites to determine impairment.

Let's not stop there. Here's what we had to say about Bowers in our General Election Candidate Guide in 2020: "Bowers was the prime sponsor of the dreaded and loathsome HCR2045 (the bill that sought a 2% THC cap to the medical marijuana program) earlier this year. We'll let Tucson.com tell you more about what Bowers had to say about HCR2045 in an article from March 12, 2020: "House Speaker Russell Bowers, R-Mesa, acknowledged he was only interested in studying the relationship between use of this drug and violence and schizophrenia. He said there already is evidence of some links. "Not everybody's going to be paranoid schizophrenic," Bowers said. "But a lot of people are." Bowers, who is 67, spoke of growing up and hanging around with marijuana users who were "seen as the cool guys in school." "We were told that it was basically harmless," he said. (We should note that Bowers riffed on the cool guys in school comment in a committee hearing on HCR2045. After talking about the "cool guys," Bowers rhetorically asked, "do you know where they are all at now?" "They're DEAD!"). But he said there is now evidence that is not the case. And Bowers said he sees medical marijuana as "a gateway to full-blown recreational marijuana." What's driving his call, Bowers said, is the book "Tell Your Children" by former New York Times reporter Alex Berenson, which cites various studies that the author says links marijuana to psychosis. There have been criticisms of the book, including an open letter from a group of scholars and clinicians, including Harvard Medical School and Columbia University, saying that Berenson's methodology is flawed and that he cherry-picks the data used. Bowers said the book cites long-term effects "where we see spiking in horrendous crimes, murders, child abuse, traffic accidents in our surrounding states that have now a history of open recreational use but also have the medical use." As Speaker of the House, Bowers has even refused to consider his own party's cannabis bills, saying he won't "sit down with dopers.""

Finally for good measure, here's what Bowers had to say about Prop 207: "Speaker Bowers Letter Submitted personally and unofficially. Why the lies? The greedy and manipulative marijuana money machine continues to lie about how their "harmless" product in order to cash in at the cost of our kids, our health and our safety! What lies, you ask? Here's one - Marijuana is harmless. Really? Even before birth, one can suffer the harmful impacts of marijuana. When a pregnant mother uses marijuana, THC can enter the child's brain, affecting brain development. Use during pregnancy can also result in growth restriction, pre-term birth, and low birth weight. Next, studies show that when youth begin marijuana use before brain development is complete (age 25) the brain can suffer permanent damage. More studies are augmenting the evidence between marijuana use and mental illness, including schizophrenia and violent paranoia. Today's marijuana is extremely potent. In the 70s a joint had about 2% THC. Today it's 20 to 25% THC. Other products show levels up to 75 and even 100% THC. Prop 207 sets weak potency caps that would make it very easy for anyone – including our kids – to overconsume. Another lie? This will benefit our economy. Check with "legal" states to see. Many never reached their projected revenues. Those that did usually spend far more in marijuana-related costs to the state than they bring in. Colorado,

which legalized in 2012, spends $4.50 on marijuana-related costs for every $1 of revenue. To boost the Marijuana economy more, Prop 207 caps the marijuana tax at 16% regardless of Arizona's cost. I'm not lying about marijuana to my kids. Please join me. Russell W Bowers, Speaker of the House, House of Representatives, Mesa"

And that concludes our prohibitionist tour for today. We'll grade Bowers accordingly.

Oh…wait…one last thing. Bowers couldn't be bothered to help rural patients or veterans so he was a no vote twice on HB2050 this session.

State Senate LD11

(R) Maryn Brannies: I

Brannies is a first-time legislative candidate who declined to do our survey. Unfortunately, our research did not uncover anything relative to Brannies and cannabis-related issues so we simply cannot rate her at this time.

(D) Catherine Miranda: A

Miranda has an extensive political background having won a House seat in LD16 in 2010 and 2012. She then won the Senate seat in LD27 in 2014 and 2016. She unsuccessfully ran for US Representative in CD7 in 2018 and for a House seat in LD27 in 2020. She is back this year for a run at the Senate seat in LD11. Miranda responded to our survey in full support of promoting fairer competition in the legal market but was vehemently opposed to adding craft licenses and small business ownership. Miranda recognizes the value of medical cannabis and is fully supportive of adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and reducing medical marijuana card costs. She was in strong agreement that expungements should be automatic and that more non-violent cannabis offenses should be made expungeable as well as defelonizing those offenses. Lastly, Miranda was adamant that DCS should not penalize those people who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the direction of a medical professional and that the mere presence of THC metabolites should not be the sole indicator of impairment.

While we were a bit puzzled as to why Miranda vociferously opposed the addition of small business ownership and craft licensing to the legal market, we'll let her explain her reasoning: "I disagree with the last question- It helps the black market flourish by lowering the barrier of entry into a very well controlled state."

(D) Junelle Cavero: A

Cavero is a small business owner who works in multi-cultural digital marketing.   This first-time legislative candidate responded to our survey and expressed full support for fairer competition in the legal market and improving that market through craft licensing and small business ownership.

Clearly recognizing the medicinal value of cannabis, Cavero offered strong support for adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and reducing the cost of medical marijuana cards. Furthermore, Cavero strongly agreed to automatic expungements, enhancing existing expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those types of offenses. Lastly, Cavero was adamant that DCS should not penalize anyone who consumed medical marijuana at the recommendation of a medical professional while pregnant and that the presence of THC metabolites should not be the sole indicator of impairment.

(D) Janelle Wood: I

Wood founded a non-profit organization called Black Mothers Forum, Inc. in 2016 and serves as the organization's president. She also unsuccessfully ran as an Americans Elect write-in candidate for the Arizona Governor's race in 2014. Wood did not respond to our survey despite myriad emails to her campaign. Sadly, we couldn't find any relevant information on Wood and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate her at this time.

State Senate LD12

(R) David Richardson: I

Richardson is a business owner and first-time legislative candidate. Richardson did not respond to our survey despite repeated emails to his campaign. Sadly, we were unable to uncover anything in our research for Richardson and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate him at this time.

(R) Suzanne Sharer: F

Sharer has a background in real estate and first ran unsuccessfully for the Senate seat in LD18 in 2020. She returns this year for a run at the Senate seat in LD12. Despite myriad contacts, Sharer chose not to respond to our survey.

Here's what we had to say about Sharer in our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide: "We couldn't find much on her in our research but did find an LD18 AZCCEC debate on August 26, 2020 where each candidate was asked about their support of Prop 207. Sharer responded by stating that she doesn't want to tell people how to live their lives. She felt that any effort at legalization should be done through the legislature. Sharer felt that the legislature can listen to constituents and make changes accordingly. Sharer then stated that the initiative is written poorly and that cartels will be moving into neighborhoods for home grow and that there will be products looking like candy. She further stated that the strength of marijuana today is not what our parents smoked at Woodstock. In the midst of all this Reefer Madness, Sharer did say that something needs to be done about people getting in trouble over a small amount of pot. She then went back to the darkness by claiming that marijuana will be sold in vending machines and will be more prevalent in our society. Lastly, Sharer stated that there will be more mental health issues with legalization."

We continued: "As for the icing on her less than supportive cake, Sharer was then asked if she ever consumed weed. She laughed before answering and then exclaimed, "When I was a stupid 16 year-old!" Sorry, but we don't consider 230,000 patients in the state of Arizona to be "stupid." There's just too much prohibitionist rhetoric here to ignore."

Without survey responses for clarity on her positions, we do believe that we have more than enough from our guide in 2020 to maintain Sharer's rather poor grade.

(D) Mitzi Epstein: C+

Epstein was first elected to the Kyrene Elementary School District Governing Board in 2004. She then ran unsuccessfully for a House seat in LD18 in 2014. She returned to win a House seat in LD18 in 2016 and has held that seat until today. She is back this election cycle with a run at the Senate seat in LD12. Since Epstein refused to respond to our survey despite myriad contacts, we'll do a historical dive on her for your reading pleasure.

Here's what we had to say about Epstein in our 2018 General Election Candidate Guide: "While Epstein has spoken if favor of cannabis reform bills off the floor, she is less active than several of her allies in the House. Note her ambiguous centrist answer to AZ Central: "This decision is best left up to the voters. If marijuana is ever legalized, we need to ensure it is strongly regulated and monitored so it is kept out of the hands of children and Arizonans are safe in their community, at work, and on our roadways.""

In 2020, we had this to say about Epstein in our General Election Candidate Guide: "In an LD18 General Election Candidate debate sponsored by the AZCCEC, Epstein was asked if she supported Prop 207. She stated that she hasn't made a decision yet but that parts of the initiative make sense. She felt that it would stop us from putting people in prison for relatively small amounts of marijuana possession. Epstein then said that prison doesn't solve perceived problems because of cannabis use. She continued to say that large scale possession would still be a crime. Epstein then offered a couple of things she would like to fix if Prop 207 passes. She feels that the initiative creates an oligopoly but that they did some nice work in opening the market for some new entrepreneurs with support. Furthermore, Epstein does not want to see advertising and she is worried about the initiative reining in advertising. Epstein also stated that if the initiative passes, they will have to do their job to protect children. Lastly, when asked if she has ever smoked or ingested weed, Epstein said no because she doesn't like any kind of smoke. Asked about ingestion, she said no as well. There are some holes in her arguments but at least Epstein is willing to have the conversation. We'll look for more from her if she is reelected."

Unfortunately, we haven't seen more from Epstein in two years since 2020. She has not met with us during our lobby weeks and does not lead on cannabis-related issues. However, she did vote yes twice on HB2050 so we are appreciative of that support.

State Senate LD13

(R) J.D. Mesnard: D-

Mesnard first won a House seat in 2010 in LD21. He then won a House seat in LD17 in 2012 and remained in that position until he was elected to the Senate seat in LD17 in 2018. He has maintained that Senate seat until today. He is seeking the Senate seat in LD13 in this election cycle. Despite repeated contacts, Mesnard did not respond to our survey.

In 2016, Mesnard was instrumental in creating four bills that sought to thwart the Voter Protection Act in an effort to prevent any initiative relative to legalization from becoming law.

In 2018, Arizona NORML had this to say about Mesnard: "As speaker of the House, Mesnard torpedoed at least a dozen reform bills during his tenure."

Mesnard was in open opposition to Prop 205 and one of many legislators who signed on to an opposition letter to Prop 205 that was printed in EastValley.com on October 8th, 2016.

In the last two years, Mesnard has refused to meet with us during our lobby weeks. Without the ability to meet with him and lacking survey responses this year for clarity, we were going to maintain Mesnard's F rating from 2020 but his yes vote on HB2050 convinced us to bump his grade up a bit.

(D) Cynthia Hans: A

Hans is a retired public-school educator who has also served as an election worker. She is a first-time candidate who responded to our survey in complete support of ameliorating the legal market through fairer competition and small business ownership. Hans strongly believes that cannabis has medicinal value and fully supports adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions as well as reducing medical marijuana card costs. Furthermore, she is steadfast in her support of automatic expungements, adding more non-violent cannabis offenses to the list of expungeable offenses and defelonizing those aforementioned offenses. Lastly, Hans was adamant that DCS should not penalize those individuals who consumed medical marijuana at the direction of a medical professional while pregnant and that the presence of THC metabolites should not be the sole indicator of impairment.

In addition to her survey responses, Hans offered the following statement: "I would support more medical studies. I understand the complexities of the federal laws and the various laws at the state level. But I think there are some not yet understood applications for various medical conditions that need to be examined."

(D) Michael Morris: A

Morris has a background in real estate and he has started and managed several small businesses. This first-time legislative candidate responded to our survey with overwhelming support for enhancing the legal market through fairer competition, craft licensing and small business ownership. Morris was quick to recognize the medicinal value of cannabis and offered full support for adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and reducing the cost of medical marijuana cards. Morris strongly agreed to making expungements automatic as well as improving existing expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those offenses. Lastly, Morris was resolute that DCS should not penalize anyone who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the direction of a medical professional and he was in strong agreement that the mere presence of THC metabolites should not be the sole indicator of impairment.

State Senate LD14

(R) Warren Petersen: D-

Petersen first won a House seat in LD12 in 2012 and then won that seat again in 2014. In 2016, Petersen won the Senate seat in LD12. He returned to the House in LD12 in 2018 and has maintained that seat until today. Petersen is seeking the Senate seat in LD14 this election cycle. Despite repeated attempts to contact him, Petersen did not respond to our survey.

Here's what we had to say about Petersen in our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide: "In 2016, Petersen showed his disdain for patients by co-sponsoring HB2404 which sought to prevent SNAP recipients from being eligible for a reduced medical marijuana card fee. In 2018, Petersen told CAP that he opposes legalization. In 2020, Petersen has taken a public stance against Prop 207. Lastly, Petersen voted yes on the reprehensible bill HCR2045 in this year's legislative session. That's enough for us to establish a grade!"

While we knew that Petersen was opposed to Prop 207, we didn't have a copy of his anti-207 missive that he penned in 2020. We'll reproduce it here for your reading displeasure:

"This year, an initiative to legalize recreational marijuana is on your ballot. It is bad news for you, your family and Arizona. First, it would lead to an increase in marijuana use by our kids as the marijuana industry has already shown they will target them. As a father of five and someone who cares about Arizona's future, I know how vital it is that we protect our kids from the harms of marijuana. The data from other states that have passed similar initiatives shows higher rates of kids using marijuana. When kids use marijuana while their brains are still developing, it can result in harm ranging from changes in memory, concentration, and motivation to permanent IQ loss and ongoing dependence. The consequences would be devastating. The initiative would also put our families at risk on the road by increasing the number of impaired drivers. In Colorado, where recreational marijuana was legalized in 2012, traffic deaths 41 involving drivers using marijuana more than doubled. In Washington, another "legal" state, drivers testing positive for THC almost tripled after legalization. I don't want to put my family or yours at that kind of risk. Let's not forget

Arizona already offers medical Marijuana as a treatment. Those who really need it, can get it. Proliferating the use of this dangerous substance beyond medicinal use just isn't worth it. Finally, the initiative is written to support crony capitalism. Big Marijuana - the writers and backers of the initiative – wrote the law to give themselves a monopoly for the first 60-days on a limited number of licenses. Should we put our kids and families at risk to pass an initiative that gives Big Marijuana the monopoly on a dangerous new industry? No. Arizona can do better. I encourage you to vote no. Warren Petersen, House Majority Leader, AZ House of Representatives, Gilbert"

While we certainly don't concur with the preceding rhetoric, we are appreciative of Petersen's yes vote on HB2050 this session and we'll curve his grade from 2020 to reflect that vote.

State Senate LD15

(R) Jake Hoffman: D-

Hoffman has served on the Higley School Board and the Queen Creek Town Council. He ran successfully for a House seat in LD12 in 2020 and is back this year with a run for the Senate seat in LD15. Sadly, Hoffman did not respond to our survey despite repeated phone calls and emails. Even with extensive research, we could not find anything relative to Hoffman and marijuana. Hoffman has refused to meet with us during his tenure in the legislature despite outreach to him during our lobby weeks. Without survey responses for clarity on where Hoffman stands on cannabis-related issues, we'll rate him on his absolute unwillingness to even meet with us and the fact that he voted no twice on HB2050.

(D) Alan Smith: I

We were unable to locate a campaign website or related social media platforms for Smith and he did not respond to our survey. This first-time legislative candidate is running as a write-in for the Senate seat in LD15. Sadly, our research failed to yield anything relative to Smith and cannabis-related issues so we simply cannot rate him.

State Senate LD16

(R) T.J. Shope: B

Shope first won a House seat in LD8 in 2012 and served in that position until 2020. He then won the Senate seat in LD08 in 2020. Sadly, Shope did not respond to our survey despite repeated attempts to contact him.

Here's what we had to say about Shope in our General Election Candidate Guide in 2020: "Shope has quietly supported cannabis reform and has even shown leadership on a few bills. Shope expressed his opinion about a potential ballot initiative in 2020 to azfamily.com on July 23, 2019: "Rep. T.J. Shope, the speaker pro tempore, said legalization might be unavoidable given the shift in public attitudes about marijuana. For that reason, he said the Legislature might have no choice but to craft its own legislation to avoid unintended consequences from an industry-backed

initiative. Shope said he's waiting to see if the initiative protects business owners and empowers law enforcement to handle situations like people driving under the influence of marijuana. "If those kinds of things aren't respected in an initiative, then we possibly will have to come in there and say, 'Look, this is a reason for us to get involved,'" Shope said.""

"Shope also participated in a Pinal Partnership LD08 Debate on September 8, 2020. In this debate, Shope was asked if he supported Prop 207. Shope responded that he is not opposed to recreational marijuana for people over 21 but that he is opposed to the initiative. He stated that he believes that Prop 207 is poorly written and that propositions cannot be changed once passed. He also expressed concerns that if the proposition passes and the federal government ends prohibition, then the Arizona excise tax would be reduced and we would see diminishing returns. Shope then reemphasized that he is not opposed to legalization…that it is the right time and the right thing to do but that he still opposes Prop 207."

We'd certainly like to see Shope lead more on cannabis issues in the legislature. Unfortunately, he has not met with us in the last two sessions during our lobby week. Without current survey responses to assess Shope, we'll keep his grade where it was in 2020 and offer our appreciation relative to his yes vote on HB2050 this session.

(D) Taylor Kerby: A

Kerby is a teacher who currently serves on the Governing Board of the Casa Grande Union High School District. He responded to our survey with complete support for the legal market to be ameliorated by fairer competition and small business ownership. While recognizing the medicinal value of cannabis, Kerby was in strong agreement to add Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and reducing medical marijuana card costs. He was steadfast in his support for automatic expungements, enhancing expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those offenses. Finally, Kerby was adamant that DCS should not penalize individuals who consume medical marijuana while pregnant at the behest of a medical professional and that the presence of THC metabolites shouldn't be used as the sole indicator of impairment.

State Senate LD17

(R) Robert Barr: I

Barr is a United States Navy veteran and a financial advisor. This first-time legislative candidate did not respond to our survey despite repeated contacts. Unfortunately, our research yielded nothing relative to Barr and cannabis-related issues so we simply cannot rate him at this time.

(R) Vince Leach: F

Leach first won a House seat in LD11 in 2014 and continued in that seat until 2018. In 2018, he was elected to the Senate in LD11 and has maintained that seat until today. Leach is back this year

with a run for the Senate seat in LD17. It is not surprising that Leach did not respond to our survey despite repeated contacts.

Here's what we had to say about Leach in our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide: "Leach is notorious for producing anti-cannabis bills that generally go nowhere in the legislature. Here's what Arizona NORML had to say about him in our 2018 General Election Guide: "The most active prohibitionist in the state House over the last few years, Leach filed 6 anti-cannabis bills last session. Not looking forward to seeing him in the Senate." Leach has targeted medical marijuana patients who are on food stamps and on parole as well as wanting patients to fund a program to discourage drug use. Of course, Leach is publicly against Prop 207. Given his history of opposition in the legislature, we'll grade Leach accordingly."

In the last two years at the legislature, Leach has refused to meet with us. We even mentioned this to him at a committee hearing this year and he actually had the temerity to laugh at us. We'll commend Leach for voting yes on HB2050 recently but that just isn't enough to sway us to curve his grade from 2020 in an upward fashion.

(R) Justine Wadsack: A

Wadsack is a real estate agent and business owner who first ran unsuccessfully for the Senate seat in LD10 in 2020. She returns this year for a run at the Senate seat in LD17. Wadsack did speak to one of our volunteers but never responded to our survey. We spoke with Wadsack in 2020 and were very impressed with her perspective regarding cannabis. We were then equally impressed with the statements that she submitted to our survey that year. We'll reprint them again this year:

1) "The medical benefits are clear that Marijuana/CBD helps people who are suffering from Epilepsy, PTSD, Anxiety, Diabetes, Pain, Cancer, Eating Disorders and more. It seems the only scientists who disagree are in some way affiliated with Big Pharma, as Marijuana/CBD is replacing many of the prescription drug needs that make bureaucrats a lot of money."

2) "I want to see a change in the Federal laws that currently prohibit a citizen's right to buy, own or carry a gun if they hold a Medical Marijuana Card, as there is no similar restriction on gun rights for those who drink alcohol or take prescription drugs. The 2nd Amendment must apply to people who hold their MMJ card too!!!"

3) "I support the "Medical Marijuana Program in Arizona". There are nearly 300,000 MMJ Cardholders in Arizona. This program should continue, but should also mean that when purchased for medical use, with the MMJ Card, it should be covered by Health Insurance, and/or the price should be reduced with lower taxes than the 16% excise tax applied to recreational purchases. Too many people need it, and can't afford it, so they continue to purchase street Marijuana, which can potentially be laced with life-threatening Opioids such as Fentanyl."

4) "I support the "Legalization of Marijuana in Arizona initiative" as a PERSONAL CHOICE! Those who don't approve, don't have to purchase it. Those who would rather choose Marijuana over beer, should have the right to choose. It will bring Arizona a 16% excise tax (the same as cigarettes and alcohol). I would like to see the tax funding be dispersed between Police & Fire departments, DDD Caregiver Raises & Recruitment, New Mental Health Facilities, & Improvements to City Roads (Tucson needs this badly). In short, this would essentially impose the same rules, laws and consequences on someone who uses alcohol when it comes to advertising, packaging, workplace rules, driving/flying/boating, quality regulations, public restriction, cafe license, etc."

5) "I am against the separation of parents from their children, period, as Parents Rights are paramount! Of course, that is unless the child is being physically or mentally abused or neglected, so this would be a case-by-case issue. There are parents who abuse drugs, and parents who choose Marijuana over alcohol. There are parents who are alcoholics, and parents who like a glass of wine after work. Parents must have a right to due process, and must be presumed innocent until proven guilty of any wrongdoing. Unfortunately, DCS will use this as an excuse to further abuse their power."

6) "I am for Criminal Justice Reform. The punishment must fit the crime, and an arrest for Marijuana possession must be treated differently than an arrest for Fentanyl or Meth possession, as not all drug offenses should be Felonies. Our prisons are over-crowded, and community service can and should replace many of these tougher judgements. Again, this is a case-by-case issue, but it should be nothing more than a misdemeanor."

7) "I believe when a citizen serves time in prison, they have "paid their debt to society". In any other instance, a paid debt means just that…it's paid, and done. Those who serve their time, should have the records expunged so they can have an opportunity to enter back into society, vote, and obtain employment. I do NOT feel the same way about murderers or pedophiles, yet somehow, Marijuana offenses are grouped in the same category, and that's not right, in my opinion."

(D) Mike Nickerson: I

Nickerson is a pastor and first-time legislative candidate. Dickerson did not respond to our survey despite myriad contacts. Sadly, our research did not uncover anything related to Nickerson and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate him at this time.

State Senate LD18

(R) Stan Caine: I

Caine worked for over thirty years in the Department of Defense. This first-time legislative candidate did not respond to our survey despite myriad contacts. Unfortunately, our research did not yield anything relevant to Caine and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate him at this time.

(D) Morgan Abraham: A-

Abraham is a managing partner in a real estate investment firm and an Intelligence Officer in the US Army Reserve. He was appointed to his seat in the House in LD10 in 2021. He is running this year for the Senate seat in LD18. Abraham responded to our survey in full agreement that the legal market should be enhanced by fairer competition, craft licenses and small business ownership. Abraham recognizes the medicinal value of cannabis and strongly supports adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions as well as reducing the cost of medical marijuana cards. Additionally, Abraham is completely on board with automatic expungements, ameliorating expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those offenses. Finally, Abraham is vehemently opposed to DCS penalizing individuals who consumed medical marijuana at the direction of a medical professional while pregnant and he offers equal opposition to the mere presence of THC metabolites being used as the sole indicator of impairment.

We value Abraham and his support in the legislature. Unfortunately, his no vote on HB2050 forces us to provide a minus to his grade but we do want to recognize that Abraham met with us and fully engaged the conversation around HB2050. Abraham was open, honest and transparent throughout the process and we have nothing but respect for him.

(D) Priya Sundareshan: I

Sundareshan teaches natural resources law at the University of Arizona. This first-time legislative candidate did not respond to our survey despite repeated emails. Sadly, we could not uncover anything related to Sundareshan and cannabis issues in our research so we are unable to grade her at this time.

State Senate LD19

(R) David Gowan: A

Gowan served in the House in LD30 for two terms after first being elected in 2008. He then was elected to a seat in the House in LD14 in 2012 and served two terms. In 2016, he unsuccessfully ran for District 1 in the US Congress. Gowan returned to win the Senate seat in 2018 in LD14 and he has maintained that seat until today. Gowan returns this year with a run for the Senate seat in LD19. Gowan did not respond to our survey despite repeated contacts.

Here's what we had to say about Gowan in our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide: "While Gowan deserves recognition for his sponsorship of SB1494 (the omnibus testing bill with 2-year medical marijuana cards) that passed in 2019, he was still responsible for the "handcuff the industry" bills along with Senator Borrelli in 2019. However, he did sponsor SB1286 in 2019 which sought to give priority to rural areas with respect to dispensaries."

We have had the pleasure of working with Gowan through the stakeholder process this session with respect to HB2050 and we have been very impressed with him. We truly appreciate his willingness to help rural patients and to ensure that the products sold to consumers are safe and free from harmful contaminants. We look to Gowan to lead next year on cannabis-related issues and are excited to continue to work with him. We are honored to bump his grade from 2020 and are appreciative of his support at the legislature.

State Senate LD20

(D) Sally Gonzales: A

Gonzales first won a House seat in LD03 in 2010 and maintained that seat through the 2016 election. She was then elected to the Senate for LD03 in 2018 and has held that seat until today. Gonzales returns this year with a run for the Senate seat in LD20. Gonzales did not respond to our survey despite repeated contacts. Gonzales has been a co-sponsor for many bills related to cannabis reform through her tenure in the legislature. She is always more than willing to meet with us and has been supportive of our efforts. Gonzales did cast a yes vote on HB2050 this year and took time to talk with us about the bill. She clearly demonstrated her support of rural patients and efforts to ensure that cannabis products are safe for consumption.

State Senate LD21

(R) Jim Cleveland: I

We could not find a campaign website or related social media for this write-in candidate. Cleveland is a United States Navy veteran who is currently a teacher and pastor. Despite repeated emails, Cleveland did not respond to our survey. Unfortunately, our research did not yield anything relative to Cleveland and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate him at this time.

(D) Rosanna Gabaldon: A+

Gabaldon was elected to a seat in the House in LD02 in 2012 and successfully maintained that seat until 2020. She then won the Senate seat in LD02 in 2020. She returns this year for a run at the Senate seat in LD21. Gabaldon has been an incredible ally at the capitol during her years of service and is always more than willing to meet with Arizona NORML to discuss cannabis issues. She responded to our survey in full support of enhancing the legal market with fairer competition and small business ownership. Gabaldon acknowledges the medicinal value of cannabis and strongly agrees that Autism Spectrum Disorder should be added to the list of qualifying conditions and that the cost of medical marijuana cards should be reduced. Furthermore, Gabaldon strongly supports automatic expungements, increasing the number of non-violent cannabis offenses to expungement law and defelonizing those offenses. She is adamant that DCS should not penalize individuals

who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the behest of a medical professional and that the mere presence of THC metabolites should not be the sole indicator of impairment.

We are grateful for the strong and consistent support from Gabaldon throughout her years at the capitol and truly appreciate her leadership. She added this thought in addition to her survey responses: "I have served in the legislature since 2013 and have advocated for responsible use."

Lastly, we truly appreciate Gabaldon's willingness to meet with us regarding HB2050 and her yes vote on the bill helping to advance it out of the Senate.

State Senate LD22

(D) Richard Andrade: A+

Andrade is an US Air Force veteran and certified Locomotive Engineer. He has held a House seat in LD29 since 2014 and returns this year to seek a Senate seat in LD22. A consistent ally, Andrade was quick to respond to our survey and was in strong agreement that the legal market should be enhanced to include fairer competition and opportunities for small business ownership. He recognizes the medicinal value of cannabis and is fully supportive of adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and reducing medical marijuana card costs. Furthermore, Andrade offered strong support for automatic expungements, expanding expungeable non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those offenses. Lastly, Andrade was fully supportive of DCS not penalizing those individuals who consumed medical marijuana at the recommendation of a medical professional while pregnant and he does not believe in using THC metabolites as the sole indicator of impairment. Andrade offered these additional comments to our survey as well: "I work in the transportation industry and governed by the Dept of Transportation. Even though I am prohibited from using any marijuana for medical or recreational use, I have been a strong supporter and see the benefits of medicinal use especially by our veterans, who have stated they have a better quality of life with the use of medical and marijuana."

We are grateful to Andrade for his engagement on HB2050 this session and his yes vote on the bill to move it out of the Senate.

(D) Diego Espinoza: A

Espinoza first won a House seat in LD19 in 2014 and has maintained that seat until today. He is running this year for the Senate seat in LD22. Espinoza responded to our survey with full-throated support of ameliorating the legal market through fairer competition, craft licensing and small business ownership. Recognizing the medicinal value of cannabis, Espinoza fully supports adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions (more on the later) and reducing the costs of medical marijuana laws. Espinoza agreed that expungements should be automatic and that expungement law should be expanded to include more non-violent

cannabis offenses. Furthermore, Espinoza strongly agreed that more non-violent cannabis offenses should be defelonized. Lastly, Espinoza was steadfast that DCS should not penalize anyone who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the direction of a medical professional and agreed that the presence of THC metabolites should not be the sole indicator of impairment.

Espinoza has been a champion for the addition of Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions since 2019. He has been the prime sponsor for several bills that sought to include this condition to the list of qualifying conditions. Those bills are HB2599 in 2019, HB2049 in 2020, HB2154 in 2021 and HB2260 in 2022. Espinoza has worked with Arizona NORML on these bills and we truly appreciate his consistent and on-going support of this issue.

The West Valley News reported on Espinoza's bill (HB2049) on February 5, 2020 and printed these comments: "In addition, Espinoza is wanting to pass a legislation adding autism to the list of medical conditions doctors can prescribe medical marijuana for. "I think it adds another tool in the toolbox for our medical professionals to ensure that they can address the situation," Espinoza said. He said there have been many parents of children who are diagnosed with autism and believe their children would benefit from medical marijuana. "Some of these children are taking a variety of pills, sometimes up to a dozen," Espinoza said. "I have concerns with what their future health will look like by taking so many pills and what damage can be done." Espinoza said that using medical marijuana as a treatment has shown to be beneficial in other states. "There have been significant improvements in other states, especially in Colorado," Espinoza said. "We allow medical professionals to make that decision and it shouldn't be legislators denying that opportunity for a better life for the child.""

Inexplicably, Espinoza was an initial no vote on HB2050 this session but he flipped to yes upon reconsideration in the House. We truly appreciate Espinoza's willingness to change his vote to help patients and veterans.

State Senate LD23

(R) Gary Garcia Snyder: I

Garcia Snyder is a first-time legislative candidate who did not respond to our survey despite repeated emails. Unfortunately, we couldn't find anything relevant to Garcia Snyder and cannabis-related issues in our research so we are unable to rate him at this time.

(D) Brian Fernandez: A

Fernandez has worked in the development of technology companies and was appointed to a House seat in LD04 in November of 2021. He returns this year with a Senate run in LD23. Fernandez responded to our survey and agreed that fairer competition in the legal market would help to generate more revenue and reign in the illicit market and he strongly agreed that the market would be enhanced by craft licensing and small business ownership. Fernandez recognizes the value of

medical cannabis and fully supports the addition of Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions while agreeing that the cost of medical marijuana cards should be reduced. Furthermore, he was steadfast in his support of automatic expungements as well as ameliorating existing expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those types of offenses. Lastly, Fernandez was adamant that DCS should not penalize any individual who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the advisement of a medical professional and agreed that the mere presence of THC metabolites should not be used as the sole indicator of impairment.

We appreciate Fernandez's willingness to meet with us to discuss HB2050 and his two yes votes on the bill.

State Senate LD24

(D) César Chávez: A

Chávez first won a House seat in LD29 in 2016 and has maintained that seat until today. Chávez is seeking the Senate seat in LD24 this election cycle. Despite repeated contacts, Chávez did not respond to our survey.

Here's what we had to say about Chávez in our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide: "Chávez has been an ally and supporter in the legislature of cannabis reform. He is publicly supporting Prop 207 and recently participated in a MITA (Marijuana Industry Trade Association) webinar about social equity and Prop 207. In 2018, Chavez told Arizona NORML that he: "is very familiar with cannabis personally – strongly opposes federal government policy – strongly supports Arizona's MMJ program – will advocate for reducing AZ criminal penalties if elected – strongly supports state and federal legalization/decriminalization." Chavez was enlightened then and is enlightened now!"

We appreciate Chávez's yes votes on HB2050 this session and we'll need Chávez's voice in the Senate next year if he is elected to that chamber.

(D) Anna Hernandez: I

Hernandez is a first-time legislative candidate who did not respond to repeated contacts by phone and email. Sadly, our research did not uncover anything regarding Hernandez and cannabis-related issues so we simply cannot rate her at this time.

State Senate LD25

(R) Sine Kerr: D-

Kerr was a mid-term replacement in the Senate in LD13 in January of 2018. She then won the seat outright in November of 2018 and has maintained it until today. Kerr is seeking the Senate seat in LD25 this election cycle. Despite repeated attempts at contact, Kerr did not respond to our survey. Furthermore, she has refused to meet with us in the last two years of her tenure in the legislature. We'll let her own words scare…oops…inform you as to her sentiments relative to marijuana in a Prop 207 message that she penned in vociferous opposition to the 2020 initiative:

"Arizona is a national leader in so many areas. It's time we lead again by defeating Proposition 207. Why? First and foremost, we must do better for our kids. As a mother of four and a grandmother of 11, I am deeply saddened by the prospect of how this initiative would harm children. States that have passed initiatives similar to Prop 207 lead the country in rates of kids using. Arizona would be no different. Kids would become easy prey for an industry hungry to create a new generation of users. Prop 207 would give the industry license to advertise on every platform, establish retail stores in every major locality, and sell edible marijuana products like gummies, cookies, candy, soda, and vape pens. With those conditions, the industry will succeed in hooking too many of our kids and stealing their potential early. Scientific research has revealed that when kids use marijuana before their brain has fully developed (which doesn't occur until their late 20's), it can damage their brain and obstruct development. The results range from slower processing, inability to concentrate, and decreased motivation to permanent IQ loss. Some will become dependent on marijuana long-term. This is reason enough to vote no. But Prop 207 would also make it more dangerous for us and our families out on the road. The increase in users will lead to an increase in impaired drivers, as we have seen in other states. 70% of Colorado users admit they drive stoned – and almost a third do it daily. In Washington, drivers testing positive for THC tripled after they passed a similar initiative. Those aren't good odds for our families to be up against when we get in the car. I encourage you to protect Arizona's families and future and reject Prop 207. Sine Kerr, State Senator LD13, State of Arizona, Buckeye"

While we don't like Kerr's sentiments regarding cannabis, we are appreciative of her yes vote on HB2050 in this session.

State Senate LD26

(D) Raquel Terán: A+

Terán first ran unsuccessfully for the Senate seat in LD30 in 2012. She returned in 2018 to win the House seat in LD30 and maintained that seat until September of 2021 when she was appointed to the Senate seat in LD30. Terán is seeking the Senate seat in LD26 in this election cycle. Terán did not respond to our survey despite repeated contacts.

Here's what Terán told us in 2020: "I think we need to regulate and tax and make sure we are not penalizing people for consumption of marijuana."

In 2018, Terán told the AZ Central: "Yes, we must regulate and tax Marijuana. It has the potential to create a large commercial sector that could grow the economy and provide jobs for the people

in Arizona. Secondly it will provide a large flow of tax revenue that may help with the much needed revenue that is critical to fund social services and transportation. Third, for far too long people have been criminalized for using cannabis, thus creating a large pool of people with criminal records which makes it harder for them to find jobs, homes, and basically causing them to become second class citizens."

Terán is always willing to meet with us either for our lobby weeks or to discuss specific bills. She is incredibly supportive of our efforts and has even mentioned Arizona NORML on the floor of the Senate. Lastly, she met with us to discuss HB2050 this session and voted yes on the bill.

State Senate LD27

(R) Jamie Kelly: I

Kelly is a first-time legislative candidate who worked in human resources with DPS and has been focused on non-profit and organizational leadership as well as policy development. Despite repeated contacts, Kelly did not respond to our survey. Sadly, our research yielded nothing regarding Kelly and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate her.

(R) Anthony Kern: F

Kern was first elected to a House seat in LD20 in 2014 and held the seat until losing it in 2020. He is seeking the Senate seat in LD27 this election cycle. Unsurprisingly, Kern did not respond to our survey despite myriad efforts to contact him.

Since Kern was not in the legislature over the last two years, here's what we had to say about him in our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide: "Kern has been hostile to cannabis and has been known to make disparaging remarks relative to cannabis in committee hearings. In fact, here's what Arizona NORML had to say about him in our 2018 General Election Candidate Guide: "During HR1820 (the testing bill) Kern used his speeches to belittle and insult cannabis medical patients. His votes on the testing bill aside, Kern needs educating." In the ivoterguide, Kern strongly disagreed with supporting the legalization of marijuana. As chairman of the House Rules Committee, Kern has the capacity to stymie cannabis-related bills by not allowing them to pass through the committee. In 2019, the legislature tried to fix the statute discrepancies between the definitions of marijuana and cannabis in response to the Jones Case. That effort resulted in HB2149. Kern was opposed to HB2149 and was quoted in Filter as to why: "I went to go get my haircut and they're right next to one of these dispensaries, said Republican Representative Anthony Kern, when justifying his vote. The people cutting my hair were talking about the clientele outside the dispensary, the fact that they're getting more and more crimes being committed in that parking lot. They're afraid to come out of their job. Tweaking the definition does a disservice to public safety, and a disservice to our constituents.""

Kern is fully deserving of his grade as he is truly an enemy to cannabis.

(D) Brittani Barraza: I

Barraza did not submit a campaign website, phone number or email in the Secretary of State listings so we were unable to contact her. Barraza is running as a write-in candidate for the Senate seat in LD27 and she appears to be a first-time legislative candidate. Sadly, we were unable to unearth anything relative to Barraza and cannabis-related issues in our research so we cannot rate her at this time.

State Senate LD28

(R) Clair Van Steenwyk: D

Van Steenwyk is a radio host and perennial candidate who first ran unsuccessfully in 2012 for a House seat in LD13. He also ran unsuccessfully for the United States Senate seat that year. He then unsuccessfully ran for a House seat in LD08 in 2014. He was back in 2016 for an unsuccessful attempt at the United States Senate and returned again in 2018 for an unsuccessful run at the Senate seat in LD22. He also ran unsuccessfully in 2018 in a special primary election for the United States House seat in CD8. Lastly, he was unsuccessful in a bid for Maricopa County Recorder in 2020. Van Steenwyk is back this year with a run for the Senate seat in LD28.

Van Steenwyk responded to our survey and was in disagreement that fairer competition would enhance the legal market and he strongly disagreed to the addition of small business ownership and craft licensing. Steenwyk did agree that cannabis has medicinal value and that the cost of medical marijuana cards should be reduced but he disagreed that Autism Spectrum Disorder should be added to the list of qualifying conditions. Van Steenwyk remained neutral on automatic expungements but he did support enhancing expungement law by adding more non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those types of offenses. Lastly, Van Steenwyk was in agreement that DCS should not penalize anyone who consumed medical marijuana at the behest of a medical professional while pregnant but he disagreed that the mere presence of THC metabolites should not be used as the sole indicator of impairment.

In addition to responding to our survey, Van Steenwyk submitted the following comments: "Science is proving that THC is harmful to the Brain, and I believe that we must have more studies and Stop the disbursement of it until proven to be safe and especially damaging to Teens." Last time we checked, adult-use marijuana was only legal to those 21 years of age and older in Arizona.

(R) Frank Carroll: F

[Carroll](#) first won a House seat in LD22 in 2018 and he has maintained that seat until today. He is seeking the Senate seat in LD28 this election cycle. Despite repeated attempts at contact, Carroll did not respond to our survey.

Here's what we had to say about Carroll in our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide: "In 2018, Carroll told CAP that he is a no on legalization. Carroll showed his true colors in the 2020 legislative session by co-sponsoring the repugnant HCR2045 (the bill that sought a 2% THC cap in the medical marijuana program) and HCR2044. HCR2044 sought to raid money from the medical marijuana fund and use it to fund mental health and substance abuse treatment beds in the State Department of Corrections."

Carroll has refused to meet with us over the last two years in the legislature. His unwillingness to respond to our survey and his flip to a no vote on HB2050 on reconsideration leaves us no choice but to grade him based on past history.

(D) David Sandoval: I

[Sandoval](#) is a local business owner who was first elected to the Peoria Unified School District Governing Board in 2016 and he was reelected to serve on that board in 2020. This first-time legislative candidate did not respond to our survey despite repeated contacts. Sadly, we were unable to uncover anything relative to Sandoval and cannabis-related issues in our research so we cannot rate him at his time.

State Senate LD29

(R) Ryan Eldridge: I

[Eldridge](#) works in the security industry and first ran unsuccessfully as a write-in candidate for the Senate seat in LD21 in 2020. He returns this year with a run at the Senate seat in LD29. Unfortunately, our research did not find anything relative to Eldridge and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate him at this time.

(R) Janae Shamp: I

[Shamp](#) is a registered nurse and first-time legislative candidate. Despite myriad emails, Shamp did not respond to our survey. Sadly, we were unable to find anything relative to Shamp and cannabis-related issues in our research so we simply cannot rate her at this time.

(R) Joanne Osborne: F

[Osborne](#) has served on the Goodyear Planning & Zoning Commission and on the Goodyear City Council. She was first elected to a House seat in LD13 in 2018 and has maintained that seat until

today. She is seeking the Senate seat in LD29 this election cycle. Predictably, Osborne did not respond to our survey despite myriad attempts at contact.

Let's take a look at what we had to say about in our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide: "In the ivoterguide, Osborne was strongly opposed to the legalization of recreational marijuana. This rivals what Arizona NORML said about Osborne in 2018: "Another legalization opposer according to CAP, when asked by AZ Central about legalization, Osborne said, "Absolutely Not."" Let's go for the trifecta by stating that Osborne was also a co-sponsor this year of the loathsome HCR2045 (the bill that sought a 2% THC cap for the medical marijuana program) demonstrating her disdain for the medical marijuana program and patients. That's three strikes against Osborne."

Osborne is a true prohibitionist who has sponsored two woefully bad advertising bills in the last two years of the legislative session. Osborne believes that the legislature has to put guardrails around Prop 207 even though Prop 207 addressed advertising. Osborne is the chair of the House Health and Human Services Committee where she plays gatekeeper with marijuana bills. She has refused to even allow a committee hearing on bills that have sought to add Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions. This year she wouldn't allow the Autism Spectrum Disorder bill to be heard in committee even though it added veterans PTSD to the list of qualifying conditions. We simply cannot fathom being so blinded by your prohibitionist mindset that you can't even support medicinal relief for individuals with debilitating symptoms of Autism Spectrum Disorder or veterans suffering with PTSD. Lastly, Osborne was a no vote twice on HB2050 and she angrily denounced the bill and the process that created it in explaining her vote on the floor.

(D) David Raymer: B

Raymer is a Doctor of Chiropractic who is running as a write-in candidate for the Senate seat in LD29. We could not find a campaign website or related social media platforms for Raymer and he did not respond to our survey. However, Raymer did respond to a Fox 10 Phoenix Facebook post dated November 3rd, 2020 that referenced the victory of Prop 207. Here's what he had to say: "Happy for them and rather have my patients using cannabis than oxycontin or fentanyl which are addictive and deadly."

State Senate LD30

(R) Sonny Borrelli: B

Borrelli first won a House seat in LD05 in 2012 and won the same seat again in 2014. Borrelli then won the Senate seat in LD05 in 2016 and has maintained that seat until today. He is seeking the Senate seat in LD30 this election cycle. Despite repeated contacts, Borrelli did not respond to our survey.

For a historical perspective, here's what we had to say about Borrelli in our General Election Candidate Guide in 2020: "Borrelli did answer our volunteer call and said that he opposes Prop

207 but is not hostile to medical marijuana. Here's what Arizona NORML had to say about Borrelli in our General Election Candidate Guide in 2018: "Despite a strong anti-legalization stance, Borrelli has emerged as a leading GOP reformer on medical cannabis issues, pushing through the 2018 hemp bill and working every year on an unsuccessful bill that would have established testing standards for the industry. Post primary, Sen. Borrelli has again confirmed that he is planning another robust reform agenda for improving the medical marijuana program and has bills in the works for the 2019 session.""

We continued: "Borrelli certainly was true to his word in 2019. He was the prime sponsor of SB1003 (which dealt with industrial hemp licensing), SB1024 (which dealt with the reporting of sales data by dispensaries), SB1137 (which dealt with medical marijuana and prohibited chemicals) and SB1138 (which sought to allow medical marijuana cards to last for two years and reduced the fees for the cards). Borrelli also co-sponsored HB2273 (which dealt with industrial hemp licensing) and SB1222 (which dealt with dispensary inspections). Borrelli came back in 2020 with similar bills relative to hemp and the medical marijuana program. While Borrelli is opposed to Prop 207, his work has been prolific in the Senate relative to hemp and medical marijuana."

Borrelli has not met with us in the last two legislative sessions. Since he is running unopposed, we'd like to be able to work more with Borrelli in the upcoming legislative sessions. We do appreciate his support and yes vote on HB2050 recently in the Senate.

Arizona Governor

(R) Patrick Finerd: F

Finerd is a security professional who first ran as a write-in candidate for the Arizona Corporation Commission in 2020. He is running this year for Governor as a write-in candidate as well. We could not find a campaign website or social medial platform regarding Finerd's campaign. Finerd did respond to our survey and was neutral on both fairer competition and small business ownership in the legal market. He remained neutral on whether there are acceptable medical uses for cannabis and reducing medical marijuana card costs while fully supporting the addition of Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions. Sadly, Finerd was in strong disagreement relative to automatic expungements, enhancing expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and defelonizing those offenses. Finally, Finerd remained neutral on DCS penalizing those individuals who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the recommendation of a medical professional but vehemently supported using the mere presence of THC metabolites as the sole indicator of impairment.

(R) Kari Lake: F

Lake is a former anchor for Fox 10 News in Phoenix who is running for Governor this election cycle. Despite myriad contacts, Lake did not respond to our survey. In 2018, Lake tried to conflate the Red for Ed Movement with the legalization of marijuana. In an azcentral.com article entitled "Local news anchor Kari Lake apologizes for tweet that #RedforEd is a cover to legalize pot" that appeared on May 1st, 2018, Lake's tweet and Facebook posts were exposed.

Here's the tweet: "What did I say?! #RedForED is nothing more than a push to legalize pot. Check this out. T-Shirts are already printed!! This is a big push to legalize pot and to make it more savory by tossing teachers a bone with a substantial raise. "IHateTheDishonesty"

Here's the Facebook post: "How much Legalize-Pot $$ is being poured into Red For Ed? Or are the legalize-pot-folks just piggybacking on the teacher pay issue? Either way, it seems unsavory"

We find Lake's tweet and Facebook post unsavory. Even though Lake deleted the posts and apologized after receiving a rather large amount of blowback, we can't help but to think that this is how she truly feels. Both cannabis consumers and teachers should be equally offended by her inanity.

(R) Scott Neely: I

Neely is a small business owner who is a first-time election candidate running for Arizona Governor. Neely did not respond to our survey despite myriad attempts at contact. Unfortunately, our research did not yield anything relative to Neely and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate him at this time.

(R) Karrin Taylor Robson: F

Robson is an Arizona business leader who is the Founder and President of Arizona Strategies. Despite many contacts, Robson did not respond to our survey.

Here's what Robson had to say in her opposition to legalization via Prop 207: "I love Arizona. I was born and raised here, and I've spent much of my life working to make our state the best it can be. As a mother, business owner, and member of the Arizona Board of Regents, I'm voting NO on the initiative to legalize recreational marijuana. It will harm our kids and limit our future potential. Arizonans believe in creating a strong education system for our kids. Studies show that in states that have legalized recreational marijuana, teen use increases. And when our teens use, they'll be at risk for damage to brain development that results when marijuana use begins before the brain has fully developed – which doesn't normally happen until age 25. Damages from adolescent marijuana use can include loss of IQ, decreased learning skills and attention spans, as well as other mental impairments. Plus there are the more significant mental health risks about which we are still learning. We need our kids at their best. Marijuana stunts their potential and puts them at greater risk for long-term dependence. That's reason enough to oppose this initiative. There will be other negative impacts to Arizona. The initiative will weaken our current DUI law, put businesses at odds with federal law, create a monopoly for the marijuana dispensaries who wrote and funded the initiative, and prohibit our cities and towns from banning retail pot shops – just to name a few. This is bad policy for Arizona and dangerous for our kids. Let's keep our future bright

for Arizona and for our kids. Join me in voting NO. Karrin Taylor Robson, Founder & President, Arizona Strategies, Phoenix"

We've heard enough and will rate Robson accordingly.

(R) Paola Tulliana-Zen: I

Tulliana-Zen has a background in business and business ownership. She is a first-time candidate running for Arizona Governor. Despite myriad contacts, Tulliana-Zen did not respond to our survey. Unfortunately, we couldn't find anything relative to Tulliana-Zen and cannabis-related issues in our research so we cannot rate her at this time.

(R) Carlos Roldan: I

Roldan is a write-in candidate for Arizona Governor this year. He did not provide a campaign phone number or email in the Secretary of State listings. We could not find a campaign website or related social media platforms for Roldan as well. Lastly, our research did not uncover anything relative to Roldan and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate him at this time.

(R) Alex Schatz: I

Schatz is a write-in candidate for Arizona Governor this year. He did not provide a campaign phone number or email in the Secretary of State listings. We could not find a campaign website or related social media platforms for Schatz as well. Lastly, our research did not uncover anything relative to Schatz and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate him at this time.

(D) Katie Hobbs: C+

Hobbs first won a House seat in LD15 in 2010. She returned in 2012 to win the Senate seat in LD24 and she was reelected to that seat in 2014 and 2106. Hobbs then won Secretary of State in 2018 and has held that position until today. She is back this year running for Arizona Governor. Despite repeated contacts, Hobbs did not respond to our survey. We'll take a brief historical look at Hobbs by sharing with you what Arizona NORML had to say about Hobbs in 2018: "As a leading Democratic senator, Hobbs has had numerous opportunities to support reforms and the cannabis industry. While she says she supports the idea of medical marijuana and signed on to other's legislation, she has yet to take an active role."

It is important to recognize that this review of Hobbs occurred after she had already served 7 years in the legislature.

On November 9th, 2020, Jeremy Duda tweeted this: "Following the passage of Prop 207, the Maricopa County Attorney's Office will dismiss all pending and unfiled marijuana and paraphernalia possession charges." Hobbs tweeted this response: "This is a really big deal."

Unfortunately, we couldn't find anything else in our research relative to Hobbs and cannabis-related issues. Given the importance of this Arizona gubernatorial race, we certainly wish Hobbs had responded to our survey so that we could ascertain her current positions. Without those

responses, we'll trust what our colleagues had to say about her in 2018 and maintain her grade from that year but we'll add a + to it given her tweet.

(D) Marco Lopez: B+

Lopez was elected as Mayor of Nogales, Arizona at the age of 21 and served two terms in that capacity. He has also worked in both federal and state government. Lopez is running for governor in this election cycle. Lopez provided us with written answers to each survey question and we truly appreciate him taking the time to offer detailed responses. Instead of a recapitulation of his survey responses, we'll let Lopez answer each question in his own words:

Q1: Promoting fair competition between responsible and licensed businesses is the best way to increase cannabis tax revenues and reign in Arizona's underground market Agree. Competition should be fierce in the cannabis market, in which Arizona has collected $105 million in excise taxes for adult-use cannabis in 2021. The facilitation of fair, yet robust competition enables Arizona to optimize the most revenue Q2: People diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder should have the medical freedom to medicate with cannabis. Agree. Studies from the National Library of Medicine suggest cannabis and related products effectively reduce Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) symptoms. However, the effects of cannabis on children and adolescents remain debatable. Therefore, medical marijuana usage for children and adolescents with ASD requires more conclusive research. Q3: Individuals should not be convicted of driving under the influence if the only evidence of impairment is THC metabolites in their system. This question requires further study and consideration. Q4: Expungement laws should be expanded to include more non-violent cannabis offenses. Strongly Agree. Proposition 207 effectively decriminalized cannabis use and possession in the state of Arizona. Convictions of non-violent cannabis offenses are a great disability for Arizonans, especially in employment. The passage of Arizona H.B. 2102 makes it possible for Arizonans convicted of certain marijuana-related offenses to have their records expunged. Q5: Expungement should be automatic. Strongly Agree. Unfortunately, Arizonans eligible for expungement do not file a petition due to the additional steps and lack of information. Therefore, expungements for non-violent, low-level cannabis offenses should be automatic. Q6: Pregnant medical marijuana patients who consume cannabis at the direction of a medical professional, who knows they are pregnant, should not be penalized by the Department of Child Services This question requires further study and consideration. Q7: There are accepted medical uses for marijuana. Strongly Agree. Numerous studies have shown the promising benefits of medical marijuana. Q8: Non-violent cannabis offenses should not qualify as felonies, with the exception of certain DUIS and offenses with children. Strongly Agree. The decriminalization of marijuana should not qualify non-violent cannabis offenses as felonies. Q9: The government's fee for issuing a medical marijuana card should be no greater than the actual cost of processing applications. Agree. A government's fee can disproportionately disqualify low-income Arizonans who deserve medical care and treatment, which must include medical marijuana. 10: Specific craft licenses should be more available to diversify the market and promote small businesses ownership. Agree. Specific craft licenses empower the cannabis businesses and enable Arizona to yield more revenue.

(L) Barry Hess: B

The link to Hess's website was broken and we couldn't find any social media platforms related to his current campaign. Hess is a perennial candidate who is a write-in this cycle for Arizona Governor. Because he is a Libertarian, he will only compete in the general election. Hess ran unsuccessfully for the United States Senate in 2000 and 2018 and ran four times for Governor in 2002, 2006, 2010, 2014. He also unsuccessfully ran for United States President in 2008.

Hess responded to our survey and strongly disagreed that fairer competition would enhance the legal market and help to generate more tax revenue. However, he was neutral on whether the market should be expanded to include craft licenses and small business ownership. Hess recognizes the medicinal value of cannabis and was strongly supportive of adding Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of qualifying conditions and decreasing medical marijuana card costs. Hess fully supported automatic expungements and enhancing current expungement law to include more non-violent cannabis offenses and he agreed that those types of offenses should be defelonized. Finally, Hess was adamant that DCS should not penalize any individual who consumed medical marijuana while pregnant at the direction of a medical professional and strongly agreed that the mere presence of THC metabolites should not be used as the sole indicator of impairment.

Hess offered the following comments in addition to his survey responses: "I thought this was a cannabis activist group. I had to agree to some questions, but my position has always been about bodily autonomy. Each individual alone has the right to do to; or put into; their body what they decide. Of course, I also maintain that each individual is 100% responsible for the actions their bodies may take. I do not believe cannabis should be regulated at all, and not taxed, either. It needs to be completely decriminalized, and wiped off the books. Businesses should all be free to organize and compete, regardless of the industry. The idea of begging for 'licenses' is repugnant to anyone who believes in individual liberty."

Arizona Attorney General

(R) Lacy Cooper: D

Cooper began her career as the Deputy County Attorney in Gila County and she has worked as a federal prosecutor and a border security section chief in the United States Attorney's Office. Despite myriad attempts at contact, Cooper did not respond to our survey.

Cooper appears to want to rein in the initiative process in Arizona which brought us both the AMMA in 2010 on Prop 207 in 2020. In an article entitled "Arizona Attorney General Candidate Lacy Cooper Calls for Ballot Initiative Reform" which appeared in the Tennessee Star on September 22nd, 2021, Cooper apparently didn't like that Prop 207 passed: "Cooper also pointed to out-of-state lobbying by groups to influence the outcome of the election. In the previous election cycle, thousands of dollars flowed into the state to support the passage of Proposition 207, which allowed for the legalization of recreational marijuana. "That's exactly what I'm saying. Ballot initiatives create almost untouchable laws so they should require more than a mere majority of voters to pass, especially constitutional amendments. Additional

protections will prevent out-of-state lobbying firms from hijacking AZ elections," Cooper concluded on the potential reform.""

It sure seems like Cooper doesn't really trust voters to create law when our legislators fail to do so. We also sense a prohibitionist tinge with the rhetoric around Prop 207. Without clarity from survey responses, we'll grade Cooper accordingly.

(R) Rodney Glassman: D-

Glassman was elected to the Tucson City Council at the age of 29. He ran unsuccessfully for United States Senate in 2010. Glassman then ran unsuccessfully in 2018 for the Arizona Corporation Committee. He returned with an unsuccessful bid for the Maricopa County Assessor in 2020. Glassman is now seeking the position of Arizona Attorney General. Despite repeated contacts, Glassman did not respond to our survey.

Sadly, our research did not uncover anything relative to Glassman and cannabis-related issues. However, we had this to say about Glassman in our 2018 Candidate Guide: "A doctor, a lawyer, an officer, a millionaire and even former US Senate candidate, Glassman uniquely combines the arrogance and condescension of the most obnoxious examples of any of those fields. A Democrat in the 2010 elections, now running as a "Conservative Trump Republican," Glassman could claim to have any position, but who could trust him to stick to it." Without survey responses for clarity, we'll trust the organizational perspective of Glassman in 2018 and maintain his grade from that year.

(R) Andrew Gould: I

Gould was first appointed by Governor Hull to a seat on the Yuma County Superior Court in 2001 and served there until 2011. In 2006, Guild was appointed as Presiding Judge for Yuma County. In 2012, Gould was then appointed by Governor Brewer as a Judge to the Arizona Court of Appeals. Lastly, in 2016, Gould was appointed as a Justice to the Arizona Supreme Court and he was retained in 2020. Gould is now running for Arizona Attorney General. Despite repeated contacts, Gould did not respond to our survey. While we are grateful that Gould did join in the opinion of the Court in the Jones case in 2019, that does not give us insight into his personal stances regarding cannabis-related issues. We just don't feel comfortable rating Gould based on one court decision that we supported without any other information on him.

(R) Dawn Grove: D

Grove is a manufacturing executive and attorney who is running for office for the first time this year. Despite myriad contacts, Grove did not respond to our survey. Here's what Grove had to say about the legalization effort in 2018: "Regardless of your thoughts on marijuana usage, please join the Arizona Manufacturers Council in opposing this ill-conceived proposition. The proposition enshrines rights for recreational marijuana users beyond those any other state provides, requiring new rights for a special class of recreational marijuana users, even if these new rights conflict with other local, state or federal laws. It contains no opt-out provision for manufacturers that have federal contracts or are subject to federal workplace drug-free laws. This creates a legal

impossibility for such manufacturers to comply with federal and state laws and will incentivize manufacturers to leave Arizona. This proposition also handcuffs manufacturers' ability to provide safe workplaces while hamstringing employers with additional expenses and unreasonable liabilities. The stakes are high in manufacturing, which often involves heavy machinery, scorching temperatures and metal cutting. A study published by the American Medical Association noted that workers who test positive for marijuana use have 55% more industrial accidents and 85% more injuries. Moreover, this proposition forces the employer to prove liability against itself before the employer may take any adverse action against an impaired employee to protect its workforce. Employers will only be able to take adverse action against a marijuana-using employee if the employee is impaired on the job and takes an action that would "constitute negligence or professional malpractice." Impairment alone would be hard for an employer to prove given the lack of accepted standards and tests available to determine marijuana impairment. Making an employer prove that its employee was negligent before it may take any adverse action against the employee robs the employer of its ability to prevent workplace injuries and ensures its liability for damages once the injury occurs—a win-win for trial attorneys, and a lose-lose for Arizona. Dawn Grove Chairman Arizona Manufacturers Council"

Without survey responses to ascertain Grove's opinions today, we'll rate her on the preceding missive.

(R) Abraham Hamadeh: I

Hamadeh is an intelligence officer in the United States Army Reserve and is a former prosecutor with the Maricopa County Attorney's Office. Unfortunately, Hamadeh did not respond to our survey despite repeated contacts. Our research was unable to uncover anything relative to Hamadeh and cannabis-related issues so we cannot rate him at this time.

(R) Tiffany Shedd: C-

Shedd has a cotton and wheat farm in Eloy. She is also a small business attorney and firearms instructor. She ran unsuccessfully for the Congressional seat in District 1 in 2018 and 2020. Despite myriad contacts, Shedd did not respond to our survey. Here's what we had to say about Shedd in our 2020 General Election Candidate Guide: "Shedd did respond to a 2018 Vote Smart Survey where she stated that she does not support the legalization of marijuana for recreational purposes. She also remarked that the issue is reserved for the states to decide. Oddly, Shedd does seem to support hemp. Here's what an article updated on September 10, 2020 in the Tri-Valley Dispatch had to say: "Tiffany Shedd, a farmer and attorney in Arizona City, is among those excited about the potential benefits hemp could bring to farmers, especially during a period of economic uncertainty in the agricultural industry. Shedd ran for the Congressional District 1 seat in the 2018 election but was defeated in the Republican primary. "I think it's a great idea," she said. "We've got some really smart people going forward with it. I think it will be a widespread crop here. I'm absolutely open to growing it.""

Without survey responses this year to ascertain Shedd's current views, we rate her as we did in 2020.

(D) Kris Mayes: I

Mayes was appointed to the Arizona Corporation Commission in 2003 and maintained that seat until she was term-limited in 2010. Since then, she has worked as a senior sustainability scientist at ASU's School of Global Sustainability. Despite repeated contacts, Mayes did not respond to our survey. Unfortunately, our research did not yield anything relative to Mayes and cannabis-related issues so we simply cannot rate her at this time.

(LBT) Michael Kielsky: B

Kielsky is an attorney who ran unsuccessfully for a House seat in LD25 in 2014 and did not make the ballot for Attorney General in 2018. He returns this year for a run at Arizona Attorney General. Kielsky responded to our survey and remained neutral on both enhancing fairer competition in the legal market as well as promoting craft licenses and small business ownership. While he strongly agreed to the medicinal value of cannabis and that Autism Spectrum Disorder should be added to the list of qualifying conditions, he remained neutral on reducing medical marijuana card costs. Kielsky expressed full support for automatic expungements and that more non-violent cannabis offenses should be added to existing expungement law. However, he remained neutral on the defelonization of those types of offenses. Lastly, Kielsky was adamant that DCS should not penalize anyone who consumed medical marijuana at the recommendation of a medical professional while pregnant and he strongly agreed that the mere presence of THC metabolites should not be used as the sole indicator of impairment.

Kielsky seemed to contradict some of his neutrality relative to the survey questions with the following comments that he offered: "There should be no taxation, licensing, or regulation at all, of any kind, and all possession, whether 1/3 oz. or 300 pounds should never be a crime. I don't disagree that a taxed, licensed, and regulated MJ market is far better than criminalizing MJ, but let's not accept the lesser evil as good. Promoting fair competition between responsible and unregulated businesses is the best way to increase cannabis access to those who want it and reign in Arizona's underground market. Non-violent cannabis offenses should not qualify as felonies. Crimes against children or other serious offenses should be treated as those crimes, regardless of any nexus to MJ. There should be no government fee for issuing a medical marijuana card, there should be no need for a medical marijuana card, but if one must exist, the fee should be significantly less that any cost of processing applications. There should be no need for specific craft licenses -- free the market completely to diversify the market and promote small business ownership. If that is not achievable, specific craft licenses should be widely available for specific activities like cultivation, product manufacturing, and infused food products, at no or very low cost."