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COMPLETE

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Q1

Name

Brianna Westbrook

Q2

What race are you running in? (LD? House? Senate?)

State Representative District 5

Q3

Email

brianna@votebrianna.com

Q4

Respondent skipped this question

Phone Number

Q5

Children who have year-round health insurance do better in school, are more likely to graduate from high school, are healthier, and earn more in adulthood. There are approximately 161,000 uninsured children in Arizona. If elected, how would you help ensure that all children and families have access to the health care that they need?

In our country, no family should worry about whether or not they can afford the health care their children need. That is why I am committed to expanding AHCCCS and protecting KidsCare and ALTCS. These programs provide essential health care services for children and families who would otherwise be unable to afford them. I will fight to make sure that all children and families have access to the health care they need, regardless of their income. Additionally, I will work to improve the quality of care provided by these programs so that all Arizonans can receive the high-quality health care they deserve. Finally, I will work to ensure that these programs are sustainable in the long term to continue to provide vital health care services for generations to come.

Q6

We know that a child's earliest years, birth to age 8, are the most important for the development of their brains. High-quality early childhood experiences can enhance that development. How can the state take a role in helping parents give their children the best start in life?

Every child deserves a fair chance at success in life, and it is the responsibility of the state to ensure that all children have the opportunity to reach their full potential. One of the best ways the state can help parents give their children a head start in life is by investing in early childhood education. High-quality early childhood education programs have been shown to have a positive impact on cognitive development, social skills, and future earnings potential. In addition, the state can also provide support for parents through initiatives such as paid family leave and affordable child care. By taking these steps, we can give all children a fair shot at a bright future.

Q7

Many families in Arizona are struggling. Housing is becoming increasingly unaffordable, nearly one in four children live in poverty, and resources that used to be available to help families are no longer there. Research shows that when access to safety net resources are low, foster care populations are high. What is your plan to help children and families get the resources and services they need to keep them out of the child welfare system?

Every year, hundreds of thousands of children enter the child welfare system. Many of these children come from families struggling to make ends meet. They often lack the resources and support they need to thrive. As a result, their chances of success in life are greatly diminished. We must do everything we can to break this cycle of poverty and despair. That is why I believe we must provide a universal basic income for children aging out of the foster system. This will ensure that these young people have the resources to start their lives on a path to success. Additionally, we must fully fund social services so that all Arizonans can get the help they need. When we invest in our children and families, we build a stronger and more prosperous state.

Q8

Arizona has been among the bottom states in per pupil K-12 funding for the past decade which has resulted in severe challenges including teacher shortages, crowded classrooms, and insufficient student support services. How will you ensure that students in every neighborhood have access to quality, well-funded education in Arizona?

To ensure that every student in Arizona has access to quality, well-funded education, I will be fighting to ensure that our state's education system is equitably funded. Our students deserve nothing less. We must also work to reduce class sizes, provide support for our teachers, and expand access to preschool and after-school programs. Additionally, we need to do more to support our public schools and invest in our future by making college tuition-free. Our students should not be saddled with debt in order to obtain a higher education. We can achieve these goals by working together and demanding that our elected officials make education a priority. Every child in Arizona deserves the opportunity to succeed. Let's ensure they have the tools they need to reach their full potential.

Q9

Arizona's elected leaders have created a tax code that is upside down and regressive— meaning that those with low incomes pay a much higher share of their income in taxes compared to Arizona's highest income earners. If elected, what will you do to make sure that wealthy and corporations pay their share of taxes?

It is time for the wealthiest corporations in this state to start paying their fair share of taxes. For too long, they have been using loopholes and tax breaks to avoid contributing their fair share, leaving the rest of us to pick up the slack. I will work to close those loopholes and make sure that corporations pay their fair share. We need to invest in our infrastructure and our people, which starts with making sure that everyone pays their fair share. The time for corporate welfare is over. It's time to level the playing field and make sure that the rich and powerful pay their fair share.

Q10

As the cost of living is rising faster than wages in Arizona, many households are struggling to afford basic needs. If elected, what are three ways that you will improve economic well-being for Arizonans?

As a long-time advocate for working families, I believe we must do everything we can to improve the economic well-being of Arizonans. One way we can do this is by advocating for universal healthcare. Healthcare is a right, not a privilege, and no one should choose between paying their medical bills and putting food on the table. In addition, we must raise the state's minimum wage. The current minimum wage of \$12.80 an hour is simply not enough to live on, and workers deserve a livable wage. Finally, we must advocate for affordable housing policies designed to help families. Too many Arizonans are one major illness or job loss away from being homeless, and we must do everything we can to prevent this from happening. By taking these steps, we can improve the economic well-being of all Arizonans.
