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## 2016 Candidate Survey Results

Name: Nikki Bagley

Office Sought: Arizona Senate

District: 6

Status: Challenger

Party: Democratic

Website: www.nikkiforAZsenate.com

Previous Public Office(s): Mayor and Councilwoman: Jerome, AZ

Occupation: Director of Viticulture

Education: BA in Agriculture, AAS in Agriculture

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:** Education – our economic future depends on the availability of a quality education for all Arizonans. We must prepare students for a future that is being rapidly transformed by science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. That begins by making a commitment to properly fund our public schools. Creating an environment that fosters job creation – I understand that government at large does not stand to broadly create jobs. However, government can create an environment in which private businesses can flourish. Economic growth begins with investing in education, nurturing small businesses, and keeping Arizona attractive for families and new businesses. In a time when change happens fast, our legislature isn't keeping up with the needs of emerging businesses. I want to see the state prioritize legislation that removes unnecessary red tape for small businesses, entrepreneur's, and emerging industries that create jobs and a diverse economy for Arizona. Infrastructure - Investing in Arizona's infrastructure is critical to commerce. According to my research, fewer than 50% of Arizona's future roadway needs can be addressed with our expected baseline revenues. The state can do more to insure that the proper resources are allocated to our highways, roads, and bridges. Having a viable transportation system is key in keeping and attracting businesses to this state and I will work to make it a priority in the state budget. I will also work to put a plan in place to fund the completion of I-11 along with improving our ports of entry to ensure that international commerce and trade have a safe and streamlined, keeping Arizona competitive with neighboring states.

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

**Answer:** Yes

**Comments:** As mayor of Jerome, I worked heavily on this issue with the League of Cities and Towns. It continues to be a priority for me. HURF funds must be restored. This is a bi-

partisan issue that needs to be addressed and I would happily be a lead sponsor on a bill to do so.

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:** I myself worked for many years as an independent contractor as a vineyard manager and also held my class A truck driving license to deliver grapes to wineries during harvest season. I see the importance of this sector and will support them when elected.

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:** YesNo

**Comments:** This question for me yields a yes and no answer. In territorial days, Arizona began building our initial infrastructure via toll roads. It is a way to move forward with the construction of new roads when other options are difficult to find and I cannot outright oppose this method. However, transportation infrastructure benefits the entire state by supporting our economy and my first priority would be to find ways to fund this new construction through the state. The gasoline tax simply must be indexed for inflation and efficiencies made by the car industry. I support indexing the gasoline tax while leaving the diesel tax alone so as not to negatively impact Arizona's export industries.

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:** Education stands to be the most limiting factor in growing Arizona's economy but transportation infrastructure is right behind it in importance. It is an integral piece of keeping our state competitive and we have some large strides to make in order to keep up. I am willing to make infrastructure a key priority when elected to the state senate.

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:** As mentioned earlier, I support indexing the gas tax among other possible initiatives to properly fund transportation funding. This work benefits all Arizonans and must be a state funding priority.

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

**Answer:** I oppose the marijuana proposition.

**Comments:** Though I can understand that there are some possible opportunities to increase safety through regulation, I see far more problems and safety concerns with the legalization of marijuana. I taught substance abuse classes to kids on probation in one of my first jobs and I can see that our youth and young adults would very much be negatively impacted with such a course. If the voters decide to pass such an initiative, I will begin work right away to ensure that our children are guarded and that employers have the right to test their employees for use in sectors where public safety is at hand.

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