

Arizona Trucking Association Candidate Survey 2018

Name: **J.D. Mesnard**

Office Sought: **Arizona Senate**

District: **17**

Status: **Incumbent**

Party: **Republican**

Website: **jd@jdmesnard.com**

Previous Office(s): **State Representative**

Education: **MBA, MPA**

Occupation: **Small business owner, professor, et al**

Accepting PAC Contributions: **Yes**

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

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

Answer: Responsible budgeting Tax reform

Education funding plan

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:

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:

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: I support equity as a matter of good public policy, not as a revenue - grabbing strategy.

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:

Comments: Don't yet have an educated opinion or position on this issue.

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

Answer: We need to explore alternative funding strategies because as fuel economies improve infrastructure and road funding levels decline. A miles-driven funding mechanism could be an option, though it does have privacy issues. Still, outside the box thinking is in order at this point.