

Arizona Trucking Association Candidate Survey 2018

Name: **Rick Gray**
 Office Sought: **Arizona Senate** District: **21** Status: **Incumbent** Party: **Republican**
 Website: **www.voterickgray.com**
 Previous Office(s): **House of Representatives**
 Education: **BS**
 Occupation: **Legislator**
 Accepting PAC Contributions: **Yes** Are you interested in an endorsement: **Yes**

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

Answer: I would like to see us move forward in a proactive, strategic way in our Education, Tax Structure and Economic Development.

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: 9

Comments: The Auditor General's report clearly shows the tremendous need we have in Arizona to adequately invest in our roads.

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:

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: This is a critical issue and a financial burden to truckers.

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 am not a proponent of raising the gas tax, but I think we should talk about tying it to inflation so the price doesn't continue to decrease. I also think we need to increase the VLT on electric vehicles so that they are not given an advantage over gas and diesel vehicles.