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2016 Candidate Survey Results

Name: Ralph Atchue
Office Sought: Arizona Senate District: 11 Status: Challenger Party: Democratic
Website: www.AtchueforSenate.com
Previous Public Office(s):
Occupation: Retired U.S.P.S. Letter Carrier to Postmaster
Education: AA
Accepting PAC Contributions: Yes
Are you interested in an endorsement: Yes

SURVEY QUESTIONS:

1) If elected, what are your top three priorities for 2017-2018?

Answer: 1. Tax policy that ensures everyone pays their fair share. That includes a stop to high income tax cuts and a complete review of loopholes making sure those that do not serve the state's economic growth are eliminated. 2. Increased funding of public education (in line with AZ's constitutional requirements) and infrastructure projects such as road and bridge repair and expansion. 3. Election and political processes that are clean, open, transparent and accountable. This includes protecting the democratic participation of voters and municipalities.

2) Do you support eliminating the HURF transfers to DPS and other non-road construction and maintenance purposes?

Answer: Yes

Comments: Fiscal policies that rob Peter to pay Paul are short sighted and cause more problems than they fix.

3) Do you support the continued use of bona fide independent contractors in the trucking industry and oppose efforts by state and local governments to reclassify owner-operators as employees?

Answer: Yes

Comments:

4a) Do you support the conversion of our existing infrastructure into toll roads?

Answer: No

4b) Do you support the use of toll roads for construction of new infrastructure?

Answer: No

Comments: If the tolls are for a specified time period only, I could support them. However, my position is that since we all share in the benefits of infrastructure improvement, we should all share in it's cost. That is why I support tax policies that ensure we all pay our fair share.

5) On a scale of one to ten (one being low), how important do you believe transportation infrastructure (roads and highways) is to the success of the Arizona's economy?

Answer: 10

Comments: The economic health and growth of the state is dependent on transportation infrastructure. Every product is on a truck at some point and people need to be able to get to and from work and shopping on safe and accessible roads.

6) Do you support exploring options to increase revenues for transportation funding through either taxes or fees?

Answer: Yes, I think the legislature needs to increase taxes or fees to raise revenue for road infrastructure.

Comments: To ignore the need to pay for such projects is short sighted and dangerous. State government, cities, citizen groups and industry partners need to work together to address current and future needs and find the best ways to fund those projects.

7) Do you support or oppose the "Regulate Marijuana Like Alcohol" ballot proposition?

Answer: I support the marijuana proposition.

Comments: My support extends to what the voters of Arizona approve via ballot initiative.

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