## AZAGC 2014 Candidate Survey



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### **PAGE 2: Campaign Information**

Q1: Please answer the following contact information Candidate Name: J.D. Mesnard Campaign Committee Name: Elect J.D. Mesnard Campaign Address: 1427 W. Homestead Ct. City/Town: Chandler State: ΑZ ZIP: 85286 Email Address: jd@jdmesnard.com Phone Number: 480-650-4509 State Representative - LD 17 Q2: What elected office are you seeking? Republican Q3: What is your party affiliation? Q4: Campaign Manager and/or Consultant: N/A Manager Consultant N/A J.D. Mesnard Q5: Press and/or Media contact: Q6: Name some of your key business organization endorsements? Endorsements in the past have included the Chandler Chamber of Commerce, Phoenix Chamber of Commerce, Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Small Business Alliance, NFIB, and more.

#### **PAGE 3: Candidate Information**

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Q9: If elected, and you are running for the Arizona Legislature or United States Congress, which committees would you most like to serve (in order of preference) and why?

Commerce Ways & Means

These are the two committees I have served on since being elected (I served as the chair of Commerce in 2012). I prefer them because I am passionate about economic development, ensuring the best business climate that promotes job creation and reforming and simplifying our tax code.

Q10: Would you like us to contact you to make an appointment for an interview to seek our support?

Yes

Q11: Would you be interested in visiting AZAGC member project sites?

Yes

#### **PAGE 4: Policy Questions**

### Q12: What are the greatest challenges for Arizona over the next two to four years?

The greatest challenge continues to be our fiscal picture. The economy is still struggling along and too many people are out of work. The economy must continue to be our priority and focus.

### Q13: What would you do to overcome these challenges?

Continue doing what I have been doing: Advancing tax reform that makes for a more conducive job creation environment for businesses and emphasize education reform that focuses on teacher performance and academic achievement so as to ensure a skilled workforce.

### Q14: Do you understand the relationship between infrastructure and the economy? Please explain.

Infrastructure requires construction; construction means jobs. In addition, having a good road system makes transit easier which is good for a vibrant society. Adequately managing our water resources and planning for the future is especially critical to our long-term economic health since we live in a desert.

Q15: Do you support or oppose government spending for the purposes of investment in public infrastructure (e.g., transportation, water resources, water infrastructure, public facilities, state/local buildings, etc.)?

Support,

Why?

While I don't support spending for the sake of spending, infrastructure is a foundational role of government and so it should be a priority spending item.

Q16: Do you support or oppose raiding the Highway User Revenue Fund (HURF) and Vehicle License Tax (VLT) to balance the state budget?

Oppose,

Why?

The money should be spent on the area it was intended for in the first place. This is particularly critical for rural areas and will help create jobs.

Q17: Would you support or oppose a referendum that closes the loophole that allows the Arizona Legislature to raid the Highway User Revenue Fund (HURF) and Vehicle License Tax (VLT) to balance the budget?

Why?

I'm not a fan of legislating through the ballot box, but would nevertheless strongly consider it.

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Oppose, Q18: Would you support or oppose an initiative that closes the loophole that allows the Arizona Why? Legislature to raid the Highway User Revenue Fund I would not support the initiative as I do not support (HURF) and Vehicle License Tax (VLT) to balance the any initiatives. budget? Oppose, Q19: Would you support or oppose authorizing an additional revenue source for public infrastructure? Whv? While it may be beneficial in some ways, I don't think it is needed. And right now people are still struggling to make ends meet. We should start by restoring HURF. Oppose, Q20: Would you support or oppose a referendum that authorizes an additional revenue source for public Why? See #8 infrastructure? Oppose, Q21: Would you support or oppose an initiative that authorizes an additional revenue source for public Why? See #7 infrastructure? Support, Q22: Do you support or oppose streamlining environmental regulations while weighing the Why? impacts to both the economy and the environment. I strongly support this! Most of the regulations are unnecessary bureaucracy created to cater to a certain constituency. Oppose, Q23: Some localities are passing ordinances that allow preferences for local contractors to get a bid Why? advantage because of business location. In some While I once thought this to be a good idea, I cases the advantage to the "local" contractor is as believe there are unintended consequences when much a 5%. Do you support or oppose these the government starts giving advantages to some ordinances? contractors, even if the rationale is as noble as being local businesses. Oppose, Q24: Under the guise of promoting "local labor", unions are adding language to city contracts Why? requiring contractors to have apprecticeship Cities should be free to contract in the way that programs, health insurance, a living wage, etc. prior makes sense for them. to qualifying to perform work for the city. Do you support or oppose these provisions in city contracts?