

Arizona Trucking Association Candidate Survey 2018

Name: **Mark Finchem**

Office Sought: **Arizona House**

District: **11**

Status: **Incumbent**

Party: **Republican**

Website: **http://www.votefinchem.com**

Previous Office(s): **Representative LD-11**

Education: **1984 AAS- KVCC, 2019 BA- GCU**

Occupation: **Realtor**

Accepting PAC Contributions: **Yes**

Are you interested in an endorsement: **Yes**

5. If elected, what are your top three priorities for 2019-2020?

Answer: Continue the path to solvency with a structurally balanced budget, Conform and Reform the Tax Code to protect the tax reductions that Arizonan's have received on the Federal Income Tax, address deferred maintenance of infrastructure.

6. 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: Reclassification to employees drives innovation and entrepreneurial spirit out of the free market, and I do not support such a move.

7. Do you support the conversion of our existing infrastructure into toll roads?

Answer: No

8. Do you support the use of toll roads for construction of new infrastructure?

Answer: Yes

9. 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: 8

Comments: Transportation capability is the arteries and veins of the economic body, trucks and the people who operate them are the blood cells, without them, the rest doesn't really matter.

10. Currently, alternative fuel vehicles (natural gas and electric) do not pay any taxes or fees for use of the

roads. (i.e. a gas tax substitute) Do you believe that these vehicles should pay something for use of the roads, or do you believe that they should continue to get a discount for using alternative fuels?

Answer: I believe alternative fueled vehicles should pay something for use of the roads.

Comments: It is unreasonable, and poor public policy to subsidize on form of vehicle by others, I believe in an equitable investment by all, electric car owners included.

11. Currently, both the Department of Transportation and the Department of Public Safety have law enforcement officers that specialize in commercial vehicle enforcement. Do you believe Arizona should look at consolidating all truck enforcement activities under the Department of Public Safety?

Answer: Yes, I believe we should look at consolidating ADOT's law enforcement under the DPS.

Comments: I do not support the split, it is just the expansion of government. One bureaucracy can, and should support both.

12. Given the importance of transportation is to our economic success, how would you propose we solve the revenue shortfall needs for transportation?

Answer: I would like to see the complete restructuring of HURF, with focus on what it was originally intended to do, which is repair and rejuvenate roadways. Putting a stop to the damage that "fund sweeps" is a key component to proper management of the resource. I am open to the discussion about how to fund specific projects and improvements on an annual basis, but the outcome must be specific and targeted to maximum effect for the purpose intended.