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COMPLETE

Page 1: Welcome to the 2020 Legislative Candidate Survey

Q1

Name & District

Name	Douglas Ervin
Legislative District	20
Office Sought	State Senator

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Q3

The COVID-19 pandemic has created an economic crisis with many Arizonans losing their jobs or dealing with a reduction in income. What strategies would you support to help Arizona workers and families recover from this economic crisis?

Increase Arizona’s weekly unemployment benefit (which at \$240 is the second-lowest in the U.S.) to closer to the national average of \$490 per week.

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Eliminate barriers to enrolling in and maintaining food support benefits through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

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Replenish and create a designated funding source for the Housing Trust Fund to assist low-income residents and those at risk of eviction or experiencing homelessness.

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Increase state-funded childcare subsidies to enable more parents to return to the workforce.

Q4

Yes

When the new legislature convenes in January, it is very likely lawmakers will be facing a significant revenue shortfall in order to maintain current ongoing funding of state government. If that is the case, would you support raising new revenue by raising taxes or reversing past tax cuts – like previous tax cuts for corporations or the wealthy – in order to avoid making budget cuts to things like public education, healthcare and other priorities?

Q5

Which of the following do you support to create a fairer tax code for all Arizonans?

Repealing targeted, special interest sales tax exemptions for certain luxury items like country club memberships, fine art to out of state purchasers, and private jets.

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Enable legislators to evaluate whether tax credits are providing the desired return on investment by requiring corporations who claim tax credits to provide sufficient information on the jobs and economic benefits they are providing in exchange for the tax credit.

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Increase the minimum corporate tax that large corporations must pay no matter how many tax breaks they claim from \$50 to \$500 (73% of Arizona corporations currently pay \$50 or less in state income taxes).

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Establish one formula for determining how multistate corporate income is taxed rather than allowing corporations to choose the formula which results in paying the least (Arizona is the only state in the country that allows this).

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Repeal the special tax treatment individual taxpayers receive on long-term capital gains which an analysis shows that 83 percent of the benefits of this tax break went to the top 5 percent of wealthiest incomes in Arizona.

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Requiring a sunset date for all new tax credits and sales tax exemptions to require the legislature to review each tax break every five years to evaluate whether Arizona is receiving the desired return-on-investment for the tax giveaway.

Q6

The effects of discrimination against Black, Latino and American Indians have lingered and manifested as racial inequalities in Arizona's economy today. What steps would you take as a state lawmaker to create a more racially equitable and inclusive economy? (500 words or less)

As a tutor for 2nd graders at a local public school, I have seen the results of inequities in education funding that diverts money to affluent communities. I will work to adjust the formula so all students can get a great education.

I am committed to implementing policies that will help us build trust, transparency, and equality in our community by working together. I will make sure we are listening to communities that need to be heard and instituting reforms such as de-escalation training, expanded use of body cameras, and having an outside independent group review deadly use of force cases.

Q7

Please share what your priorities will be as a state lawmaker to strengthen Arizona's workforce and economy so that all Arizonans have better opportunities to move up the economic ladder? (500 words or less)

Education – restore fiscal responsibility to our state government, so that we properly fund our schools to inspire students, support teachers, respect all educators, create jobs, and grow our economy. This includes pre-K childcare, K-12 public schools, enhanced summer programs, after-the-bell programs, community colleges, universities, and trade schools. The necessary revenue will be generated without putting the burden on working families.

Economic Development / Environment – invest in clean renewable energy sources, advanced technologies, and statewide smart infrastructure projects that will create a 21st-century economy that works for all Arizonans.

Healthcare / Equality – Ratify the Equal Rights Amendment, improve our healthcare system by expanding access to quality affordable care, protect human rights, improve voter access, and defend worker rights - all to ensure everyone has an equal opportunity to thrive.
