



2020



CAIR
OKLAHOMA

General Election Candidate Guide

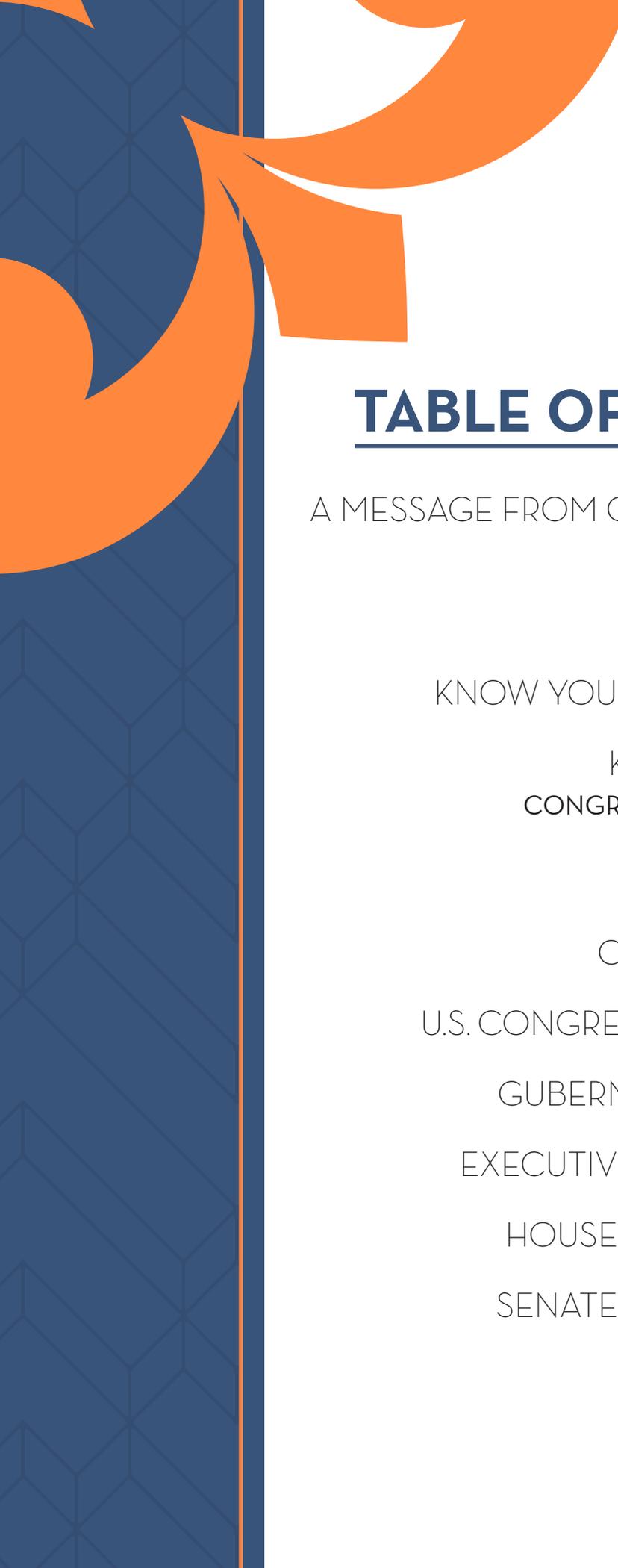


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A MESSAGE FROM CAIR-OK GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS DIRECTOR



Assalamu Alaikum and Greetings of Peace,

This 2018 Candidate Guide was created with the Oklahoma Muslim community in mind, in order that you may have the tools and resources available to be an informed and confident voter in the November election.

In 2018 a record number of citizens filed to run for office. We narrowed it down, reaching out only to candidates running in districts identified as having a higher concentration of Muslim voters. We asked their stances on issues of immigration, budget, bullying, hate crimes, and education. We were working with an aggressive timeline in order to get this guide to you in time to help you make educated decisions for the election (November 6th). Thus, some candidates did not have the time to answer all of our questions. This is not necessarily a statement on their support or opposition to CAIR or the Muslim community.

My goal as your Government Affairs Director is to encourage diversity and equity at our legislature; in both representation and in legislation. Prosperity, innovation and art all wither in environments of homogeneity. The great challenge put before humanity is not just to “tolerate,” but to accept and embrace those different from ourselves as our brothers and sisters. Oklahoma is home to many walks of life, each having their own view of the divine.

As your Government Affairs Director, I will work tirelessly to ensure you are valued as people of faith and are represented and respected in our places of governance. Discrimination against one is a threat to the freedom of all. My goal is to be both a watchdog for you, identifying and educating you on legislation pertinent to you and your family, and to motivate and encourage you in your own advocacy efforts. With the shared dream of having an Oklahoma where we can be proud to raise our children and future generations, together we will move Oklahoma forward.

I hope you find this guide valuable as you exercise your right to vote and engage in the political process.

Additionally, you can always reach out to me directly for guidance, support, and encouragement as we advocate together for our rights and issues that are important to all Oklahomans.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lani Habrock". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lani R. Habrock
Government Affairs Director
Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), Oklahoma Chapter

KNOW HOW TO VOTE

IMPORTANT WORDS TO KNOW

District: Oklahoma is divided into districts, or areas made of different zip codes. There are two types of districts: house districts and senate districts. Everyone lives in a particular house district and a particular senate district

Polling Station: The place where you go to vote in an election. Your polling station can be found on your Oklahoma Voter ID Card.

General Election: An election that occurs between candidates from different parties that run against each other to become an elected official.

Candidate: A person running in an election.

Voter ID Card: A card that is given to a registered voter. The card lists your name, address, political party, and the polling station where you must go to vote in elections.

Ballot: A paper you receive on Election Day at your polling station that you will fill in to choose which candidates you vote for.

BEFORE VOTING

1. **Get registered to vote.** Only United States Citizens are allowed to vote. To register to vote, you can contact CAIR Oklahoma at (405) 415-6851 or go to https://www.ok.gov/elections/Voter_Info/Register_to_Vote/ and follow the instructions.
2. Once you have registered to vote, you will receive a Voter ID Card in the mail. The Voter ID Card will have your name, address, political party, and the polling station where you must go to vote in elections.
3. Know your district. Everyone lives in a particular senate district and a particular house district. You can refer to the "Know Your District"(zip code doc) document at [cairoklahoma.com](http://www.oklegislature.gov/FindMyLegislature.aspx) or go to <http://www.oklegislature.gov/FindMyLegislature.aspx> and enter your address. The number in the top right will be your district.
4. Know the candidates. CAIR Oklahoma has developed a comprehensive guide to all candidates running for several districts. It includes a short biography, their platform and agenda, and contact information.
5. Know that Election Day is Tuesday, November 6th.

ON ELECTION DAY

1. Polling stations are open from 7AM to 7PM.
2. If you are unable to vote on Tuesday, November 6th, you may vote early at your County Election Board office from 8AM to 6PM on Thursday and Friday before all elections. Also, you may vote on Saturday before the election from 9AM to 2PM. Make sure you know where your County Election Board office is located.
3. If you are not voting early, you can vote on Election Day at your polling station.
4. You must bring your Oklahoma Voter ID Card or an acceptable photo ID to your polling station. Acceptable photo ID include an Oklahoma Driver's License, Oklahoma State-Issued Identification Card, United States Passport, or United States Military Identification.

EXAMPLE OF AN OKLAHOMA VOTER ID CARD



VOTER INTIMIDATION

Voter intimidation is a very serious violation of a citizen's right to cast a vote. If you observe voter intimidation, report it to a precinct worker or poll observer and to CAIR-OK immediately.

Examples of Voter Intimidation

- Aggressive questioning about citizenship, nationality, religion, or criminal background
- Demanding the removal of religious clothing such as hijab or kufi
- False statements about voting requirements, such as an ability to speak English
- Any activity intended to prevent or discourage someone from exercising their right to vote.

WHY IS VOTING IMPORTANT?

State and Local elections are the most important elections! The laws and policies that significantly impact your everyday life and the budgeting decisions that fund them are made at the state and local level: roads and streets, schools, libraries, social services, sales taxes are all determined by decisions made by municipal and state government. Zoning boards and school boards determine the shape of your neighborhoods and affect the quality of your children's education. Elected judges and District Attorneys defend and interpret the laws that govern our state. Elected clerks and commissioners set priorities and manage properties funded by your tax dollars. Professionals such as doctors, lawyers, engineers, and others are governed by elected Boards that determine membership requirements and set standards for practice in the state. Even the implementation of federal policies can be determined by state and local governments. At every level, your voice is vital to the processes that keep our communities running. Make sure you are heard!

IMPORTANT RESOURCES

CAIR-OK

www.cairoklahoma.com

(405) 286-6009

Oklahoma State Election Board

www.ok.gov/elections

(405) 521-2391

For information on the Democratic Party, visit: www.okdemocrats.org

For information on the Republican Party, visit: www.okgop.com

For information on the Libertarian Party, visit: www.oklp.org

KNOW YOUR STATE GOVERNMENT

KNOW YOUR LEGISLATURE

The **Oklahoma Legislature** is made up of two bodies, or **chambers**: the **House of Representatives** and the **Senate**. Representatives and Senators run and are elected in areas called **districts**, which are drawn up every 10 years on completion of the federal Census. Your legislator is determined by the address where you are registered to vote.

These elected people in the legislature are responsible for drafting, debating, and passing the laws of our state, which are then either approved or vetoed by our **Governor**. Our current Governor is Mary Fallin, who will be terming out in 2018. The legislature is also responsible for approving members of the Governor's cabinet, providing oversight to state agencies, and balancing the state budget. **With all that responsibility, you can see why it is vitally important that our legislators know and understand our communities as they do their work.**

IN 1990, OKLAHOMANS VOTED TO APPROVE TERM LIMITS FOR LEGISLATORS. REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATORS CANNOT SERVE MORE THAN 12 YEARS IN THE HOUSE AND SENATE COMBINED. IN 2018, 13 REPRESENTATIVES AND 6 SENATORS WILL FINISH THEIR 12 YEARS OR BE "TERM LIMITED"

HOW DO I KNOW WHO MY LEGISLATOR IS?

Your legislator is determined by the address where you are registered to vote! Scan the QR code or go to <http://www.oklegislature.gov/FindMyLegislature.aspx>.



THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES is made up of members of 101 districts. Currently, there are 100 active members of the House of Representatives with one district holding a special election in 2018. There are 72 Republicans and 28 Democrats. Representatives are elected to two-year terms, and all Representatives are up for election every two years. The House of Representatives is led by the Speaker of the House and Speaker Pro Tempore. In 2018, these positions are held by Speaker Charles McCall (R-Atoka) and Speaker Pro Tempore Harold Wright (R-Weatherford).

IN 2017, SPECIAL ELECTIONS TURNED FOUR SEATS IN THE OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE FROM REPUBLICAN TO DEMOCRAT: HOUSE DISTRICTS 46 AND 75, AND SENATE DISTRICTS 37 AND 44.

THE SENATE is composed of members of 48 districts. There are currently 48 members of the Senate with 38 Republicans and 10 Democrats. Each Senator is elected to four-year terms, with elections staggered so that half the Senate is up for election every two years. The Senate is led by the President Pro Tempore and the Majority Floor Leader. In 2018, these positions are held by President Pro Tempore Mike Schulz (R-Altus) and Majority Floor Leader Greg Treat (R-Oklahoma City).

THE FIRST DAY OF THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION begins at noon on the first Monday in February and must adjourn by no later than 5:00pm on the last Friday in May. During legislative session, legislators are at the Capitol from Monday through Thursday, and they return to their home districts on Fridays. Legislative session is when pieces of law, or bills, are introduced, debated and amended in committee, researched, and voted on – it's when a lot of the work of lawmaking happens. But after session adjourns in May, legislators still have lots of work to do, meeting with residents of their districts, or constituents, and researching the bills they may propose at the next session. Sometimes, the Governor calls Special Sessions or additional meetings of the state legislature in the event that they are not able to come to agreements on vital issues such as the state budget.

KNOW YOUR STATE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

The role of the executive branch of Oklahoma is to **enforce the laws**. The executive branch is made up of over 300 state agencies, boards, and commissions led by the Governor of Oklahoma.

The **Governor of Oklahoma** commands state and local law enforcement agencies. They act as Commander-in-Chief of the Oklahoma National Guard. The Governor has the power of appointment for any state office that becomes vacant, unless otherwise provided by the law. Every bill that passes through the state legislator is presented to the Governor, who has the option to sign it into law or veto it, in other words, reject it.

The **Lieutenant Governor of Oklahoma** is the second in command if the Governor resigns or is removed from office. The lieutenant governor is the president of the Oklahoma Senate and may cast a vote in the event of a tie.

The **Oklahoma State Auditor and Inspector** is responsible for examining the financial information of all boards, commissions, and agencies in the executive branch and make judgments on their financial status.

The **Attorney General of Oklahoma** is the chief legal and law enforcement officer of the State of Oklahoma. The attorney general provides legal advice to other departments and agencies and is responsible for the prosecution of offenses to Oklahoma law and is meant to be an advocate for the basic legal rights of Oklahoma residents. The attorney general's office also enforces Oklahoma's anti-discrimination laws, providing educational resources, and partners with the public to positively advance the cause of civil rights in the state.

The **State Superintendent** is the chief executive officer of the Oklahoma State Department of Education. They oversee, implement, and review the policies of the Oklahoma's public school system.

The **Labor Commissioner** is the head of the Oklahoma Department of Labor. They promote and develop the well-being of wage-earners in the state. They improve working conditions and advance opportunities in employment, income, and benefits.

The **Oklahoma Corporation Commissioner** is the head of the Oklahoma Corporation Commission. They regulate public utilities such as electricity, water, sewage, telephone lines, and transportation. They also regulate oil and drilling production and enhance environmental protection.

The **Insurance Commissioner** is the responsible for the administration and enforcement of the Oklahoma Insurance Code. They have authority over complaints against all persons engaged in the business of insurance. They also may educate consumers and make recommendations regarding insurance policy in the state.

KNOW YOUR DISTRICTS

A district is an area made of zipcodes. Everyone lives in a particular House district, Senate district, congressional district, and various municipal districts. There are three ways to identify what your districts are:

1. ONLINE VOTER TOOL

<https://services.okelections.us/voterSearch.aspx>

Simply enter your name and birthday into the system and it will show your house district, senate district, and other important information.

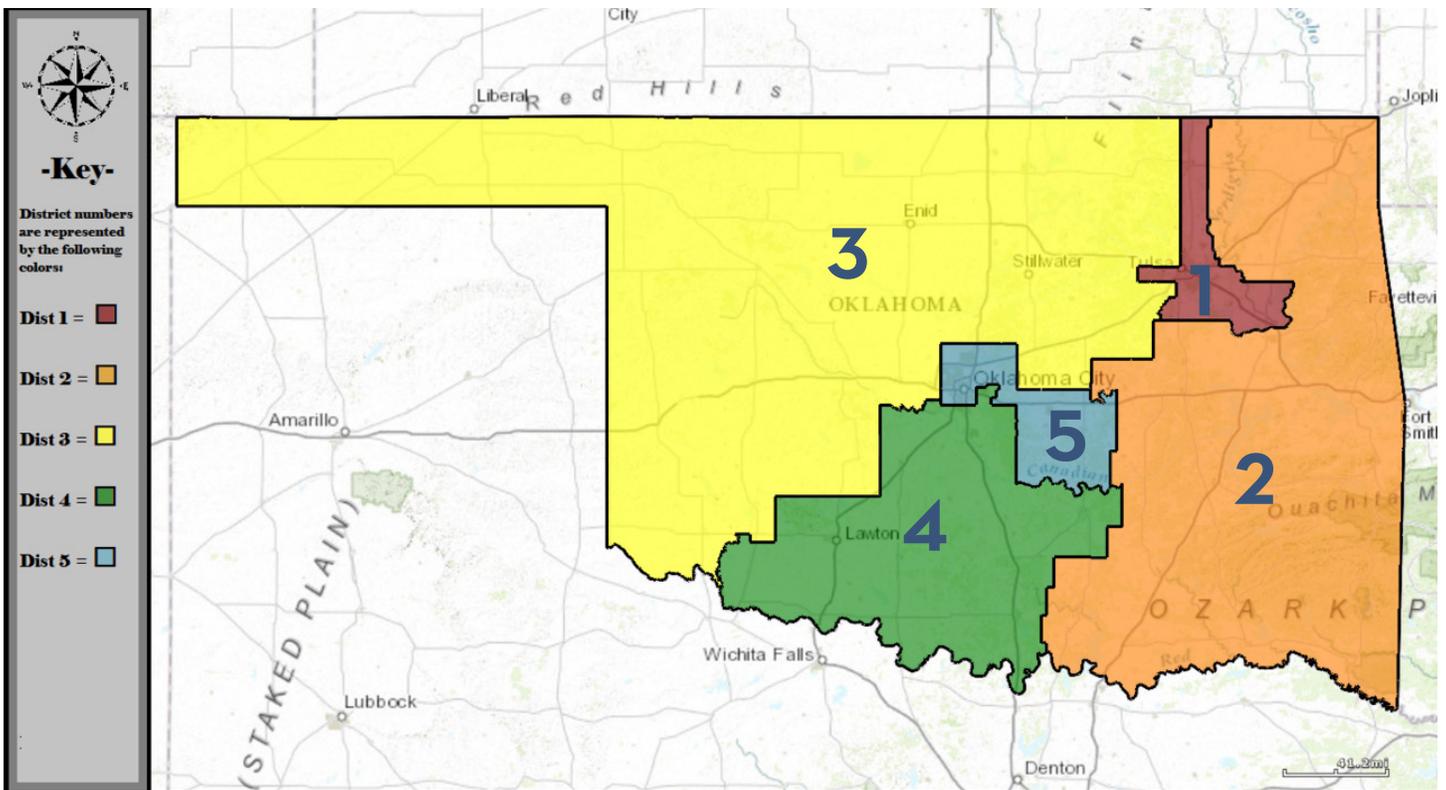
2. FIND YOUR LEGISLATOR at <http://www.oklegislature.gov/FindMyLegislature.aspx>

Enter your address and the program will identify your district information as well as your current legislators.

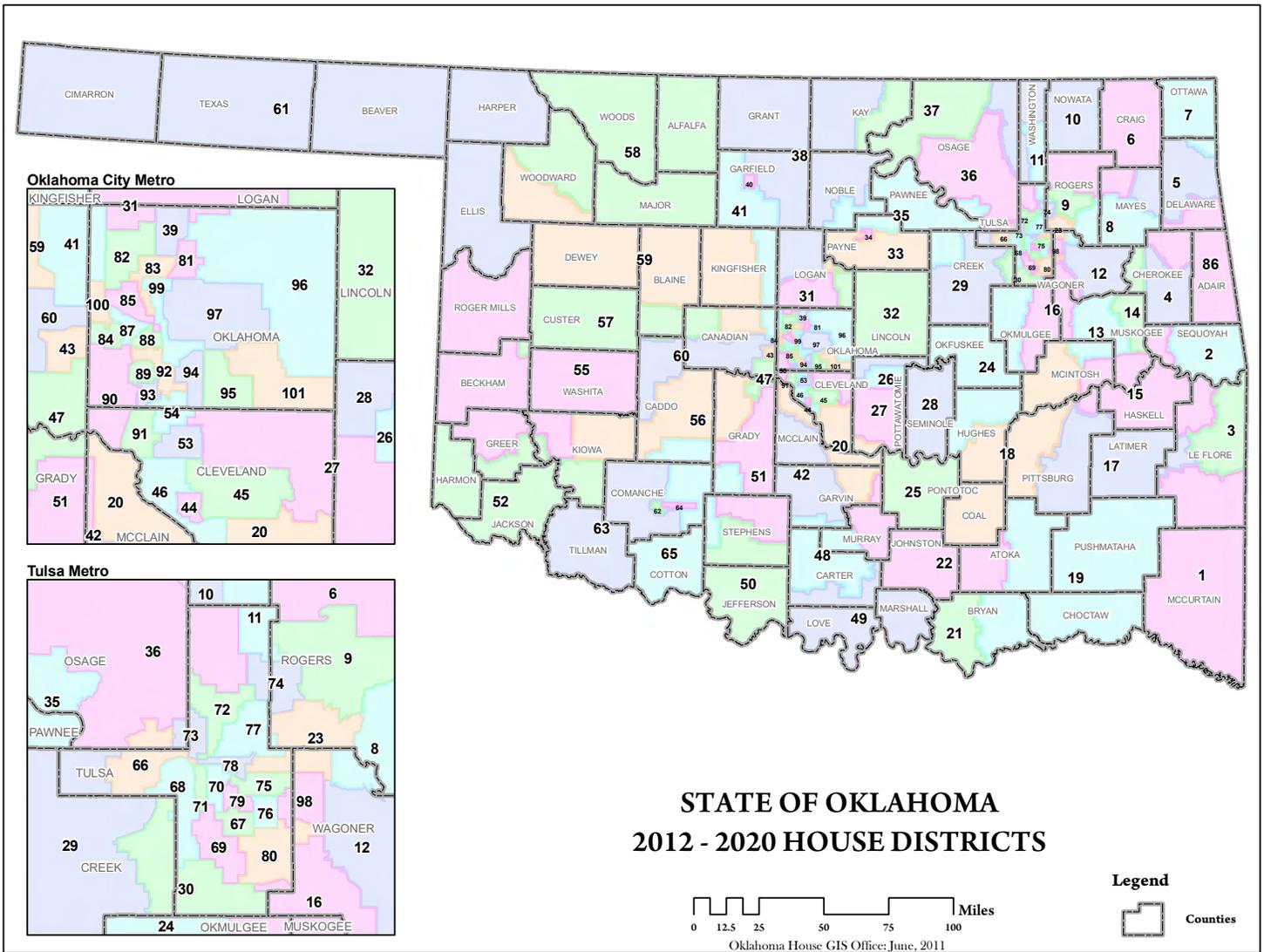
3. KNOW YOUR DISTRICT ZIP CODE INDEX

The following pages list show zipcodes for several key districts with concentrated populations of Muslims. Use your zipcode to identify your districts.

CONGRESSIONAL HOUSE DISTRICTS



STATE HOUSE DISTRICTS



STATE HOUSE DISTRICTS BY ZIPCODE

DISTRICT 1	74549	74764	DISTRICT 2	74931	DISTRICT 3	74901	DISTRICT 4	74427	DISTRICT 5	74301	DISTRICT 6	74016	DISTRICT 7	74331	DISTRICT 8	74014
	74571	74766		74936		74902		74434		74330		74017		74333		74015
	74577	74937		74945		74932		74441		74331		74019		74339		74019
	74722	74939		74946		74937		74451		74332		74053		74343		74036
	74724	74949		74948		74939		74452		74338		74072		74344		74337
	74728	74957		74954		74940		74464		74340		74080		74354		74352
	74734	74963		74955		74951		74471		74342		74301		74358		74361
	74736	74966		74962		74953		74931		74344		74330		74360		74364
	74740					74959		74960		74346		74331		74363		74365
	74745					74966		74962		74349		74332		74370		74452
	74750									74350		74333				
	74754									74352		74349				
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					74365	74369										
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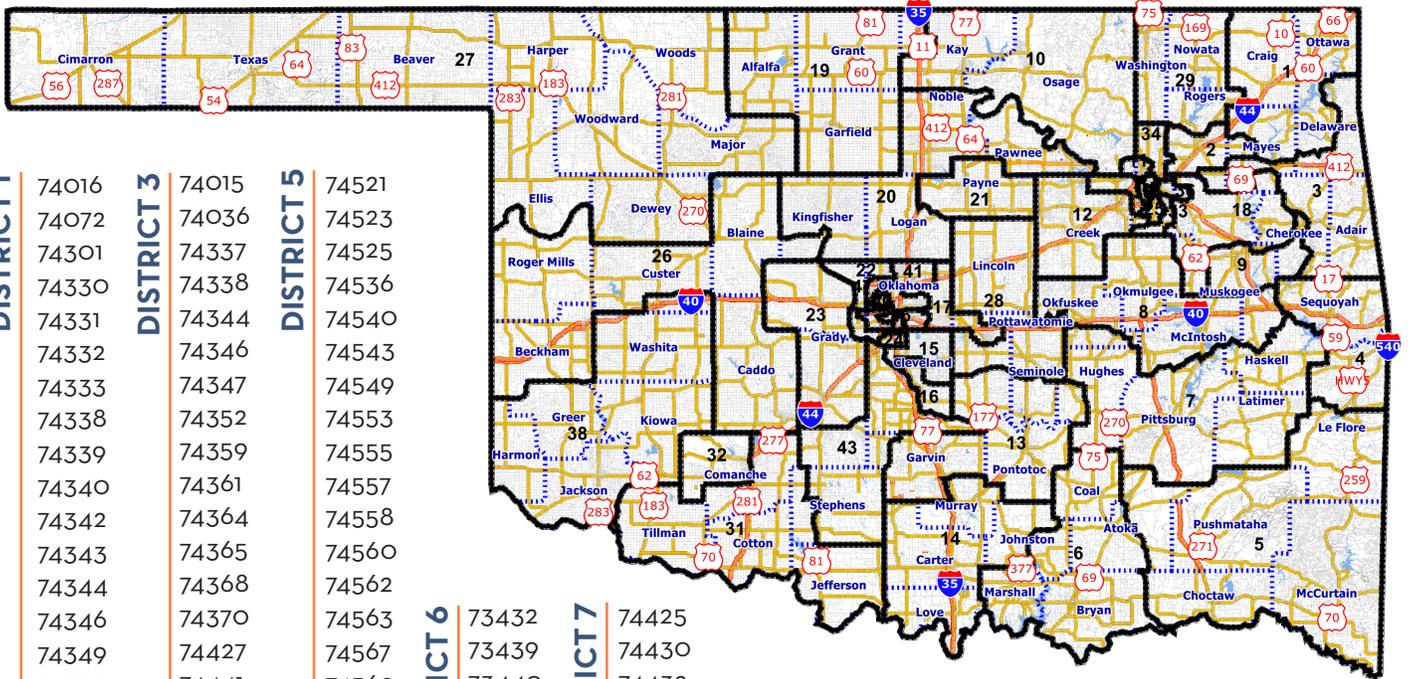
STATE HOUSE DISTRICTS BY ZIPCODE (CON.)

DISTRICT 9	74017	DISTRICT 10	74001	DISTRICT 11	74003	DISTRICT 12	74014	DISTRICT 13	74401	DISTRICT 14	74352	DISTRICT 15	74426	DISTRICT 16	74008	DISTRICT 17	74425	DISTRICT 18	74425	DISTRICT 19	74735	DISTRICT 20	73010	DISTRICT 21	73449	DISTRICT 22	73030	DISTRICT 23	74014	DISTRICT 24	74010	DISTRICT 25	74572	DISTRICT 26	74801	DISTRICT 27	73020	DISTRICT 28	73045	DISTRICT 29	74010	DISTRICT 30	74008	DISTRICT 31	73007	DISTRICT 32	73027	DISTRICT 33	73027	DISTRICT 34	74074	DISTRICT 35	73061	DISTRICT 36	74001
	74019		74006		74021		74036		74403		74401		74432		74014		74430		74426		74738		73026		74701		73032		74015		74047		74820		74804		74825		74824		74028		74033		73044		74002								
	74021		74051		74051		74337		74422		74423		74435		74047		74432		74428		74741		73051		74852		73086		74019		74055		74851		74804		74831		74030		73063		74003												
	74053		74352		74061		74352		74426		74423		74455		74039		74432		74430		74743		73065		74852		73098		74044		74055		74852		74804		74842		74039		73073		74021												
	74055		74470		74080		74352		74428		74423		74454		74046		74432		74430		74754		73072		74872		73401		74044		74055		74852		74804		74843		74046		74023		74035												
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STATE HOUSE DISTRICTS BY ZIPCODE (CON.)

DIST. 81	73003 73013 73034 73114 73131	DIST. 82	73012 73013 73120 73134 73142 73162	DIST. 83	73013 73114 73116 73120 73134	DIST. 84	73008 73107 73112 73122 73127	DIST. 85	73112 73116 73118 73120 73132 73162	DIST. 86	74338 74346 74347 74352 74359 74364 74368 74441 74452 74457 74464 74931 74948 74960 74964 74965	DIST. 87	73107 73112 73116 73118 73122 73132	DIST. 88	73102 73103 73106 73107 73112 73118	DIST. 89	73108 73109 73119	DIST. 90	73097 73107 73108 73119 73127 73128 73159 73169 73173 73179	DIST. 91	73139 73159 73170	DIST. 92	73102 73103 73106 73107 73108 73109 73129 73139 73149	DIST. 93	73109 73119 73139 73159	DIST. 94	73110 73115 73117 73129 73135	DIST. 95	73110 73130 73135 73145 73150	DIST. 96	73007 73013 73020 73034 73045 73049 73054 74857	DIST. 97	73013 73020 73049 73066 73084 73105 73110 73111 73114 73117 73121 73130 73131 73141 73151	DIST. 98	74012 74014 74015	DIST. 99	73102 73104 73105 73111 73114 73116 73117 73118 73120 73121 73129 73134	DIST. 100	73008 73122 73132 73162	DIST. 101	73020 73045 73066 73110 73130 73141 73150 74857
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STATE SENATE DISTRICTS BY ZIPCODE



DISTRICT 1	DISTRICT 2	DISTRICT 3	DISTRICT 4	DISTRICT 5	DISTRICT 6	DISTRICT 7	DISTRICT 8	DISTRICT 9	DISTRICT 10	DISTRICT 11	DISTRICT 12	DISTRICT 13
74016	74015	74015	74435	74521	73432	74425	74010	74401	74633	74103	74008	73030
74072	74016	74036	74563	74523	73439	74430	74047	74403	74637	74104	74010	73052
74301	74017	74337	74901	74525	73440	74432	74403	74423	74641	74106	74028	73057
74330	74019	74338	74902	74536	73446	74442	74421	74434	74646	74110	74030	73074
74331	74021	74344	74931	74540	73449	74462	74422	74435	74647	74112	74033	73075
74332	74036	74346	74932	74543	73450	74472	74426	74436	74650	74115	74038	73098
74333	74053	74347	74936	74549	73460	74477	74428	74450	74652	74117	74039	73433
74338	74055	74352	74940	74553	73461	74482	74431	74451	74653	74119	74041	73434
74339	74116	74359	74941	74555	73466	74485	74432	74455		74120	74044	73481
74340	74361	74361	74944	74557	73499	74487	74435	74456		74126	74046	74572
74342	74364	74364	74945	74558	73499	74489	74436	74459		74127	74047	74820
74343	74365	74365	74948	74560	73499	74491	74437	74460		74129	74050	74825
74344	74368	74368	74951	74562	73499	74492	74438	74466		74130	74052	74826
74346	74370	74370	74953	74563	73499	74493	74445	74469			74055	74827
74349	74427	74427	74954	74567	73499	74494	74447	74470			74063	74831
74350	74441	74441	74955	74569	73499	74495	74449	74471			74066	74839
74352	74451	74451	74956	74571	73499	74496	74455				74068	74842
74354	74452	74452	74957	74574	73499	74497	74456				74071	74843
74358	74457	74457	74958	74576	73499	74498	74459				74079	74844
74360	74464	74464	74959	74577	73499	74499	74460				74081	74848
74361	74471	74471	74960	74579	73499	74500	74466				74085	74849
74363	74931	74931	74962	74581	73499	74501	74469				74131	74852
74364	74948	74948	74964	74583	73499	74502	74470				74132	74854
74365	74960	74960	74966	74585	73499	74503	74471					74855
74366	74962	74962		74587	73499	74504						74854
74367	74964	74964		74589	73499	74505						74865
74369	74965	74965		74591	73499	74506						74867
74370				74593	73499	74507						74868
				74595	73499	74508						74871
				74597	73499	74509						74872
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				74601	73499	74511						74878
				74603	73499	74512						74884
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					73499	74602						
					73499	74603						

CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

HOUSE, SENATE AND GUBERNATORIAL QUESTIONS

1. **Healthcare:** *What legislation would you advocate for to ensure Americans have access to healthcare?*
2. **Environment:** *What role do you see the government playing in the protection of the environment?*
3. **Immigration:** *What are your top priorities concerning immigration?*
4. **Education:** *How can we improve American public education? How do you plan to work to make higher education more accessible?*
5. **Human Rights:** *How does/can America lead in terms of human rights and equality?*
6. **Economy:** *How would you foster business growth nationally and how will this help Oklahoma's economy specifically?*

EXECUTIVE & STATEWIDE QUESTIONS

1. *In your position, what issue(s) would you prioritize?*
2. *How would you address the aforementioned issue(s)?*

UNITED STATES CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATES

US HOUSE DISTRICT 01



Tim Gilpin

Tim Gilpin was born and raised in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He is an attorney and civic volunteer with a passion for fairness, justice, and education. Tim is a worker. He worked his way through college and law school, attending George Washington University and the University of Tulsa Law School. He has practiced law in Oklahoma since 1986. Over his career, Tim has worked in both private practice and for the State of Oklahoma. He currently operates his own law practice where he focuses on workers' rights, fair employment, and consumer advocacy. Under appointment of Governor Brad Henry, and approval by the state Senate, Tim proudly served on the Oklahoma state Board of Education where he supported education funding, promoted competitive education policy and fought against education cuts. On the board, Tim famously stood up to the wrongheaded practices and hiring practices of Janet Baressi. He also served as an Oklahoma Assistant Attorney General at the state Capitol as an assistant Attorney General under Robert Henry. Tim is deeply committed to serving our community. He has and does work with a variety of civic Boards and Commissions, including: The Arts & Humanities Council of Tulsa (AHHA), The Parent Child Center, the Mayor's Commission on Concerns of the Disabled, the Tulsa County Bar Association, the Mental Health Association in Tulsa, Street School Tulsa, and the Tulsa Area United Way. Additionally, Tim is a long term and active member of Trinity Episcopal Church, where he has served as an usher, lector, and vestry member.

Party | Democrat

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE



Kevin Hern

Born on an Air Force Base, Kevin Hern understood from an early age that our nation is home of the free because of the brave. Through school, Kevin worked a number of different jobs that taught him the extraordinary value of hard work. In his early adulthood, he served in the military. Earned Engineering and MBA degrees. Kevin often shares his story of one opportunity that forever changed the direction of his life. While moving around during his early adulthood, Kevin worked a variety of jobs including working in the Aerospace industry for Rockwell, writing computer programs to automate tasks for businesses, real estate, and even hog farming. In 1999, Kevin decided to buy the two McDonald's in Muskogee by taking every dime that he had to his name. For months, Kevin put all that he had into making sure the two restaurants succeeded all the while coming home to a house with no furniture and a sleeping bag as a bed. Kevin has served in various regional, divisional, and national leadership positions within the McDonald's system. He recently served 5 years as the chairman of the Systems Economic Team for the 3000+ franchisees that own the 15,000 U.S. restaurants. Additionally, Kevin served as the chairman of the finance committee of the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority from 2011 to 2015. His greatest love is to help aspiring entrepreneurs create new businesses so they can pursue their American Dream. He has also served as a State Board Member on the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Oklahoma and FFA of Oklahoma and is currently serving as the Finance Committee Chair for the OKGOP.

Party | Republican

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE

US HOUSE DISTRICT 04



Mary Brannon

While being both a teacher and school counselor over 25 years, she has seen lots of changes and recently they have not been good. To improve her ability to help families with addiction issues, she went back to Oklahoma University and got a Master's degree in Human Relations. She helped start a random drug testing program for athletes, as another way to say no to drugs. "No, I want to play football on Friday". Mary Brannon has trained to be a certified mediator for the Early Settlement Program of the Oklahoma Supreme Court. She was the only school counselor asked to be on the Task Force on Mediation of Divorce Issues.

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE

Party | Democrat

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Tom Cole

Tom Cole has spent his career in service to Oklahoma. In Congress, Tom is a leading advocate for a strong national defense and protecting taxpayers and promoting small businesses. And, notably, Tom is a bold leader on issues dealing with Native Americans and tribal governments. Identified by Time Magazine as "one of the sharpest minds in the House", Cole was named as one of "Five Freshmen to Watch" by Roll Call at the outset of his congressional career. In Washington, Tom Cole is always on the front lines promoting and protecting our strong conservative Oklahoma values. He serves on the powerful House Appropriations Committee and is Chairman of the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies where he has helped promote important research into finding cures for terrible diseases like Alzheimer's and Cancer, while simultaneously cutting overall spending in wasteful, unnecessary programs. He is also assigned to the Subcommittees on Defense and Interior. Tom also serves on the House Budget Committee where he has fought to reduce spending and balance the budget. Each year he has been in Congress Tom has supported the smallest budget proposed. Throughout his life Tom Cole has always worked to serve Oklahoma. Tom served as Chairman of the Oklahoma Republican Party and as a member of the Oklahoma State Senate. As Oklahoma's Secretary of State, Tom was Governor Frank Keating's chief legislative strategist and liaison to the state's federal delegation. Together they worked with business and elected leaders to orchestrate the tremendous economic growth Oklahoma experienced from the late 90's through the first decade of the 21st century. Keating tapped Cole to lead Oklahoma's successful effort to secure federal funds to assist in the rebuilding of Oklahoma City in the wake of the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building on April 19th, 1995. Tom is the current representative for Oklahoma's fourth congressional district.

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE

INCUMBENT

Party | Republican

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Ruby Peters

Party | Independent

NO INFORMATION AVAILABLE

US HOUSE DISTRICT 05



Kendra Horn

A 5th generation Oklahoman, Kendra's parents taught her the importance of investing in people and serving her community, values that continue to guide her today. Kendra holds a passionate belief that more people need to get involved in community leadership, including women. Her professional background includes running two nonprofits focused on developing leadership skills and encouraging women to run for public office. Kendra has also worked in the aerospace industry, Oklahoma's second largest public sector employer. She brings a deep understanding of how government should work and, as an attorney and mediator, has experience bringing people with differing opinions together. Kendra knows we must stop the partisanship and politics that hurt working families and do what's right for a change. She will be a strong voice for Oklahoma families, working to build bridges and find solutions to our most challenging problems. Kendra will bring common sense leadership to Congress and make government start working for Oklahomans and not against them

Party | Democrat

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

HEALTHCARE

Healthcare is a right, not a privilege. We have many opportunities to improve access to health care for Oklahoma families, and we should build upon the gains made by the Affordable Care Act. Congress also needs to ensure both urban and rural communities have access to health care resources, and should invest in community health centers, local clinics, and other mechanisms for delivering health care to different populations. Health care experts should write health care legislation, not big insurance lobbyists.

Medicare and Medicaid are essential for many families in our state, yet the Oklahoma state government has refused to expand Medicaid. As a result, we're missing out on millions and millions of healthcare dollars for Oklahomans -- and taxpayers are forced to foot the bill. Our state must maintain its autonomy over healthcare spending decisions, but Congress should also work with states to ensure every working family has access to quality, affordable care.

The cost of prescription drugs is a significant barrier for many people, and I support exploring every solution to lowering prices. From safely importing prescription drugs at a lower cost to holding drug manufacturers accountable for price gouging, we must do things differently. I will also support innovation and research to increase competition in the drug market.

ENVIRONMENT

The government has a central role in environmental protection. Oklahomans are experiencing historically intense heat waves and infrastructure-devastating floods. Our water sources are either drying up or irreversibly tainted with deadly levels of arsenic and lead. We've seen more seismic activity than almost any place in the world--more than 200 earthquakes in 2013, compared to just 20 in 2009. This isn't the Oklahoma I grew up in. It's not the state Oklahoma's children deserve to grow up in either.

Now is the time to look forward to wind, solar and other energies to create a sustainable energy economy that also produces jobs for Oklahomans. It's critical for our future that we invest in research and resources to preserve our environment. However, I believe that environmental regulations must necessarily be tempered by the needs of the community. There is a middle ground in ensuring we have clean air and potable water in every American household without strangling small business owners with costly and duplicitous regulation.

KENDRA HORN CONTINUED

IMMIGRATION

Our top priority must be creating a pathway to citizenship for DACA recipients. The never-ending bait and switch we have pulled on people who have lived and contributed to our country for over a decade must end. We must keep this at the forefront not only because most parties agree, but also because these Americans deserve stability and security in their future.

The next step must be a concerted effort to achieve comprehensive immigration reform that does not deviate from historic levels of legal immigration and does not include any provisions ratifying this administration's attempts to ban Muslim immigrants based on their religion. America's history is littered with pivotal moments where its policymakers had the choice between liberty and security and each time it has failed immigrant communities. We cannot make the same mistakes we have always made.

Finally, the illegal detainment of asylum seekers must end. There is no justification for jailing people who came to this country fleeing violence and oppression. This is no justification separating parents from families traumatically and for extended periods of time. There is no justification for treating immigrants as enemies especially when they have committed no greater offense than arriving at our doorstep. The United States is a country founded on immigration and asylum. We cannot continue to disgrace those ideals with an immigration system that dehumanizes those who may someday be a part of our community.

This administration's efforts to separate migrant children from their families is unconscionable.

EDUCATION

Oklahoma is 49th in education and every year the state legislature is setting us further behind. Our students and teachers shouldn't bear the brunt of the legislature's inability to prioritize education. Instead, Congress should step up to find opportunities for investment at the national level to make up for shortfalls within our state. We must protect funding for Title I and Title II grants: School improvement grants in low-income neighborhoods and the free and reduced lunches program are the first steps for academic success. After all, children can't learn if they are hungry. Beyond K-12 education, the cost of a college education shouldn't weigh students down for the rest of their lives. I'll work to reduce interest rates on student loans to help decrease that burden and make college more accessible for all aspiring Oklahoma students. We should also provide families with more opportunities to save for their children's education free of taxes, such as 529 savings plans.

We should protect and expand our partnership with the state's CareerTech system to provide job training and economic development opportunities, including small and rural businesses. Over 80,000 jobs are open in Oklahoma simply because we don't have a skilled workforce to fill them. Not all those jobs require a college degree, but they do require skills training, which our CareerTech system does as well as anyone in the world.

HUMAN RIGHTS

When Eleanor Roosevelt finalized the draft of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, she cemented a spot in history for the United States to become a leader in the protection and promotion of human rights. We, as a country, have not always followed through on that promise. However, we can achieve amazing feats when we listen to our better angels. The US is a leader in its fierce protection of religious pluralism and free expression and we strive to fulfill our constitution's pledge to due process and equal protection under the laws. Though we fail sometimes, our institutions are built on a strong foundation to achieve those aims.

We must also recommit funding to our Department of State. Our diplomats are responsible for the overwhelming task of rooting out human rights abuses in the dark corners of the globe. Without a strong State Department, we not only risk threats to our national security, but to the safety of the global community.

There is much room to build up American leadership in human rights, but it must start at home. We must begin to address the systemic inequalities that are a stumbling block to protecting human rights at home--an unjust criminal justice system, an uneven playing field for marginalized communities, an environmental crisis leading to the displacement of disenfranchised neighborhoods.

ECONOMY

Leaders in Washington should make real investments in middle class families to improve economic opportunities in Oklahoma. One of the biggest challenges is ensuring Oklahomans are equipped with skills for 21st century jobs. The Oklahoma State System for Higher Education projects 77% of Oklahoma jobs in 2025 will require education beyond high school, but only two in 10 high school graduates earn a postsecondary certificate or degree.

We need to close the gap between skills Oklahoma workers have and the skills needed for economy-boosting jobs. CareerTech is a model program for preparing Oklahoma adults for quality jobs, and Congress should expand opportunities for job training. Congress should also ensure adequate funding for postsecondary education other than college and university degrees -- skills learned in these programs will be essential for the future of the Oklahoma workforce.

As we invest in education, we must also invest in research. Oklahoma's energy economy shouldn't be based solely on nonrenewable resources. Our climate and resources position us well for biofuel, wind, solar and other renewable energies -- but we need to invest in research to make them more competitive energy alternatives.

Oklahoma workers need to earn a living wage. The federal minimum wage hasn't been increased in nearly a decade, and workers' pay is not keeping up with the cost of living. Congress needs to ensure middle class Oklahoma families can succeed, including raising the minimum wage.



Steve Russell

INCUMBENT

Party | *Republican*

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A fifth generation Oklahoman raised by hard working parents, Steve Russell has always excelled from a strong work ethic, commitment to his faith and family as well as a responsibility to lead. In high school, Steve was a leader in ‘Evangelism Explosion’ and took it upon himself to go door-to-door sharing his testimony. Graduating from Del City High, Steve was president of his senior class and voted most likely to succeed. Steve’s academic success earned him a full four-year Army Scholarship to Ouachita Baptist University where he earned his bachelor’s degree and was the top cadet in his class. More important, Steve met Cindy while in college, and they have now been married 28 years and have raised five children. During his term in the Oklahoma State Senate from 2008-12 Steve authored landmark legislation that provided full state tax exemption to Oklahoma’s serving soldiers, advanced and strengthened the 2nd Amendment, fought human trafficking and created adoption reform. Russell received recognition from numerous Oklahoma associations for steadfastly defending the Constitution, advancing the values of our free market, and fighting against irresponsible, growing government. Steve was not afraid to stand alone on the issues that keep people free and protect our rights and property. Graduating from some of the toughest training the Army had to offer, Steve earned his airborne wings and the coveted US Army Ranger qualification. He deployed operationally to Kosovo, Kuwait, Afghanistan and Iraq. Steve led troops at every level from platoon to a combat task force of a thousand soldiers with his unit earning the Valorous Unit Award for its role in the hunt and capture of Saddam Hussein.

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE

GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATES



Drew Edmondson

From growing up in Muskogee to serving in the Navy and then as Oklahoma's Attorney General for 16 years, Drew has spent his entire life fighting for the people of Oklahoma. He stood up to Wall Street, Big Tobacco, and the special interests who tried to take advantage of our families, farmers, and small businesses. As Governor, he'll put Oklahomans first and take on the outside interests and partisan politicians who, every day, are trying to hurt our way of life.

Drew's values are rooted in his Oklahoma upbringing. The second son of June and Congressman Ed Edmondson and the nephew of former Oklahoma Governor J. Howard Edmondson, Drew learned the value of true public service early.

After graduating from Muskogee Central High School, Drew attended Northeastern State College in Tahlequah on scholarship. While there, he met the former Linda Larason of Fargo, Oklahoma, who would become his wife. After their first date, Drew famously asked Linda, "When are we getting married?" and the rest is history.

Upon graduation from college, Drew enlisted in the United States Navy, where he reached the rank of Petty Officer Second Class and served a tour of duty in Vietnam. While in the Navy, he earned the Joint Service Commendation Medal, National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal and the Vietnam Campaign Medal. His first job after the war was as a speech and debate teacher at Muskogee High School.

He was elected to the state legislature in 1974, and he graduated from the University of Tulsa School of Law in 1978. He was named Chief Prosecutor for the Muskogee County District Attorney's office in 1982. Drew was elected District Attorney the same year and he served in that position for 10 years. He was elected Attorney General in 1994. Drew was re-elected Attorney General in 1998 without opposition, and as his popularity grew, he received more than 60 percent of the vote in his 2002 and 2006 elections for that office. He left office in 2011 and has been in the private practice of law since. As District Attorney, his peers named him outstanding DA for the State of Oklahoma and elected him president of the District Attorney's Association.

As Attorney General, Drew served as president of the National Association of Attorneys General and chaired the association's committees on Consumer Protection and Tobacco Enforcement. In 2005, he received the prestigious Kelly-Wyman Award as the outstanding attorney general in the country.

Those honors follow a tremendous record of accomplishment. In 1998, Drew was one of eight attorneys general to negotiate a record-breaking settlement agreement with the country's largest tobacco companies. To protect the settlement money received by Oklahoma, Edmondson led the charge to establish the Oklahoma Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust, which constitutionally protected the settlement money and ensured that it can only be spent on public health. To date, the Tobacco Trust balance stands at more than \$1 billion.

Drew's efforts on behalf of public schools have also been noteworthy. In 2001, he negotiated a settlement with then Southwestern Bell to establish the Oklahoma Educational Technology Trust. Since then, OETT has put more than \$12 million in technology and training into Oklahoma public schools.

A tireless advocate for crime victims, Drew's record includes establishing the first-ever Victims Services Unit in the Oklahoma Attorney General's Office. With victims in mind, he worked to streamline the death penalty appeals process in Oklahoma. His love for Oklahoma's natural resources is evident in his efforts to protect our land and water. In 2006, he sued more than a dozen corporations for polluting the Illinois River Watershed. Because of Drew's work, the corporate poultry industry has changed its practices, trucking out thousands of tons of waste that was previously applied directly to land in the watershed.

Party | Democrat

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DREW EDMONDSON CONTINUED

Today, Drew and Linda are proud parents to their daughter, Mary, and son-in-law, Mike, and their son, Robert, and daughter-in-law, Andrea. Drew and Linda also enjoy spending time with their twin grandchildren, Andrew and Catherine, who were born to Mike and Mary in 2008.

Linda is a retired medical social worker and active community volunteer and advocate. Drew has served on executive boards for Oklahoma City University School of Law, the Palomar Family Justice Center, the Oklahoma Mental Health Association, Bacone College and Rainbow Fleet, a private non-profit servicing parents and childcare facilities across the state. He is also a member of Rotary Club 29 and the Oklahoma Academy and a graduate of Leadership Oklahoma, Class IV. He is an ordained Elder in the Presbyterian Church.

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IMMIGRATION

Immigrants have been and continue to be a great asset to the economy and the culture of Oklahoma. Oklahoma does not have a big population, and new residents from all over ready to pursue the American dream are essential for economic growth. Immigrants can bring valuable skills and community values to rural areas that can sustain and protect those communities in the long-term.

BUDGET

As a state we need to recognize that we have a revenue problem. This most recent tax package was a good start, but more needs to be done. We have cut revenue repeatedly in recent years and budgets were subsequently slashed. I have called for a restoration of the gross production tax to 7%. I have also called for an end to the capital gains tax exemption that goes primarily to the wealthy and has cost the state roughly \$465 million over five years. I have also called for an increase in the cigarette tax of \$1.50, not just the \$1 raise that the legislature passed. These funds would go to stabilizing the budget and stopping the cuts in the immediate short-term. My two biggest priorities would be fully funding education and healthcare in Oklahoma. Our education budget has not recovered from pre-recession levels and our children are suffering for it. If we want others to invest in Oklahoma, we need to invest in our future; and that means investing in education. We also need to care for the less-fortunate citizens of Oklahoma and provide reliable and accessible healthcare facilities. In support of that priority, I would accept the Medicaid expansion dollars to bring in hundreds of millions in federal funding.

INTERFAITH

Most importantly, I would veto unconstitutional legislation that would discourage participation and engagement by minority groups. As Governor I would reach out to organizations that represent minority groups across the state and actively participate with them in a dialogue. It is important to make every group and every person feel as welcome in the Capitol as any other resident of the state. That could mean participating in interfaith day at the Capitol, taking part in Iftar or Passover celebrations. Besides actively engaging with minority groups, I am committed to making diverse appointments to boards, committees, and commissions to access the full range of voices and experiences that exist in Oklahoma.

BULLYING

I support establishing programs in Oklahoma schools to emphasize diversity training and anti-bullying efforts. I would work with the Secretary of Education to prioritize these efforts across the state. In addition, I will have zero tolerance for public institutions discriminating on any basis against the people of Oklahoma.

HATE CRIMES

As Governor, I will work with law enforcement entities to establish statewide guidelines for policing diverse communities to make law enforcement more in-tune with hate crimes in our communities. The school programs mentioned above would also reinforce the need to eradicate hate crimes in Oklahoma. I also look forward to hearing from diverse viewpoints to better understand hate crime in Oklahoma and what can be done about it.

EDUCATION

Oklahoma has been lagging in education for far too long. Our teachers are moving to other states for large pay raises and 20% of our schools have gone to four day weeks. I have already gone over how I intend to raise revenue as Governor, and a majority of that would go to education. We need teacher pay raises that are competitive with the regional average, if not above. We also need to increase our per-pupil spending, which has dropped to the bottom nationally. If we want others to invest in Oklahoma, we need to invest in ourselves. Investing in ourselves means investing in education and Oklahoma's future. We need enough revenue for new textbooks, five day weeks, and adequately compensated teachers.



Chris Powell

With roots on all sides going back before statehood, my kinfolk have lived in communities from Woodward to Idabel, from Grove to Frederick, and innumerable places in between. In addition to my political activities I am an avid genealogist. I am proud of being an Oklahoman, a place that has served as a crossroads of history and culture for the nation, and celebrate our state's deep and rich heritage.

I grew up in Choctaw as the youngest of five children. My father was a truck driver and my mother a bookkeeper. They taught us the value of family, hard work, and self-sufficiency, such as by keeping a large vegetable garden that we all helped tend. My wife, raised by her grandfather, Rev. John Gable, after her mother passed away, lived in many communities across rural Oklahoma before Grandpa Gable became pastor at Nicoma Park United Methodist Church. We met at the parsonage in 1992, just months after I returned from the first Gulf War. Amy and I married in 1994.

We moved to Bethany in 1996, a vibrant and diverse community that we enjoy and a place where we have grown our family through births, hosting a foreign exchange student, becoming a foster home, and by adoption. We have pursued career and educational goals and been active in political and civic affairs. The Powells have faced the kinds of issues that most Oklahoma families deal with every day but from which members of the political establishment are often insulated. Among the reasons that I am running for governor is to shine the light of the realities of everyday Oklahoma life into the often inaccessible world of politics.

In my experiences with education, military service, and both private and public sector employment, I learned firsthand how government fails to prioritize the rights of the people that it is intended to serve. Since joining the Libertarian Party in 2000 I have worked to limit the power of politics and thereby increase individual freedom. Please join our campaign so that we may work together to increase liberty and prosperity for all Oklahomans.

Party | *Libertarian*

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IMMIGRATION

Oklahoma is not a border state and immigration is primarily a federal issue, meaning that the Governor has a limited amount of influence on immigration policy. However, we do have several vibrant immigrant communities in Oklahoma that make significant contributions, economically and culturally, to our state. As a Libertarian, I am committed to recognizing the inherent human rights of all people, equality before the law, and a federalist limited government approach. That last part refers to separation of powers and checks and balances in our system of government, with the idea that states are not intended to merely be lackeys of the national government but instead have their own priorities and prerogatives. In regard to the question of immigration the key practical point is that as Governor I oppose allowing our state and local agencies and resources to be co-opted to serve policy goals of the federal government. Our state and local law enforcement agencies have their own proper functions which do not include being henchmen for federal entities.

BUDGET

We need real prioritization of spending in our state budget. We've seen recently that the state Health Department did not need an emergency appropriation, we've had money management issues in the Tourism Department, and there are several other areas where waste and mis-management are suspected. More importantly, the Legislature has utterly failed to discern between core services that people demand and less necessary expenditures that we could do without. For instance, there is nearly half a billion dollars in incentive programs before the Incentive Evaluation Commission. Do we really need these corporate welfare programs more than we need to adequately fund mental health services, or education? I don't believe so but apparently the establishment party politicians do.

CHRIS POWELL CONTINUED

INTERFAITH

I am for equality before the law and will do everything I can to eliminate instances where individuals are treated differently because of religion or culture and will also work hard to protect freedom of religion for people of all faiths or of none by ensuring that state government does not oppress or promote any particular religious viewpoint. This commitment to freedom of religion would extend to avoiding exclusionary practices in regard to any public events that involve communities of faith.

BULLYING

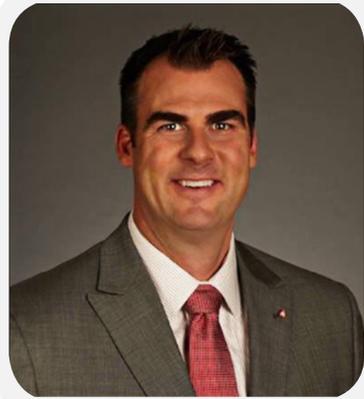
A key issue for me is to move authority and responsibility for education away from the politicians at the Capitol and towards the school districts to put decision making power within reach of teachers and parents. Rather than passing more ineffective but expensive mandates that may allow some politicians to act as though they did something, I believe that by empowering the education professionals in our communities we will develop our educational system to be more responsive to the needs of individual students and the concerns of parents.

HATE CRIMES

At this time we have an over-burdened criminal justice system and overcrowded prisons. We need to do something to fix that we have too many people in prison overall and too many who should never have been put there in the first place. As we address that we will have greater latitude to be able to keep truly dangerous people in prison and away from society, such as those rare individuals who for whatever reason are motivated to commit violence against those who are of a differing ethnicity, belief, or culture.

EDUCATION

As I mentioned above we need to put control of our schools in the hands of people who are actually in that individual school on a regular basis. We also need to look at reform of the funding mechanisms for our public education system. When we compare K-12 with our CareerTech system, CareerTech is by and large on much better financial footing and does not have problems with paying instructors as our K-12 system does. It's also the case that CareerTech receives far less of its funding through appropriations from the state Legislature. We need to migrate K-12 to having a greater percentage of its funding from local or other sources that are not controlled by the establishment party politicians. In my view the only people who should be making decisions about the education of any individual child are parents and teachers who know that child.



Kevin Stitt

Kevin Stitt is a conservative Republican candidate for governor who is running to end politics as usual at the State Capitol and to lead Oklahoma with a vision to be Top Ten in growth, education, infrastructure, healthcare, and government efficiency.

Stitt is an Oklahoman entrepreneur and businessman who founded Gateway Mortgage in 2000 with \$1,000 and a computer. By delivering strong leadership and vision, Stitt has grown Gateway into a nationwide mortgage company that today employs 1,200 people, has 164 field offices in 41 states, and holds a loan servicing portfolio of more than \$16 billion. Stitt is promising to bring his proven business experience to state government where he will put Oklahoma's checkbook online, apply performance metrics, and audit every state agency.

Stitt is a fourth-generation Oklahoman, raised in Norman where his dad was a pastor and spent many summers as a youth in Skiatook where his grandfather owned a dairy farm. Stitt graduated from Norman High School and worked his way through Oklahoma State University by selling books with the Southwestern Company. Stitt is a man driven by faith and family. He has been married to his wife, Sarah, for nearly 20 years and together they have six children and live in Tulsa.

Party | *Republican*

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IMMIGRATION

No Answer.

BUDGET

In 2016, Oklahoma had -3% GDP growth. In 2017, our state faced a \$900 million budget deficit. Too many of our children and grandchildren are leaving the state for better opportunities. I refuse to sit back and let this continue. As governor, I will be committed to growth and prosperity for our entire state." Plan: We going to do this by Capitalizing on President Trump's tax cuts that are leveling the playing field for America to compete in the global market place, recruiting new business to Oklahoma, and cutting unnecessary red tape and remove wasteful licensing fees for job creators in Oklahoma.

INTERFAITH

No Answer.

BULLYING

No Answer.

HATE CRIMES

No Answer.

EDUCATION

Raise teacher pay so that it matches the pay of teachers in our six-state footprint, Require line item budgeting for the Education Department, Review ways to empower local communities to best fund the needs of their local schools, Expand the use of video technology to deliver AP classes across our state, Recruit, train and retain great teachers.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE CANDIDATES

EXECUTIVE & STATEWIDE QUESTIONS

1. *In your position, what issue(s) would you prioritize?*
2. *How would you address the aforementioned issue(s)?*

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



Anastasia Pittman

Pittman was born on July 19, 1970 in Miami, Florida and has resided in Oklahoma for over 35 years. She earned a bachelor's degree in Journalism and Public relations from the University of Oklahoma, and a master's degree in Urban Education and Behavioral Science from Langston University. Pittman is an educator, consultant, public relations specialist, radio broadcaster, registered tutor with the Oklahoma City Public Schools System, former case manager, and former mentor for the United States Department of Justice, Western District. She won her election to District 99 of the House of Representatives in November 2006 and District 48 of the State Senate in November 2014. Pittman is the second Seminole citizen to serve in the legislature and currently serves as Chair of the Oklahoma Legislative Black Caucus, Senate Democratic Whip, Co-Chair of the Oklahoma Native American Caucus, National Black Caucus of State Legislators Housing Vice-Chair, National Caucus of Native American Legislators Education Chair and Health Vice-Chair, and National Foundation of Women Legislators State Director. Pittman has received numerous honors including 2013 Woman of the Year Nominee, Outstanding Community Service Recognition for Magic Star Foundation from former President Bill Clinton, Asian Legislative Excellence Award, and the Media Advocacy Award from the Oklahoma Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. She also received the State, District and National TRIO Awards, and the Oklahoma Achiever under 40 Award.

Party | Democrat

Contact and More Info

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE



Matt Pinnell

Matt Pinnell is a proud Oklahoman who has devoted his professional career to advancing our conservative causes and principles. Matt served as the Oklahoma Republican Party Chairman, where he focused on charting a new course for the state party and helped deliver incredible victories for the hard-working men and women of Oklahoma and their families. The youngest state Republican Party chairman in the country at the time of his election, Matt helped the party secure all five congressional seats and every statewide elected office simultaneously for the first time in Oklahoma history. In 2013, Matt went to work for conservatives as National State Party Director at the Republican National Committee, helping elect a Republican majority to the U.S. Senate in 2014 and helping Donald Trump win the White House in 2016. Most recently, he led the transition of the newly-appointed Republican National Committee Chairman. Matt Pinnell knows what it takes to fight for smaller government, less regulation, and a pro-growth business environment. As our Lt. Governor, he will achieve that and more for Oklahoma families and job creators.

Party | Republican

Contact and More Info

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE

AUDITOR



Cindy Byrd

As a practicing CPA and experienced auditor, Cindy Byrd has served for 20 years as one of the lead auditors now overseeing operations in all 77 counties for the Oklahoma State Auditor's Office. Now, Cindy is stepping up to serve as Oklahoma's next State Auditor with one mission in mind: to eliminate government waste, fraud, and abuse while bridging relationships and strengthening the agencies and governments that are performing well. Cindy Byrd, CPA, is the Deputy State Auditor for Local Government Services. Cindy has more than 20 years of experience in auditing and has planned, conducted, and trained in various types of audits. Cindy eliminated the five-year backlog of county audits and oversaw 304 of the 411 audits published in Fiscal Year 2017. Cindy has led local-government audits that have uncovered millions of dollars in fraud and waste.

Party | Republican

Contact and More Info

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www.CindyByrd.com

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE



John Yeutter

Yeutter is a CPA licensed to practice in the State of Oklahoma. A native of Michigan, he moved to Norman in 1978, and worked in the building trades for over 15 years. Returning to school, he studied accounting, and worked as a staff accountant at The Williams Group, CPAs in Norman. Continuing his education, he received his PhD from the University of Oklahoma and began teaching accounting at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah. He has been teaching there for the past 22 years. In addition to teaching Auditing, Government Accounting and Taxation, Dr. Yeutter has been involved in community service. He coordinated a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, preparing free income tax returns for the public from 1998 through 2014. He has also served on various nonprofit boards in the community.

Party | Libertarian

Contact and More Info

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IN YOUR POSITION, WHAT ISSUE(S) WOULD YOU PRIORITIZE?

I am seeking this office because one of my core values is to seek transparency from the government to its citizens. As State Auditor and Inspector, I would prioritize restoring confidence in the State's financial reports.

HOW WOULD YOU ADDRESS THE AFOREMENTIONED ISSUE(S)?

I would do this by providing the citizens with audits of the financial statements of State and county governments that exceed the requirements of Generally Accepted Government Accounting Standards. (GAGAS) These are:

Independence - *I am not tied to either of the two major political parties. I am uniquely positioned to conduct an audit as an independent auditor.*

Professional Judgment - *with my academic background, I have training and experience in using professional skepticism in analysis of problems. I will use this in the audit of the State's financial statements.*

Competence - *I have served as chair of my department at the University, managing about fifteen full-time faculty. I have both auditing and management skills and experience.*

Quality Control - *A key component of any service, but particularly of assurance services like the auditor, is to provide quality control. I will provide oversight and leadership to assure the quality of the audits of state and county finances.*

ATTORNEY GENERAL



Mark Myles

Mark Myles is a long-term resident of Oklahoma City. His father served our country as a career U.S. Army officer and his mother was a junior high school science teacher for over 30 years. Mark works as an independent attorney practicing administrative, criminal, and family law. Mark is a current member of Oklahoma Bar Association, Oklahoma County Bar Association, Oklahoma Criminal Defense Lawyers Association, and McClain County Bar Association. He is a former member of ABA, NBA, and Logan County Bar Associations. Mark began his law career in 2008, after 21 years with the IBM Corporation where he provided business solutions to small, medium, and large businesses, earning many accolades and awards for his leadership. During his tenure at IBM, he served as a Junior Achievement consultant to inner city and suburban students in the Oklahoma City metropolitan area, where he taught principles of economics and free enterprise.

Party | Democrat

Contact and More Info

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IN YOUR POSITION, WHAT ISSUE(S) WOULD YOU PRIORITIZE?

As the Democratic nominee for Attorney General, the overarching themes of my campaign include protecting the people of the state of Oklahoma from the people or interests that would do them harm, advocating for transparency and open government while elevating the interests of the public over special interests which means holding special interests accountable instead of giving them a free pass, and enforcing the rule of law, upholding the constitutions of the state and federal government and working to ensure justice and fairness is equally administered rather than disproportionately to disadvantaged populations.

Issues that are bubbling to the surface as I travel around the state include the opioid problem, the threat to vulnerable citizens of internet scammers and predators, the abdication of the watchdog function of the attorney general's office, the concern of the lack of fairness in the criminal justice system including but not limited to criminal justice reform, and corruption that is costing tax payers money.

HOW WOULD YOU ADDRESS THE AFOREMENTIONED ISSUE(S)?

Every child deserves a quality education, and every child deserves to feel safe at school. As a teacher I have experienced first-hand the increase in classroom sizes. In that environment it is extremely difficult to create the kind of community and respect among peers. With smaller classroom sizes I know teachers would be more effective and proactive in their roles to keep all children safe. Additionally, that leadership starts at the top. We need continued collaboration and dialogue about the protections afforded to all students under Title VI of the Civil Rights act across all major education stakeholders, administration, school boards, classroom teachers, parents, and students.

ATTORNEY GENERAL



Mike Hunter

INCUMBENT

Party | *Republican*

Contact and More Info

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Raised with conservative values on a Garfield County farm, Mike Hunter holds degrees from both Oklahoma State University and the University of Oklahoma College of Law. Mike has always been committed to public service. In the 1980s, as a young private practice attorney focusing on energy and real estate law, he ably served six years as a Republican member of the Oklahoma House of Representatives where his efforts led The Daily Oklahoman to name Mike one of “Oklahoma’s Best Legislators” – an honor bestowed upon only eight legislators. After leaving the legislature, Mike continued in public service as the general counsel at the Oklahoma Corporation Commission and thereafter was tapped by Congressman J.C. Watts to be his Chief of Staff. During this time, Mike also served as Watts’ legal counsel for both the National Security and the Transportation and Infrastructure Committees. In 1999, Governor Frank Keating persuaded Mike to become Oklahoma’s Secretary of State and the governor’s chief liaison to the legislature, the judiciary, and the state’s federal delegation. Upon Scott Pruitt’s confirmation as EPA Administrator, Mike’s experience and conservative credentials made him both the obvious and best choice to fill the remainder of Pruitt’s term as the current attorney general, a role he began on February 20, 2017.

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE

STATE SUPERINTENDENT



John Cox

Dr. John Cox is in his 25th year as Superintendent of Peggs Public School and his 33rd year in public education. Dr. Cox was the 2014 Democratic nominee for State Superintendent and received the most votes of any democrat across the state that year. A fierce advocate for our public schools and our children, Dr. Cox serves on various state-wide boards representing and promoting our public schools. He is currently President of the Oklahoma Association of School Administrators, Chairman of the Oklahoma Schools Assurance Group, and President of the Organization of Rural Elementary Schools, among other boards he serves on.

Dr. Cox holds a Doctorate of Education and a Educational Specialist Degree from Oklahoma State University, and a Bachelor's in Mathematics and a Master's in Counseling from Northeastern State University. He is a trustee on the Northeastern State University Alumni Board and carries a life-time membership to the OSU and NSU Alumni Associations. As an adjunct professor, Dr. Cox teaches administrative skills to aspiring Principals and Superintendents.

Dr. Cox's favorite past-time is traveling to new places with his wife Rhonda and loving-on and spending time with their two grandchildren, Marcus and Brynlee.

Party | Democrat

Contact and More Info

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE



Joy Hofmeister

Hofmeister is a former public school teacher and small business owner from Tulsa, Oklahoma. In the private sector, she spent 15 years operating Kumon Math & Reading Centers of South Tulsa. This organization works through parent partnerships to ensure higher academic achievement for children. During that time she personally worked with more than 4,000 students to improve their educational outcomes. Hofmeister graduated with a bachelor's degree in Education from Texas Christian University, and holds teaching certificates in English and Elementary Education. As of May 2015, she is earning her master's degree in Education Administration with a specialty in Education Policy and Law from the University of Oklahoma. She served on the Oklahoma State Board of Education from January 2012 through April 2013 as an appointee of Governor Mary Fallin.

INCUMBENT

Party | Republican

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE

LABOR COMMISSIONER



Fred Dorrell

Fred Dorrell and wife Maggie have been married for twenty-three years. Born and raised in Oklahoma, he has passed on the values he was taught by his grandfather to their three children and five grandchildren. A devoted wife, mother and grandmother, Maggie is also an accomplished business woman. Fred's work history has ideally prepared him to carry out the functions of the Labor Commissioner. For thirty-four years, he worked with Ford Motor Company at the Tulsa Glass Plant and was ultimately appointed by the National Ford Department to be UAW Benefits Representative. Prior to that appointment, he was elected President/Chairman of the UAW Local 1895. For the past six years, Fred Dorrell has been Human Resources Labor Specialist for Spirit AeroSystems in Tulsa. Fred's desire is to serve the state he so dearly loves; for the past twenty-one years, he has done so as an adjunct professor of Business and Human Resources classes at Tulsa Community College. Fred Dorrell's philosophy is that labor and management can find common ground but that both sides must endeavor to find an understanding among one another. He will work to invoke the core values of collaboration, inspiration and transparency which are critical to serve the people of Oklahoma. Fred's determination to find solutions and treat others with dignity and respect while doing so will make him an excellent Labor Commissioner.

Dr. Cox's favorite past-time is traveling to new places with his wife Rhonda and loving-on and spending time with their two grandchildren, Marcus and Brynlee.

Party | Democrat

Contact and More Info

www.freddorrell.com

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE



Leslie Osborn

Leslie Osborn is no stranger to hard work and tough decisions. A successful small business owner for more than 22 years, Leslie has been in the trenches of the Oklahoma workplace, solving problems and making things work. In 2008, she heeded the call to serve the people of District 47, winning election to the Oklahoma House of Representatives. And she has delivered, making state history as the first female to chair the Judiciary Committee where she authored a sweeping workers' compensation reform bill, which lowered costs by more than 30% for Oklahoma businesses. It has been a priority for the business community for decades. Leslie got it done!

Party | Republican

Contact and More Info

www.osborn4jobs.com

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE

Brandt D. Smukes

Party | Independent

CORPORATION COMMISSIONER



Ashley Nicole McCray

Ashley Nicole McCray is from the Oglala Lakota nation and is an enrolled member of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma. She was born and raised in Shawnee, Oklahoma, near the place her dad's family was relocated in the mid 1800s and currently calls Norman home. She received an M.A. from the University of Oklahoma in the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine and an M.A. from the University of Central Oklahoma from the department of History and Geography. Her B.A. is in Psychology from the University of Central Oklahoma. Her areas of study and passion are political economy, industrialization, and the environment.

Party | Democrat

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IN YOUR POSITION, WHAT ISSUE(S) WOULD YOU PRIORITIZE?

Hydraulic Fracturing "Fracking", Wind & Solar, Utility Rate Adjustments, Communications Technology Access, Communities - Commission - Corporations

HOW WOULD YOU ADDRESS THE AFOREMENTIONED ISSUE(S)?

Hydraulic Fracturing "Fracking"

My position on hydraulic fracturing is to listen to Oklahomans and the science, both of which are loud and clear: injection well dumping of frac wastewater is hurting Oklahomans. Whether your concerns fall under earthquakes, the economy, or the environment, we need to consider the impact of fracking on our state. As a Commissioner, I will advocate to ban interstate dumping of frac wastewater (dumping frac wastewater into Oklahoma from other states) and make moves to reduce and eventually eliminate the number of injection wells we have in Oklahoma.

Wind & Solar

With cities like Norman committing to 100% clean energy, it seems the transition to wind & solar is inevitable - all signs point to renewable energy being the wave of the future. The harsh regulations currently imposed against wind and solar aren't just harmful for the environment, they also hurt Oklahomans who are seeking to produce their own form of sustainable energy. Wind energy creates jobs and is good for rural communities. As a proud member of the #ReadyFor100 campaign that was successful in Norman, I will continue to advocate for pathways to open up for renewable energy sources.

Utility Rate Adjustments

As a member of the Oklahoma Corporation Commission, I will advocate on behalf of Oklahoman citizens for a utility rate adjustment for all rate-payers. It is the mandate of the OCC to protect Oklahomans from corporations that are necessary to everyday living and it shouldn't be the case that utility companies monopolizing the industry are positioned to exploit our state's citizens.

Communications Technology Access

As a Commissioner, I will advocate for our rural communities to gain better access to communications technologies that urban Oklahomans are able to benefit from. As outside forces continue to threaten our citizens' access to effective and reliable communication services, I will staunchly support net neutrality legislation.

Communities - Commission - Corporations

No one likes eminent domain, pipeline bursts, or oil spills in their backyard. It simply shouldn't be the case that Oklahomans are exploited and left powerless to protect their property from large corporations seeking to profit from extracting resources. It is the mandate of the Corporation Commission to advocate on behalf of Oklahomans who are impacted by industry. Communities should be able to participate in decision making from the outset of proposed projects and it should be a requirement that corporations gain full and informed consent from the communities directly impacted before oil and gas projects receive the go ahead from the Oklahoma Corporation Commission. Along with full-scope EIS, it is important for the Oklahoma Corporation Commission to engage in government-to-government relationships with Oklahoma's 39 federally recognized tribes sharing jurisdiction in the state. Tribal sovereignty is good for everyone, not just tribal citizens. For instance, some Oklahoma tribes have already passed legislation in their respective governments to regulate within their jurisdictions. This makes our job easier at the Corporation Commission and helps us conserve resources that can be prioritized for other regions of the state.

CORPORATION COMMISSIONER



Bob Anthony

INCUMBENT

Party | *Republican*

Contact and More Info

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Bob Anthony won election to his fifth consecutive six-year term on the Oklahoma Corporation Commission in November 2012, winning all 77 counties. Anthony was first elected to the Commission in 1988 becoming the first Republican elected to that body in 60 years, receiving more votes than any Republican since statehood. In 1994, Anthony became the first Republican incumbent in Oklahoma history to win reelection to a state office. When reelected in 2000, he received more votes than any candidate for state office in Oklahoma history. The FBI recognized Bob with its highest award given to “a citizen who, at great personal sacrifice, has unselfishly served his community and the nation.” Another prestigious award was presented to Anthony in 2006 “in appreciation of his tireless efforts on behalf of Oklahoma consumers.” Bob holds a B.S. degree from the Wharton School of Finance at the University of Pennsylvania, an M.Sc. from the London School of Economics, an M.A. from Yale University, and an M.P.A. from Harvard University. He served in the U.S. Army Reserve where he earned the rank of captain. In 1972 he was the staff economist for the Interior Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives, and in 1976 he served as a consultant to the U.S. Library of Congress. From 1979 to 1980 he served on the City Council of Oklahoma City.

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IN YOUR POSITION, WHAT ISSUE(S) WOULD YOU PRIORITIZE?

1. *“Honesty. Integrity. Anthony.”*
2. *“My only special interest is Oklahoma.”*
3. *“Jobs. Jobs. Jobs.”*

HOW WOULD YOU ADDRESS THE AFOREMENTIONED ISSUE(S)?

Honesty in government, standing up for the public interest, and encouraging economic development – as a Corporation Commissioner, Bob Anthony has worked tirelessly to address these important issues. If reelected, he will continue his efforts on behalf of the people of Oklahoma.

1. **“Honesty. Integrity. Anthony.”** *At the Corporation Commission, Bob Anthony worked with the F.B.I. to root out corruption. His efforts to assure honesty in government continue, enforcing the toughest ethics code in state government and embedding regular performance, financial and operational agency audits. Honest, transparent and accountable government is and always has been his top priority.*
2. **“My only special interest is Oklahoma.”** *Bob Anthony’s record shows he stands up for Oklahoma consumers. He is not afraid to ask tough questions and his business experience with the C.R. Anthony Company and at the Oklahoma Corporation Commission has given him the knowledge and expertise to hold big companies accountable. Bob’s record shows a commitment to the public interest, not the special interests. A national consumers group honored him for his “tireless efforts on behalf of Oklahoma consumers.”*
3. **“Jobs. Jobs. Jobs.”** *Bob Anthony has encouraged job growth throughout Oklahoma by helping keep our state’s utility rates among the lowest in the nation, ordering the largest utility refunds in state history, and by reducing regulatory burdens to business. He has also incentivized the adoption of new technologies, including high-speed Internet, wind power and enhanced 911, giving Oklahoma communities the tools they need to grow and compete in the 21st century.*

HOUSE DISTRICT CANDIDATES

CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

1. What is your stance on **immigration**- What are your views on immigration and what role do you see immigrants playing in Oklahoma's economy?
2. Stance on Oklahoma's **budget**- should we pass more revenue raising measures and if so, where and what services and infrastructures would you prioritize funding first?
3. If elected, how would you serve the Muslim and **interfaith** community? How would you increase civic engagement in minority communities that feel routinely ignored or harassed?
4. **School bullying/harassment** - with the increase in harassment and anti-Muslim bullying in public schools, how would you strengthen the protections available to minority students and their families?
5. **Hate crimes** - What would you do to strengthen or change Oklahoma's treatment of bias-motivated crime?
6. **Education** - What would you do to improve the status of Oklahoma's public education system?

HOUSE DISTRICT 33



John Thomas Talley

FOCUS ON THE POSITIVE

These are the words that John Talley has preached most of his adult life. A 40 year resident of Payne County, John has been ministering to youth and their families, always reinforcing the lesson to focus on the positive. With that focus, he says, you not only change your outlook about yourself but your outlook about others.

John was raised in Anadarko, Oklahoma. It was there he discovered his passion for agriculture and hard work through FFA and the sport of wrestling. After graduating high school John enrolled at Oklahoma State University. He is a proud member of the O Club, having lettered in wrestling, and holds a bachelor's degree in agriculture education.

In 1978, John became an ordained minister and has worked with young adults ever since. Today he is the director of Fellowship of Christian Athletes for North Central Oklahoma. In addition to his school visits through FCA, John's ministry includes facilitating hundreds of team-building programs each year for professional, college, high school and junior high athletic teams plus both public and private entities from across the nation.

John and his wife Caryl have been married for more than 43 years. The couple have lived in District 33, since 1982. They have two grown children, and three grandchildren. Saul and Mary Beth Talley have two children, Stran and Elsie Clem and Grace Talley Willnerd and her husband Bryan live in Lincoln, Nebraska and have a son, Arthur. A family of educators, John has ministered to our communities for 40 years, Caryl is a retired teacher and administrator. As teachers, Saul and Mary Beth are both a part of the Stillwater Public Schools Community.

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE

Party | Republican

Website

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OPPONENT WITHDREW

HOUSE DISTRICT 34



Trish Ranson

The daughter of a machinist and a church secretary in Ponca City, Trish Ranson learned the lessons of hard work and grit as well as the value of education. After graduating from Ponca City High School in 1988, she went on to earn her undergraduate degree in music education from Wichita State University and her master's in music performance and pedagogy from OSU, along with multiple professional certifications. She has served as president for several professional and community organizations including Oklahoma Orff Chapter, and Stillwater High School Band Boosters. Trish's passion for community has also manifested in her contribution to the unique culture of Westwood, for which she was recognized as the school's Teacher of the Year in 2011. She is an active member of the First United Methodist Church and is a champion for community events. Her husband of 20 years is Andrew Ranson, a technology strategy consultant and opera singer who serves as president of the board of Our Daily Bread Food & Resource Center and is past president of Stillwater CARES. Trish and Andrew's two children, Will and Jenna, are students at Stillwater High School and are both active in the Stillwater Bands program. Will has served as section leader in the band and is nearing completion of the Eagle Scout rank in Boy Scouts. Jenna has served as a section leader in the band, has participated in Youth in Government, and is also active in theater and choir.

Party | Democrat

Contact and More Info

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IMMIGRATION

America is a nation of immigrants. I believe our ability to meld many peoples into one nation is our greatest strength. Everyone who comes to America wants to succeed and create a better life for his or her children. My grandparents emigrated from Ireland. Having passed through Ellis Island, they met in New York, married, and raised a family, including my father. They left famine behind but faced hardship again during the Great Depression - and they persevered. My parents and grandparents taught their children to work hard, pursue their dreams tenaciously, and respect others. I try to live up to these values. Every group of immigrants brings a vibrant cultural heritage and new perspectives. Each group invites the nation to grow in diverse new ways. Each makes life in America richer and more rewarding. Equally important, as we meet people with different viewpoints we learn to embrace the common humanity with share with the world. Immigrants play a vital role in Oklahoma. Our economic and cultural lives depend on them. They run the gamut from business executives and university professors to owners of family businesses, construction workers and artisans, and laborers in every economic sector. Just as our state depends on them, they need their elected representatives to author and implement fair, comprehensive, humane immigration policies. We as Americans risk losing our standing in the world and our humanity when we turn away refugees fleeing from political violence and war, when we deny visas based solely on religion and race, when we arrest workers who contribute to our economy at the invitation of U.S. employers, when we separate frightened children and parents, and when allow policies to be driven by fear and bigotry.

TRISH RANSON CONTINUED

BUDGET

*First, we need to agree on our priorities as a state. Legislators must engage with constituents to identify public-service programs and entities that will deliver the greatest benefit to all Oklahomans, drive broad-based economic growth, and improve our quality of life. Then we must focus our funding on these priorities. Second, our state needs to implement revenue strategies that are fair and equitable, and that generate a consistent revenue stream to fund priorities while insulating against market downturns. There are several approaches we can pursue to address this issue holistically: *Revise all tax codes – pertaining to personal income, capital gains, property, business production, etc. – to ensure equitable distribution of taxation. *Diversify our economic base, starting by promoting renewable energy in order to reduce over-reliance on oil. *Adopt Medicaid expansion and the ACA so more federal funds flow into the state and all Oklahomans can get affordable healthcare coverage, including substance abuse and mental health services. As far as what to fund, we need to put money back into core services and education. I believe we are what we spend our money on. It is imperative that we look to the future and fund those programs and entities that will do the most good for ALL Oklahomans.*

INTERFAITH

I currently serve on the Stillwater Community United Council, which plans events celebrating the life and legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. The group has worked together as an interfaith coalition, including Muslims, to bring about positive change in Stillwater. Its vision can serve as a model of inclusion for state and national communities. I believe that we fear others less when we reach beyond cultural differences, and I have been inspired by many in my community who live in this authentic way. The more people from diverse cultures and backgrounds participate actively and peacefully in their communities, the harder it is for any of us to continue in past bigotry.

BULLYING

School must always be an environment where all students can feel personally safe and secure as they learn. Unfortunately, this isn't always the reality. Anti-bullying education and procedures are already in place in public schools and must be maintained and improved as situations change. We should also implement educational programs that promote compassionate understanding by focusing on geographical, religious, and cultural differences and commonalities. Music, art, world history, and social studies classrooms are great places for these lessons to occur. In my classes, I often used music, dances, and songs from other cultures to teach students about the world around them and to foster respect and caring.

HATE CRIMES

It is my understanding that Oklahoma hate-crime statutes are stronger than the national laws. Unfortunately, hate crime convictions are hard to win in court because intent is so difficult to prove. As a legislator, I would be committed to reviewing Oklahoma statutes for any areas that could be articulated more clearly and forcefully. In addition, we can and should promote multi-cultural education as a means to help resolve differences before they become hate crimes.

EDUCATION

We need to reinvest in education. We cannot just patch the damage done by ten years of neglect, but must work towards a comprehensive education system that properly funds early childhood intervention, skill-based trade schools and apprenticeships, and preparation for higher education. We must also improve higher education funding so that working families are better able to afford tuition. I firmly believe that education is a critical long-term solution to many of our pressing social and economic problems. Investment in an educated citizenry will make our state more resilient, build a solid foundation for social good, and help Oklahoma thrive.



Aaron Means

Dr. Aaron R. Means Sr. is a retired United States Public Health officer, a general dentist, ordained minister, and author. He served in two uniform services where he practiced general dentistry for over 27 years (the United States Public Health Service and the United States Air Force). Dr. Means retired in July 2017 after serving as the director of Pawnee Indian Health Center dental clinic for 11 years. His career focused on serving the great citizens of multiple Native American tribes and the men and women of our United States Armed Forces. Dr. Means is the son of the late Robert and Anna Means. He is the youngest of their six children.

Party | *Republican*

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IMMIGRATION

Immigration is a process by which individuals can safely enter the United States to add to the progress our citizens and government attempt to promote. In addition, students are able to come and study in our institutions of higher learning and then go home to practice what they have learned here in our country. We have gained a countless number of wonderful new citizens through immigration as well.

BUDGET

There have been 2 different types of revenue sources created since February 2018. Both budget cuts and tax increases have passed the legislature and signed into law by the governor. Now the state should work to expand the state's economy so there will be job creation which increases the number of tax payers. This is the most effective way to raise taxes. This produces a situation where everyone wins.

INTERFAITH

I will be committed to serve the entire community. It is my passion to connect with all segments of Stillwater. Hopefully, I will build community which will cause connectivity to help breakdown walls that separate us. I believe we all can see each other as sisters and brothers without expecting people to lose their cultural identity.

BULLYING

I have not heard of this problem in Stillwater, but I understand there is a problem with harassment of Hispanic students in smaller school districts. I have been trying to counsel this student and their parents to resolve the problems. As the legislator of District 34 I will be in the position to get more involved in community bullying/harassment problems

HATE CRIMES

All legislators must learn how to apply hate crime laws, so they can better protect the citizens they serve!

EDUCATION

Early last fall I developed a plan which I believe will bring private resources into the classroom and help relieve some of the financial shortfalls we see in the public-school classrooms. I plan to start promoting this idea next month. I want to sit down with professionals who provide public education for our children so I will know how the state legislature can best serve our public-school systems. I spoke with Stillwater's superintendent last November. That meeting was very informative. I believe the best way to create the best educational system possible is to listen to administrative leadership who have spent time learning, evaluating and practicing the art and science of educating our children.

HOUSE DISTRICT 35



Jasha Lyons Echo-Hawk

Jasha serves as a Regional Field Director with the ACLU of OK. She is running for House District 35-covers Pawnee, parts of Payne, Osage, Creek & Noble.

As a woman, as a mother, as a young person, as an indigenous person, as a poor person, I have often second-guessed myself, my voice, but as the great MO has said, "We have to be brave enough to own our voices and put ourselves out there to be okay with being imperfect and to be okay with the imperfections that we see in one another..." Now, I say no more second-guessing. It is time to be heard. It is time to be recognized. It is time to stand up.

We have so many at these positions of power who have forgotten those of us who have put them there. Those who have failed up and choose to believe their elected status makes them untouchable and unaccountable to their communities. This has been echoed in the inability to make the necessary decisions to properly fund education and then they look for scapegoats to explain the state's budget crisis.

Party | Democrat

Contact and More Info

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IMMIGRATION

Our country is a nation of immigrants, and these members of our community deserve every opportunity to succeed and become citizens. Immigrants contribute in large part to Oklahoma's economy. One in twelve Oklahoma workers is an immigrant in addition to one in eleven Oklahoma business owners is an immigrant entrepreneur generating hundreds of millions in revenue for the state. Even further, immigrants generate billions in spending power and taxes paid. We need to ensure that immigrants workers are paid fairly, protected from aggressive deportation efforts, and empowered to be active members of our community.

BUDGET

Oklahoma must think beyond survival and must look towards sustaining our future which means we need new progressive revenue sources. Oklahoma continues to pass regressive taxes on the people whose services are being slashed and continues to think that cutting our way to a surplus is an appropriate way to deal with the budget. This way of management is largely ineffective not to mention abhorrent. One in three (35%) Oklahomans cannot afford necessary medical care so properly funding health care is a priority. Almost half of Oklahomans must take out a loan to fund their college education and the tuition rates continue to increase so funding public education is another priority that calls for attention. Finally, criminal justice reform is well past necessary.

INTERFAITH

As someone who closely identifies with the ways of my Indigenous community, I am a person of the interfaith community. Coming from this perspective enables me to see the importance of not only recognizing all faiths, but affirming all faiths. My community's faith and practices has long been unrecognized and discredited to shame and that has had huge negative and lasting impacts on not just my community, but all over. To witness this persecution and bigotry only leads to more harm and violence for all and so I will stand with the Muslim and interfaith community. In my current work with the ACLU, I am a community organizer accountable to the communities that I work with. We have a practice of countering racial disparities and tackling inequity while advocating and providing education to the public for civic engagement, and we do this work through the centering of impacted communities. We cannot transplant ourselves and claim to work for the community without the community's input and recognition of needs, and it would make us less allies and more as saviors which is not rooted in community. We also must ensure that all community is not only at the table, but validating the importance of their dialogue. This is the way to ensure equity for all.

BULLYING

I am a parent to four children, two of which attend public schools and as a parent, we shouldn't ever have to worry about our children's safety once they enter a school building. Students deserve to be free to focus on their education, instead of worrying about gun violence, bullying, or hateful behavior from within or outside of their schools. Within the walls of our classrooms, we have an opportunity to lead the way by increasing opportunities for dialogue that will erode white supremacy in both the classroom and our communities, and we must work to enact policies that will protect the wellbeing and liberty of all Oklahomans.

HATE CRIMES

We must be more robustly responsive to bias-motivated crimes in Oklahoma. If we allow hateful and violent ignorance to masquerade as any form of "normal criminal behavior," it sets a dangerous precedent. To tackle these institutions of inequity, we must call it what it is and not be afraid to state it publicly.

EDUCATION

Public Education is in desperate need of resources and Oklahoma must find new sources of revenue that won't break the working class. We must invest in this institution to build up our people. Knowledge is power and our leadership should recognize that by investing sustainably and appropriately, we show the value that we want for our future in Oklahoma. Ensuring that all Oklahomans have access to a properly funded institution of education leads to economic equity, economic growth and economic prosperity. We must realize that holding Oklahoma's public education system in a protected status is the Oklahoma standard.

HOUSE DISTRICT 35



Ty Burns

With a military, education and law enforcement background, Ty Burns is all about honesty, integrity and leadership. Ty grew up on the outskirts of Pawnee. Ty is a coach and teacher in Ponca City Public Schools. He deployed twice with the Oklahoma Army National Guard, once to Iraq and once to Afghanistan. He is the recipient of a Purple Heart, a Bronze Star and Combat Infantry Badge. Ty is a Graduate of Oklahoma State University.

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE

Party | *Republican*

Contact and More Info

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HOUSE DISTRICT 45



Merleyn Bell

Merleyn Bell is a fifth-generation Oklahoman. She received her bachelor's degree from the University of Oklahoma, going on to serve as Art Director for OU's award-winning literary magazine *World Literature Today* for 12 years. Through her company, Bell Design LLC, she provides graphic design services and consulting to public and private entities across the state. She and her husband Corey Matzkanin, a registered nurse, are delighted to raise their son in the same city where Bell grew up.

Merleyn has answered the call to serve throughout her life. She serves on the United Way of Norman Health and Safety Council and has volunteered for a number of local nonprofits including Food and Shelter for Friends, Full Circle Adult Day Center, and Thunderbird Clubhouse.

Merleyn is an alumna of Leadership Norman and a member of the Norman Chamber of Commerce. She created the public radio program *Race Matters* in partnership with KGOU Radio as a forum for conversations with leading experts on the topic of race.

Merleyn's dedication to Norman has given her deep insights into the community and a clear vision for Oklahoma's future. She will encourage increased funding that provides for high-quality public education, access to affordable healthcare, and the revitalization of our state's infrastructure.

Party | Democrat

Contact and More Info

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IMMIGRATION

No Answer

BUDGET

Yes, we must create diverse revenue streams that can fund state functions through economic highs and lows. We must increase funding for education, healthcare, and transportation infrastructure. These three areas not only greatly impact quality of life for Oklahoma residents, but also factor into business investment decisions.

INTERFAITH

I believe that religious freedom is a great strength of our nation, and I am committed to the separation of church and state. I will fight for Oklahomans to have the freedom to practice their religion by opposing any legislation that would promote one religion over another. I will also proactively and regularly meet with members of the interfaith community in order to better understand how I can serve their needs.

BULLYING

Anti-bias training for school grown-ups and real anti-bully efforts.

HATE CRIMES

No one knows better how to address bias-motivated crime than those directly affected by it. I would defer to organizations like CAIR to guide discussions on how best to improve in this area.

EDUCATION

Oklahoma education is in a severe crisis. Before we can address anything else, we need to stabilize and restore funding to our schools. I support measures to increase state funding by increasing revenue collected, especially by truly restoring the GPT, ending capital gains exemptions, and restoring the income tax rate on high income earners. Strong state funding is necessary to ensure that Oklahoma's children get a quality education no matter what zip code they live in. We cannot ask our educators to help us plan for the future of our state until they are no longer worrying how to feed their own families or whether there will be enough money to run the buses next week.

HOUSE DISTRICT 45



Marc Etters

Party | *Republican*
Contact and More Info
[@marcettersforhouse](#)

A native of Norman and graduate of the University of Oklahoma, Etters, a Republican, is a self-made businessman, who wants to invest his time and energy making Oklahoma the greatest state. As a builder and designer, Etters owns his own firm specializing in health care, education and commercial projects.

“My company knows how to stretch a dollar and find revenue streams when it seems all hope is lost. That’s exactly the problem Oklahoma faces today – finding ways to shore up services and weed out waste, fraud and abuse,” Etters said.

“I have found success working with people from all walks of life to accomplish tasks. I listen and involve all groups in a building project. For a school, that means involving administrators, teachers, parents, students, even parents of future students and board members,” Etters said. “Results are more successful if everyone has a voice.”

“I am ready to roll up my sleeves and go to work for the citizens of District 45, and for all Oklahomans.” Etters challenged Griffith, who was the sitting incumbent, for the seat in 2016 and lost in one of the closest races in the state.

Etters holds a bachelor’s degree in environmental design and a master’s degree in construction science, both from OU. He met his wife, Rachel, on the OU campus while both were students at OU. They have three children who attend Norman Public Schools: Jack, 17, Peyton, 15, and Lily, 12.

Etters has been a youth coach in a variety of sports for all three children. He has been a Sunday School teacher at Crosspointe Church of Norman, and is a board member of Cornerstone Kids Ranch.

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS NO RESPONSE

Tom Hackelman

Party | *Independant*

NO INFORMATION AVAILABLE

HOUSE DISTRICT 68



Michael Ross

Party | Democrat

Contact and More Info

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“A fifth generation Oklahoman and career educator, Michael Ross is uniquely qualified to address the needs of Oklahoma families in the State Legislature. Michael is a classroom teacher with fourteen years of experience in Oklahoma’s public schools and has seen firsthand the impact of the legislature’s inaction. It was this negligence that inspired Michael to announce his candidacy. Michael’s service to schools dates back to his youth, when his parents Lane, a retired schoolteacher, and Randy, a CPA and former director of the Oklahoma Tax Commission’s Business Tax division, modeled a passion for schools by volunteering with his school’s Parent Teacher Organization, often involving Michael and his brother, Dan, in calling campaigns for bond elections. While working on his undergraduate degree at the University of Central Oklahoma, Michael was awarded a commendation by the Choctaw/Nicoma Park superintendent and board of education for his work on behalf of the district’s bond efforts. Michael’s professional career includes recognition as the 2016-2017 Sand Springs Education Association’s Teacher of the Year for his site and, more importantly, imparting the importance of lifelong learning to class after class of high school students at both his alma mater, Choctaw High School, and his present school, Charles Page High School. Michael attained his BA from the UCO, where he spent four years as a member the prestigious President’s Leadership Council as well as an officer in the Student Programming Board. He also served as a member of the student senate.

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IMMIGRATION

No Answer

BUDGET

With state services seriously impacted by over a decade of budget cuts, Michael will fight for a budget that is fair to all Oklahomans. Corporate welfare and giveaways to special interests have bled state for too long, and a long-outdated tax code is due to be revised to reflect the realities of a 21st Century economy. Michael will champion an Oklahoma that puts the needs of working families over lobbyists.

INTERFAITH

No Answer

BULLYING

No Answer

HATE CRIMES

No Answer

EDUCATION

A free public education for all children is a principal so central to Oklahoma that it is promised in the state’s Constitution. In the past decade, though, decisions made at the Capitol have left that promise tarnished. As Representative, Michael Ross will fight to honor the commitment made in Article III, giving children an education that empowers and equips them for the future. As a career classroom teacher and second-generation Oklahoma educator, Michael has seen the effects of the legislature’s inaction on our state’s classrooms. Once elected, Michael will make the reversal of a decade’s decline in classroom funding a top priority, working to provide stable revenue sources to put needed money into classrooms and provide a revenue stream to cover the cost of raises for teachers with zero impact on other state agencies.

HOUSE DISTRICT 68



Lonnie Sims

Jenks is truly a special place and has been such a blessing to my family. When presented with the opportunity to serve on the Jenks Planning Commission in 2004, it was the least I could do to show my appreciation for the exceptional quality of life my family, friends, and neighbors enjoy. Now almost a decade later and humbled to serve as Mayor, my goals remain the same as my first day as a newly appointed planning commissioner; Preserve Our Small Town Charm | Protect Our Citizens | Plan for Financial Security Promote Our City, recognized in 2013 by Bloomberg/BusinessWeek as the “Best Place in Oklahoma to Raise Kids”

My love and thanks to my wife, Lea Ann, and daughter, Laney, who sacrifice so much so I may serve this great community. My thanks as well to the citizens of Jenks for their continued support and commitment to the future of Jenks. God bless them all for lifting up our community and preserving our quality of life for the next generation to enjoy!

Party | *Republican*

Contact and More Info

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IMMIGRATION

Immigrating to America is such an opportunity. I believe every immigrant that are law abiding and productive have every right to be here. I see them growing our economy.

BUDGET

I think it's inevitable we raise revenue. I would first seek revenue from GPT. Those percentages are not yet where they need to be.

INTERFAITH

I would have community gatherings and events to get engagement from the community so all races could get more acclimated with each other.

BULLYING

No Answer

HATE CRIMES

No Answer

EDUCATION

I will raise revenue or whatever it takes to properly fund education. Education is the most important thing to keep our state competitive to other states. We also need education to grow our state and produce successful productive citizens.

HOUSE DISTRICT 68

J. Lee Miller

Party | *Libertarian*

NO INFORMATION AVAILABLE



Heather Chenoweth

I grew up in a teacher family and followed in my father's footsteps to become a high school teacher. I am not a politician, and I'm tired of immaturity in our leadership. I will roll up my sleeves to work hard for District 68 and the people of Oklahoma. I will fight for jobs, transparency in the budget, health care, and better schools. I will run my campaign as a grassroots movement and personally knock every door in the district.

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE

Party | *Independant*

Contact and More Info

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HOUSE DISTRICT 69



Andy Richardson

Andy is a fourth generation Tulsan. He attended Tulsa Public Schools, and graduated from Booker T. Washington High School. Andy's parents were both life-long public school teachers, and retired from TPS and Berryhill Public Schools.

After high school, Andy received a B.A. from Oklahoma State University and a law degree from the University of Oklahoma College of Law. After law school, Andy and his wife, Natalie, moved to Tulsa in 1994, where Andy began practicing law and Natalie began working at the Tulsa Area United Way.

Party | Democrat

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IMMIGRATION

I love our immigrants that have come here to find new hope and opportunity and have prioritized becoming citizens of our great nation! I further love those that have embraced the American dream and started businesses here!

BUDGET

I believe you can't get where you're going without knowing where you are. In depth audits across all of our state agencies need to be a priority to ensure the money entrusted to the government is being spent in the most efficient and effective way possible. We have nearly 3 times the recent tax increase in projected surplus revenue for next year and I'm excited to see it hopefully go to help education, infrastructure and our most vulnerable.

INTERFAITH

I am excited to serve all of my constituents equally.

BULLYING

Bullying should not be tolerated or accepted in our schools, or in our communities. Period. I try to instill this in my children. Education, discussion and shared experiences is of the utmost importance.

HATE CRIMES

As an attorney, I believe that crimes against persons and property should be fully enforced. Ignorance or institutional bigotry is not a defense. I was deeply saddened by the property destruction at Peace Academy in Tulsa.

EDUCATION

I think we need to address the state mandates for education, reform the funding formula to make it more simple, and use the innovative and well educated minds of our state to decide what a fantastic 21st century education looks like so we can start making steps towards that. I think if we look at the work environment of teachers and give them more freedom to use their expensive educations to teach we will not only free up money spent on expensive high stakes standardized testing, out of state consultants and scripted curriculum, but will produce better educational outcomes for our students. Im tired of comparing ourselves against every other state, I want every other state to compare themselves against us!

HOUSE DISTRICT 69



Sheila Dills

Sheila (Luginbuel) Dills grew up in Vinita, Oklahoma. Her family owns a 93-year-old multi-generational funeral service business in towns across Northeastern Oklahoma.

From an early age, her parents instilled in her the importance of public service and professionalism. Public service is at the core of Sheila's Christian faith. After graduating from Vinita High School, where she was voted by the faculty as the most likely student in her senior class to succeed, Sheila was offered a scholarship to play golf for highly-ranked Oklahoma State University. She had a successful career on the course and in the classroom, graduating with a degree in Broadcast Journalism.

After graduating from OSU, Sheila married her husband Joey Dills and started a family in Tulsa. She sold real estate and worked in the interior design business while raising her daughter along with nurturing a blended family. Sheila has served on the Board of Directors of the Women's Oklahoma Golf Association for the past seven years and as President of the organization for the last four years. During this time she was instrumental in converting the 101-year-old organization from a social organization into a 501c3 public charity.

She developed successful programs such as a scholarship program for high school seniors, a grants program for underfunded Oklahoma high schools and a grass roots program to introduce young girls to the game of golf. In 2016, Sheila was appointed by Tulsa Mayor G.T. Bynum to a steering committee to offer solutions for an area of Tulsa with very high concentrations of crime and poverty. She immediately saw a need and founded a 501c3 non-profit for at-risk youth called Tulsa Midnight Basketball which she serves as president. Tulsa Midnight Basketball is a development program that offers nutritional services, life skill workshops and recreation for underprivileged youth.

Sheila has also served on local, state and national boards of directors, including the First Tee, the Oklahoma Golf Hall of Fame, The South Tulsa Community House, The Tulsa Fraternal Order of Police Benevolent Fund and The American Cancer Society. Sheila has chaired many committees, events, and fundraisers. She is also a member of the Jenks Optimist Club, the Tulsa Republican Women's Club, and the NRA.

Party | *Republican*
Contact and More Info

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IMMIGRATION

Unless we are Native Americans, we are all immigrants. I understand and appreciate the cultural and economic impact we who are immigrants have on our state and our society. I believe we are better when we accept and celebrate our diversity.

BUDGET

First and foremost, I prioritize public K-12 education. The economic forecasts for the next two years look positive for Oklahoma. We should permanently dedicate revenue to long-term, sustainable funding for public education.

INTERFAITH

A central tenet of my faith (the Episcopal tradition) is that we reject bigotry in all its forms. In my faith community, we appreciate and respect the differences of other people of faith in our communities. I strive to do this. As you are probably aware, the incumbent in my district, Rep. Chuck Strohm, has disrespected the Muslim community and is unworthy of serving in public office.

BULLYING

No Answer

HATE CRIMES

No Answer

EDUCATION

Fully supporting, maintaining and funding public education is my top campaign priority. This is a mandate of Article XIII of the Oklahoma Constitution. Class sizes must be reduced. Four-day school weeks must be eliminated. We need to increase the number of certified teachers in our public schools

HOUSE DISTRICT 70



JJ Brunam

JJ Brunam is a Tulsa parent deeply invested in the success of Oklahoma's public schools. JJ and his wife, Christi, are parents of four daughters, ages 3, 9, 11 and 21.

JJ was thrust into the spotlight when he penned and delivered the phrase: "Funding public education should not be 'historic.' Funding public education should be normal!"

His message resonated deeply with Oklahoma's teachers and parents who, regardless of past political party affiliation, have had enough of our state government's willful neglect of public education and other core services.

Party | Democrat

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IMMIGRATION

Whether someone is seeking better opportunity or asylum from oppression, an incoming immigrant deserves to be treated with compassion and human decency. Oklahoma should be focused on public investment to make our state a desirable destination for young families, exciting entrepreneurs, and effective educators from anywhere in the world.

BUDGET

The Oklahoma legislature needs to restore the decade of cuts to public services that have stifled our ability to serve the public's fundamental needs: Education, Healthcare, Roads & Bridges, and Public Safety. The legislature must work with the governor on establishing a resilient revenue stream for our core services, recognizing that we cannot depend on cyclical industries for sustainable funding. Periods of high revenue do not call for complacency. We must both invest consistently, and save for the downturn.

INTERFAITH

I will work to ensure that Oklahoma neither favors nor diminishes any faith, either explicitly or implicitly. I would welcome the opportunity to engage with Muslim, interfaith, and minority communities as the Representative of House District 70. I enjoy meeting and knowing people from differing backgrounds, and I will defend the oppressed and marginalized with my voice and my vote.

BULLYING

Hostility toward a child based on that child's religious heritage is heartbreaking. I support initiatives to educate communities on not only the harmful effects of bullying, but also the ways in which community members of differing backgrounds, ethnicity and religious heritage can enrich one another's lives. Bullying is particularly tragic -- an innocent child hurt by another damaged child. Both the victim and the bully need healing. Availability of mental health and counseling services are essential to rehabilitating both victims and offenders.

HATE CRIMES

As a legislator, I will proudly stand up for the oppressed and the marginalized with my voice and my vote. Crime based on religious hate is particularly despicable and should not be tolerated. I will maintain an open ear with CAIR and with my friends at various churches in Tulsa who champion social justice and interfaith relations.

EDUCATION

Oklahoma's public education funding crisis is what motivated me to run for the Oklahoma House in District 70. I have no faith that the leadership who led us down this path have the courage to be the champions of education funding that Oklahoma so desperately needs. I am committed to fight to restore the decade of public education funding cuts that have hurt our children, hurt our communities, and hurt our economy.

HOUSE DISTRICT 70



Carol Bush

Carol Bush is a Republican member of the Oklahoma House of Representatives, representing District 70. Bush is running for re-election in the general election on November 6, 2018. She was first elected to the chamber in 2016.

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE

INCUMBENT

Party | *Republican*

Contact and More Info

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HOUSE DISTRICT 71



Denise Brewer

Denise Brewer is a parent, national award-winning journalist and community volunteer. She is running to represent District 71 because she knows that our greatest asset is our people and it is time for their interests to be advocated for at the capitol. Denise worked her way through college, graduating from the University of Oklahoma earning her bachelor's degree in Journalism. Upon graduation, she followed in the footsteps of her hero, Walter Cronkite and became a television journalist. Over the course of her award-winning career, she has worked as a broadcast journalist for a number of television affiliates in Tulsa as well as NPR. While she loves this state, she knows that our vibrant community has been handicapped by policies enacted by the leadership at the state capitol. We must fix our legislature before Tulsa can truly become a destination for businesses and travelers alike. In covering stories all over Tulsa, Denise has seen the true potential of our citizens. Tulsa is brimming with entrepreneurial spirit, culture, and hospitality. She believes that we need representation that will put our assets front and center and deliver for our community. In order to do that, we must invest in our kids, their teachers and the schools that educate our workforce.

Party | Democrat

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IMMIGRATION

No Answer

BUDGET

No Answer

INTERFAITH

No Answer

BULLYING

Community. Since the teacher walk out, the entire state has rallied around our neighborhood schools. Our neighborhoods are claiming our schools as our own: that includes our students & teachers. Parents are more than ever ready to talk to improve situations. And that takes us back to Education Funding: if we aren't fully funding our schools, staff, teachers and the simple basics, we aren't funding security

HATE CRIMES

After consulting with experts in the area, I'd like to strengthen the first offense Misdemeanor charge.

EDUCATION

No Answer

HOUSE DISTRICT 71



Cheryl Baber

Cheryl Baber is a Tulsa attorney who enjoys life with her CPA husband, Chuck, and their two sons, Grant and Luke. She grew up on a farm and ranch in Walters, Oklahoma as the youngest of four daughters who spent their summers harvesting wheat with the family out on the Great Plains. Cheryl initially attended Oklahoma City University and majored in journalism before transferring during her junior year to Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, Texas. There, she graduated summa cum laude, was named the Outstanding Graduate in the Division of Political Science and Public Administration, and she received a Rotary Foundation International Scholarship. She used that scholarship to obtain a degree in international history and politics at the Graduate Institute of International Affairs in Geneva, Switzerland. Upon returning to the United States, Cheryl obtained a law degree at Columbia University School of Law in New York.

Party | *Republican*

Contact and More Info

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE

HOUSE DISTRICT 72



Monroe Nichols

Born in Central Texas, Monroe was raised by a single mother following his parents divorce. His father, a police officer, passed away when Monroe was 14 years old. In his younger years, Monroe excelled in sports and served as president of his church youth group. It was a trip to Washington, DC with his mom, a member of the Waco Housing Authority Board at the time, that sparked his interest in politics. For Monroe, his love of sports, his faith and love of politics would define his career moving forward.

"Outside of losing my father, there isn't much I'd change about how I grew up. My mom taught me about sacrifice and my entire family taught me what it meant to stick together in good times and bad."

Monroe became Representative Nichols on June 28, 2016, serving Oklahoma House District 72 in Tulsa County. With his electoral victory, he became the first person of color to represent House District 72 in the Oklahoma Legislature. Representative Nichols has been resident of his district for over 15 years, dating back to his days as a student at the University of Tulsa. Representative Nichols has been a long advocate for his community with a specific focus on ensuring all students are guaranteed a high-quality education, expanding access to health services, reducing unemployment rates and improving safety in neighborhoods.

INCUMBENT

Party | *Democrat*

Contact and More Info

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE

UNOPPOSED

HOUSE DISTRICT 75



Karen Gaddis

We need decisive leadership at our state capitol and I am ready to get to work and be a part of the solution.

In 2011, I retired from a 40-year career in public education. Some may say that I got out before things got really bad in Oklahoma, and in all honesty, I believe they are correct. Over the next five years I watched in horror as educators and students across our state were put on the chopping block, so in 2016 I became the first Democratic candidate for House District 75 in more than a decade.

I campaigned on a platform that promoted public education, knocked doors, got to hear the concerns facing people in my district, and on July 11, 2017, we flipped this district! I am a career educator, not a politician. I am not running for office as a stepping-stone to another career. I am answering the call to "Save Our Schools" and restore the Oklahoma Standard to one of which we can be proud.

If you live in House District 75, I humbly ask for your vote and your support.

INCUMBENT

Party | Democrat

Contact and More Info

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS NO RESPONSE



T.J. Marti

I am T.J. Marti and I am seeking the seat for Oklahoma House of Representatives District 75. I am a pharmacist and owner of CareFirst Pharmacy, running for office for the first time. My mission in life is to take care of others. We run our business like we run our household, with love and respect. Our employees are like family.

I grew up in western Oklahoma and moved to the Tulsa area in 2009. After graduating from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center in 2006, I worked for a chain pharmacy and an independent pharmacy. In 2011, I opened CareFirst Pharmacy in Broken Arrow, OK. In 2016, I opened our second CareFirst in Tulsa, as well as purchased the three Apothecary Shoppe pharmacies. I'm excited about a new venture, Sunshine Care Partners, a chronic care and transition care management company that focuses on cost-saving preventative care. This company looks after the chronically ill and people transitioning from nursing home beds, rehabilitation facilities, and other care facilities to home.

My wife, Tiffany, and I have three children: Jagger(7), Jett(2), and Layla(11 months). My family and I attend Life Church. When I am not working or spending time with family, I enjoy golfing and playing basketball. I am passionate about running a successful business and raising children who serve their neighbors instead of themselves.

Frankly, that's what's wrong with our state. Instead of doing what's best for the people, politicians are self-serving. Instead of voting as the voice of their constituents, politics is always at play. I - TJ Marti - vow to put a stop to political glad-handing. We need money for education - specifically our hardworking teachers, for veterans, mental health, and special needs. We can find that money by cutting out the waste! I consider myself a conservative, pro-life and believe firmly in the Second Amendment.

My vote is not for sale!

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS NO RESPONSE

Party | Republican

Contact and More Info

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HOUSE DISTRICT 76



Forrest Mayer

Forrest is an informal science educator who believes that Oklahoma is long overdue for an update. Our laws are outdated, our technology is obsolete, and our legislature's priorities are petty and narrow-minded. Our grand state is quickly falling behind. In many places, it already has.

Forrest sees the lessons of science as guides to effective public policy. When making decisions, he relies on evidence and reason rather than emotion and tradition in order to ensure that issues are solved fairly, rationally, and in an innovative manner. His goal is to bring Oklahoma into the 21st Century and put us on the cutting edge of industry, education, and technology.

Party | Democrat

Contact and More Info

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS NO RESPONSE



Ross Ford

Prior to running for office, Ross proudly served his community as a Tulsa police officer for over 25 years. During his time as an officer, Ross was tasked with many responsibilities including being a patrol officer in all areas of Tulsa, protecting the Tulsa airport, being a Dare and community relations officer.

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS NO RESPONSE

INCUMBENT

Party | Republican

Contact and More Info

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HOUSE DISTRICT 77



John Waldron

I'm John Waldron, a parent, a public school teacher and a proud thirteen-year resident of House District 77. Last year, I was so concerned about the state of our government that I ran for state senate. I lost that race, but I learned two things: that being a candidate for office means listening to the people, and that things aren't getting any better. This year's legislature was a bitter disappointment for everyone who wanted our government to deliver on a balanced budget, public services that meet our needs, and responding to the democratic wishes of the people. Experience has shown me that nothing comes without hard work and persistence. So after consulting with my wife of fourteen years, Krista (also a public school teacher), and my eight-year old son, Van, I've thrown my hat into the ring again. Together we can restore good government in the name of the people of Oklahoma.

Party | Democrat

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IMMIGRATION

In my canvassing efforts I have seen immigrants revitalizing neighborhoods all over district 77. Immigrants are an important contribution to the Oklahoma economy. I support the DREAM Act and deferred action. I believe the 14th amendment provides equal protection to all persons, including immigrants, I oppose pandering by state legislatures on federal issues.

BUDGET

I support raising revenues by restoring gross production taxes, eliminating the capital gain exemption, and creating new tax brackets for persons making more than 100,000. There is no reason a waitress with three kids should pay the same income tax rate as Harold Hamm.

INTERFAITH

I teach at a school that promotes appreciation for diversity, and as a social studies teacher I have made it a point to study world cultures. I believe diversity strengthens our country. I would reach out to minority communities by engaging with local organizations and leaders, attending services and events, and campaigning for true equality for all citizens. You could expect to see me at every Muslim Day at the capital.

BULLYING

I would work with school leaders to develop programs that spread messages of appreciation (toleration is insufficient) and combat bullying. This is best done through counseling and education. At my school, I have promoted restorative justice programs that require bullies to sit down and listen to the students and the communities they have victimized. And I would work to help students to understand their classmates from other cultures.

Here's a link to an article I wrote about a Muslim girl at my school who ran for the title of queen of the school, or "Miss Hornet":

thislandpress.com/2012/02/11/the-making-of-miss-hornet/

HATE CRIMES

I would fight to strengthen the laws that protect vulnerable communities. Hate crimes should not be tolerated in Oklahoma.

EDUCATION

I would fight to restore funding to 2008 levels. Then I would fight to surpass them. It's not just a question of protecting raises and increasing per-pupil spending, however. Politicians have bought into a lot of snake-oil "reforms" that undermined respect for teachers and public schools. We must restore public respect for teachers to restore education. That means modifying our testing regime, giving teachers more freedom and tools to teach effectively, and guaranteeing every child's right to good public schools.

HOUSE DISTRICT 77



Todd Blackburn

Todd is a lifelong resident of Tulsa County, growing up in mid-town Tulsa. He graduated from Edison HS and began a family. They moved to Florida for three years, joining his parents who have since moved back to Tulsa. Todd's young family returned to Tulsa for a new job with MCI WorldCom in 1998, where he lived in Tulsa and Broken Arrow sequentially for 14 years. This move home to Tulsa County was the beginning of his lifelong career in the Telecom world.

Party | *Republican*

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE

HOUSE DISTRICT 78



Meloyde Blancett

Meloyde Blancett was born and raised in Oklahoma, where she learned the value of hard work and education from an early age. She worked her way through college, graduating from the University of Oklahoma with a Bachelors of Art in Journalism and Professional Writing. Meloyde credits the time she spent working as a daily reporter for the Tulsa Tribune and Norman Transcript immediately after graduation for sparking her interest in civic engagement.

Throughout her professional career Meloyde Blancett has remained committed to the importance of entrepreneurship, creativity, civic engagement and volunteering to improve her community. She owns a local business, The Blancett Group, which specializes in providing marketing and public relations consulting for private firms and public institutions across Oklahoma.

Party | Democrat

Contact and More Info

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS NO RESPONSE



Paul Royse

As everyone is aware, Oklahoma has just passed the biggest tax increase in it's history to support teacher pay raises. In the next legislative term, some would like to increase taxes once again. As per my Democrat opponent, who still wants more revenue from such an increase! A state audit needs to be done to look for wasteful spending. These funds could be used to fix our roads and bridges among other things. The citizens of Oklahoma don't need another tax increase right now. Rock solid stance on that! I am a staunch supporter of the Second Amendment. I believe in the right of the people to keep and bear arms. A citizen should be able to protect themselves, family, and property. Lastly, but most importantly, are our veterans. Our service members and their families deserve our untiring gratitude and support for their service to our country. I am very proud to say that my dad was a veteran. I want to be an advocate on behalf of the veterans that need our help.

Party | Republican

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS NO RESPONSE

Gene Bell

Party | Libertarian

NO INFORMATION AVAILABLE

HOUSE DISTRICT 79



Melissa Provenzano

Melissa is a lifelong Tulsa area native, married mom to two sons and stepmom to two daughters.

As a graduate of Northeastern State University with a BS in Organismic Biology and then from the University of Oklahoma with a MEd in Educational Leadership, Melissa honed her commitment to improving the lives of her fellow citizens by becoming an educator. First, as a Biology teacher at Will Rogers High School, then as an administrator at Booker T Washington High School, Hale Junior High and now for Bixby High School.

Melissa has worked tirelessly during her tenure as an educator to ensure that the children of Tulsa have access to a well-rounded social and academic school-going experience. Developing in each student the skills and abilities that allow them to be successful in life beyond high school as career and college-ready citizens is crucial to our long-term success.

Party | Democrat

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IMMIGRATION

Immigrants own cars, buy homes, pay taxes, run businesses, shop at retailers, eat in restaurants, and contribute to the Oklahoma economy in the same way all citizens do. They deserve the same representation and respect as every other resident in our communities.

BUDGET

Yes, I support certain revenue-raising measures with strict oversight and transparency. We should spend, but do it responsibly.

My prioritized list:

- 1. Education funding - Teacher Salaries, Support, Resources*
- 2. Health and Mental Health Care - 1 in 7 residents of Tulsa County have a diagnosed mental health disorder. Preventative treatment is the most important first step.*
- 3. Criminal Justice reform- we imprison more women than any other state and are second in the nation of incarceration rates overall. This costs taxpayers \$23,000 per year to house an inmate when providing mental and social care services to non-violent offenders costs right around \$2,000. We can spend our money more wisely.*

INTERFAITH

When I worked as a principal in a local middle school with a large Hispanic population, I learned very quickly that we must go directly to the communities we serve to listen, ask questions and take action. What I thought was initially best to promote family engagement was not the case, so I humbled myself and just started asking questions and listening. So many families lived in fear that the school would report them to authorities, so they did not come to the school and sent their children with baited breath. Often the children were bilingual, and thus the mouthpieces of the family to the community. We struggled at first getting families to the school, then we went into the communities, reached out to them where they were, and invited them into the school many times, and provided opportunities to volunteer and participate in that they were comfortable with. We coordinated educational outreach events where families could learn about their rights as Tulsans. Family engagement soared, and student attendance and participation improved.

BULLYING

As a school administrator who has seen this up close and personal, I worked to establish safe notification procedures for when students are bullied or harassed at school and beyond. We established an anonymous tip line, trained our teachers and staff to identify bullying and harassment quickly as well as making sure all staff understand it is the legal obligation to report bullying and harassment as soon as they are aware of it.

The next step is creating an environment that students feel safe in. You do not learn if you feel unsafe. All students have the right to feel safe at school and need to trust that the adults in their school building will act when there are dangerous activities occurring. Parents need to feel welcome at the school so that they too can report issues and trust that action will be taken.

HATE CRIMES

First, we must start with law enforcement officials. They must receive implicit bias training to help them recognize bias-motivated crimes and take swift action accordingly. We also need to increase the number of minority and female offices that represent the communities they work and live in.

EDUCATION

The first step in improving Oklahoma's public education system is securing a fair living salary for our teachers. We worked very hard to secure the \$6,000 raise for our teachers, and now it is being challenged again. My first order of business when in office would be to protect the teacher raises and secure the long-term funding beyond this first year without borrowing from other agencies to do so. I would then work to secure the long-term funding stream for per-pupil spending to purchase technology, textbooks, and resources so that we can prepare our students with the skills necessary to be competitive in the college and career path that extends beyond our secondary institutions.



Dan Hicks

Dan Hicks is lead designer at a Tulsa architectural firm. His work includes public school facilities such as the Robson Performing Arts Center at Claremore High School and Broken Arrow's Centennial Middle School, as well as private school and church facilities such as the Monte Cassino Childhood Center and South Tulsa Baptist Church. Given the amount of money spent on buildings by state agencies, colleges, CareerTech centers, and public schools, it would be a great asset to Oklahoma taxpayers to have someone like Dan Hicks in the legislature who understands the tradeoffs between cost, functionality, and appearance, someone who has a sense of how much a building should cost and what tends to drive costs higher.

Party | *Republican*

Contact and More Info

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE

HOUSE DISTRICT 80



Janice Graham

Janice J. Graham is a former educator, small business owner, and Realtor. In 1978, Janice moved to Oklahoma to attend Oral Roberts University where she earned a bachelors and masters degree in special education. She later completed post-graduate studies at Northeastern University for certification in school psychology. Janice served for 35 years as a special educator and school psychologist in Oklahoma Public Schools, and continues to be passionate about educating all children and supporting the dedicated professionals who directly touch the lives of our students. Janice's distinguished career in education culminated in her appointment as a special education supervisor in Tulsa Public Schools. Janice is a mentor to many in the field of education as she has cultivated a deep commitment to public education and challenged others to become leaders themselves. Her colleagues often describe Janice as an "enthusiastic champion for students who always has a smile and kind word for all those she meets." In 2004, she was proud and humbled to have been named "Service Provider of the Year" in Tulsa Public Schools.

Party | Democrat

Contact and More Info

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IMMIGRATION

I believe that the U.S. needs reform to make citizenship more efficient and affordable. We are a nation built of immigrants. I value the differences in people by gender, race, origin, age. I believe that my life is richer when I build relationships with people different than myself. Immigrants are here for opportunity and that includes jobs. They have built our workforce with talent, skill and effort.

BUDGET

The budget difficulties in Oklahoma is due to 2 things: 65% of the state budget needs to be reviewed for excessive waste and monies earmarked for expenditures that no longer serve Oklahoma. I would support revenue raising measures for oil companies and big business. I also believe that citizens understand the need to share the tax burdens of the state. If only, we tax fairly and equitably. I believe that fully funding education and other core services such as mental health and state workers should be given priority.

INTERFAITH

In my world, I have relationships with people of different faiths. I believe I would begin by building relationships with leaders from your faith community to gain an understanding of ideas to boost civic engagement and inclusion in our community.

BULLYING

From being a 35 year educator, I'm a firm believer that bullying and prejudism is learned. Young children are the most loving and nonjudgmental beings I've ever seen. It seems like bullying and harassment are starting at younger ages which is troubling. Bullying of any sort should not be tolerated. We can make a change by training our educators to recognize it and not ignore it or sweep it under the rug. Harassment also happens to adults. As a supervisor, I supported one of my psychologists who felt harassed by a site administrator. I learned so much from this experience. If it feels like prejudism to the person, it is. It often is so subtle. Breaks my heart.

HATE CRIMES

Hate crimes of violence should be sentenced to the fullest extent of the law. The perpetrator of non-violent hate crimes, should have to "make amends" to the victim as well as their sentence. No tolerance.

EDUCATION

I could write a book. I'm a retired educator of 35 years where I started as a teacher and retired as the lead school psychologist of Tulsa Public Schools. We have got to fully fund education and other core services. We need to attract highly qualified educators back to Oklahoma. We need to promote the most current of curriculums and technology. Education reform is desperately needed.

HOUSE DISTRICT 80



Stan May

Stan is the public information officer for the Tulsa Fire Department, where he has served for 26 years. A father and husband, Stan has three children, all who attended Broken Arrow and Bixby schools. He is a graduate of Southern Nazarene University and Rhema Bible Training College. He attends Life Church.

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE

Party | *Republican*

Contact and More Info

www.stanmay.com

HOUSE DISTRICT 81



Jackie Philips

Jackie and her family have been part of the Edmond community for the past 25 years. She and her husband Neil are the owners of Avalanche Print Company, a small business in Edmond.

Jackie's background is in non-profit development as the executive director of Dialogue, Start One, a 501c3 organization that she founded to focus on advocacy, education, and fundraising for partner non-profits. She was featured in the NY Times bestselling book "The Enough Moment" by John Prendergast and actor Don Cheadle as an "Upstander" and Social Entrepreneur working for positive change. Currently, she serves on the board of Fostering Sweet Dreams Foundation, an organization that provides beds and other essential items to kinship foster families.

Jackie's two children attended Edmond Public Schools. Ryan graduated in 2013 and her daughter Sofia is currently a sophomore at Edmond Memorial High School. When Sofia showed signs of learning difficulties in kindergarten, Jackie began educating herself and learned that 1 in 5 children do in fact have a learning disability. Only a small number of these children receive specialized instruction or accommodations due to lack of funding for programs and teacher training. As the parent of a child with dyslexia and dysgraphia, Jackie has spent the last 7 years advocating for the necessity of early identification and intervention for children with learning disabilities to ensure that all children have the chance to be successful.

As a past member of the Cimarron Middle School Parent Teacher Organization and the current co-president of the Edmond Memorial Parent Organization. Jackie is actively involved in our schools. She is committed to making Oklahoma education the best it can be.

Party | Democrat

Contact and More Info

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IMMIGRATION

Immigration plays a vital role in the economy of Oklahoma. Immigrants are important members of our community who participate in almost every industry operating in our state. Our friends from other countries are taxpayers and who help pay for schools, emergency services and our infrastructure.

BUDGET

Oklahoma's budget crisis continues because our legislators keep kicking the can down the road. Years of tax cuts have created revenue shortfalls for core agencies. We need representatives who will stand up to the status quo and create recurring and consistent revenue sources for the long term. Work on the budget must begin earlier in the legislative session. When budget decisions are rushed, mistakes are made, jobs are lost, and children are put at risk.

INTERFAITH

I think an important part of civic engagement is to be inclusive of all cultures when considering public activities such as parades, festivals and celebrating holidays from all over the world.

BULLYING

Promote programs that teach cultural awareness and diversity. We must reduce bullying in general.

HATE CRIMES

I support a zero-tolerance policy for hate crimes. Oklahoma should establish an anonymous hotline for witnesses of harassment and hate crimes.

EDUCATION

Our state must provide a quality and comprehensive education system to ensure continued social and economic prosperity. Underfunding continues to fuel our teacher shortage, excessive class sizes and our inability to provide updated textbooks and basic needs for our classrooms. This is unacceptable. Oklahoma leads the nation in the deepest cuts to education funding and as a result, many districts have been forced to go to 4-day school weeks. These are not the only consequences of a decade of budget cuts which have created this crisis. We need a new perspective. As your elected representative, I will work to identify waste in our spending and create revenue sources to consistently and adequately fund our schools so that districts have the resources they need to give our children the education they deserve.

HOUSE DISTRICT 81



Mike Osburn

A Tahlequah native, Mike Osburn graduated magna cum laude from Oklahoma Christian University with a bachelor's degree in history and political science. He graduated from the University of Oklahoma College of Law in 1993, having received the Professional Responsibility Award for exemplifying professional responsibility and ethics. Mike began his career with Oklahoma governor Frank Keating, first as campaign manager and then as deputy chief of staff in 1995, where he managed the staff and served as a political and policy advisor. Later, Mike became state director for U.S. Senator Don Nickles, serving four years. In 2005, Mike was named state director for Americans for Prosperity, Oklahoma, a grassroots economic public policy organization.

INCUMBENT

Party | *Republican*

Contact and More Info

www.mikeosburn.com

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE

HOUSE DISTRICT 82



Oraynab Jwayyed

As a community organizer, mother, and business owner, I have watched our state's leadership ignore the best interests of Oklahomans again and again. This is bad governance and it's just plain wrong.

I'm running because I know we can and must do better for our kids, our parents, our neighbors, and the future of Oklahoma.

Born and raised in New York, I planted my roots in Oklahoma 18 years ago. I volunteered at Edmond Public Schools for 15 years while my children were growing up. I watched first-hand as the most coveted schools in the district slowly deteriorate.

I have dedicated my life to serving others. While raising my children and pursuing my degrees, I launched Business Interludes to help women rebuild their financial lives after a crisis. Since that time, I have earned an MBA from the University of Central Oklahoma, published two books, completed a TED Talk, and have been a nationally recognized advocate for single mothers trying to rebuild their financial lives.

Party | Democrat

Website

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IMMIGRATION

I am the daughter of Palestinian immigrants who settled in the United States in the 1960's. My parents left behind their worldly possessions and families to provide me with better opportunities in the U.S. This selfless sacrifice has motivated me to give back to this country and to serve my fellow Americans. It is one of the reasons I decided to run for office: to honor parents who made that long, uncertain trek across continents and oceans to provide me with constitutional rights and civil liberties they never received back home. It's why I support the rights of immigrants. By providing immigrants with an opportunity to rebuild better lives, and to extend to them the constitutional protections we take for granted, they too will give back to this country. Historically, an inclusive immigration policy allows countries to thrive socially, politically and economically. We now understand the benefits of diversity to the robust growth of institutions, and the important role equal representation plays in passing fair and sustainable laws. Research shows immigrants have contributed vastly to the U.S. economy through their business ownership and skill sharing. In turn, the U.S. has witnessed an increase in the advancement of key industries, including STEM-related professions. Throughout my campaign, I have come across several House District 82 families who traveled here from abroad to study and work. As evident at the national level, immigration to the state is beneficial to Oklahoma's future economic and future expansion. As a legislator, I will support policies that welcome immigrants to the state and promote the utilization of idea sharing and work opportunities. I will also support Oklahoma's role as a sanctuary state because everyone deserves the full protection of the law and access to due process. I will not stand for the imprisonment of immigrants or the separation of families.

BUDGET

The current revenue crisis Oklahoma faces is based on the inability of the state legislature to pass fair tax laws and a sustainable budget. Unfortunately, our current leadership practices a short-term policy strategy. Its goal is to pass patchwork bills that fail to focus on long-term sustainability. The passage of key revenue-raising measures during this past legislative session still left a budget gap in the tens of millions of dollars. The Oklahoma Tax Commission's annual report ending June 30, 2017 reveals revenue collections were three percent less in 2016-2017 than the prior period, and four percent less than 2011-2012 (five years ago) and 2006-2007 (ten years ago). To address this issue, I propose that we first review agency funding accounts to determine 1) they are adequately funded and 2) the source of those funds. We need to confirm that each account holds the funding allocated to it and not a transfer from another fund. To address the decline in revenue inflows, I propose we raise taxes and fees on products that modify or deter negative behavior, such as taxes on soda/sugary drinks and cigarettes, as long as they don't unfairly target one demographic group. Taxes on the growth of sales in CBD products, and medical marijuana once SQ 788 is implemented, would be considered as well. As of the close of the recent 56th legislative session, the following agencies were still underfunded and will receive first priority: Department of Education, Department of Health, and the Department of Health & Human Services

ORAYNAB JWAYYED CONTINUED

INTERFAITH

I have worked in the past with Oklahoma's Muslim and interfaith community and understand the importance of community collaboration and outreach. Such interactions counter stereotypes and mitigate racism so communities don't live in fear or suspicion of one another. I will take that valuable experience with me to the House of Representatives. While in office, I will advocate on behalf of Oklahoma's faith communities, ensuring they receive the protections afforded to them under the U.S. Constitution's First Amendment. I will support bills that offer faith communities the resources and tools they need to thrive socially and economically. I will also support bills that protect students of all faiths from bullying, to ensure they are receiving the attention and quality education they deserve in a safe and secure environment.

BULLYING

Oklahoma's current anti-bullying laws and policies do not include an enumeration of specific characteristics. Therefore, they do not cover crimes carried out based on a victim's race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, and other special characteristics. This leaves students that fall under these groups, such as those from the Muslim faith, vulnerable to attacks. The purpose of Oklahoma's anti-bullying laws and policies address only the negative impact bullying has on a student's social behavior. Thus, I will work to ensure these measures are updated and more specific to protect students from all backgrounds.

HATE CRIMES

Title 21 Section 850 of the Oklahoma Statutes protects hate crime victims against "malicious intimidation or harassment because of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin or disability". The problem with the current statute is that it makes hate crimes difficult to prove, and therefore discourages victims from filing any charges. Maximum penalties are also minor, which are imprisonment up to one year for a first offense and up to ten years imprisonment for a second offense. Another weakness to the statute is that it excludes protections for members of the LGBTQ community. A solution would be to update the current statute to ensure these weaknesses are addressed so victims from the LGBTQ community receive protections, the accused faces severe penalties, and victims are encouraged to report these crimes.

EDUCATION

First, I will stay connected with the state's education industry to stay abreast of any challenges it faces. The issues I propose to tackle include the increase in teacher or "bootleg" certifications and large classroom sizes. I will work to ensure schools have access to supplies, updated textbooks, and furniture they are proud to sit on. I will support bills that raise teacher salaries to Oklahoma's cost of living standards and are comparable to salaries at the regional and national levels. I will also work to ensure that the needs of students with disabilities and special needs are adequately met, that funding remains at the schools they're allocated to and not diverted through school vouchers, and that our students are reading at the required grade levels.

HOUSE DISTRICT 82



Nicole Miller

Over the years, Nicole has been highly involved in activities supporting our military and veterans. In Oklahoma, she began working for the Oklahoma National Guard, focusing on federal legislation. She took lead roles on BRAC issues and was instrumental, for example, in helping to save hundreds of jobs stationed at Will Rogers Air National Guard Base with the replacement of the KC-135 mission with a new special operations MC-12W mission. Nicole subsequently moved to the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs with Major General Myles Deering. There she has helped modernize agency operations, saving taxpayers thousands of dollars. She's also taken lead roles on important projects, such as a new Oklahoma Veterans Registry, to ensure all Oklahoma veterans receive the support and benefits they have earned.

Party | *Republican*

Contact and More Info

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IMMIGRATION

No Answer

BUDGET

No Answer

INTERFAITH

No Answer

BULLYING

No Answer

HATE CRIMES

No Answer

EDUCATION

Nicole supports our public schools and will vote to increase teacher pay. Strong education systems are key to building our economy and attracting good jobs.



Chelsey Branham

Party | Democrat

Contact and More Info

www.chelseybranham.com

Chelsey Branham is a community leader, nonprofit professional, and lifelong Oklahoman. Chelsey worked her way through college at the University of Oklahoma. She graduated with a Bachelor’s in Religious Studies and Psychology. She went on to earn her Master’s in International Economics and Development. Her area focus was Sub-Saharan Africa and she conducted primary research in Zambia, and was a two-time Boren Travel Fellow. Now Chelsey works at the Young Women’s Christian Association of Oklahoma City.

At YWCA OKC, Chelsey serves as Director of the Social and Economic Justice Department. She works closely with employers and community groups to create opportunities for sexual assault and domestic violence survivors. Chelsey is responsible for coordinating trainings related to job readiness and financial literacy. She also leads trainings for groups focused on ending racism and empowering women.

A committed leader, Chelsey works to promote inclusion, diversity, and economic development. She organized the Racial Justice and Economic Empowerment forums and the CommUNITY Alliance. Chelsey is also an Executive Stakeholder in the Police and Community Trust. This group works to improve relations between law enforcement and minority communities.

Chelsey is a Native Chickasaw and lives in Oklahoma City. She is a Sally’s List candidate, a nominee for the New Leaders Council Fellow, a member of Women Lead Network, the World Experiences Foundation, and the Black Chamber of Commerce.

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IMMIGRATION

The U.S. has some of the most discriminatory and stringent immigration laws in the world, and they heavily favor Euro-centric countries over Middle Eastern, African, Asian, and Latin countries. I have been an advocate for immigration and immigrants to this country for many years. I have personally assisted several individuals and families through the process and helped to connect them with resources and information, as well as fought and advocated for their rights. I have even provided seed grants for a few individuals that had to apply numerous times and drive long distances to submit applications, as well as assisted with settlement, employment, and resource development upon arrival.

Immigrants are essential to our economy nationally, as well as locally. Oklahoma undervalues and under-invests in education and skills development, and we would be without some of the human capital necessary without the contribution of immigrants. Immigrants do local populations a service by contributing to our economies and communities.

BUDGET

I am strongly in favor of increasing revenue for our state through many pathways, to fund the vital programs and services that help our state thrive. I would heavily invest in education and workforce development, general and mental health, and infrastructure. Those three things are essential to building a strong community foundation, increasing economic opportunity, and attracting industry to the state.

CHELSEY BRANHAM CONTINUED

INTERFAITH

My personal and professional passion is working to increase inclusion, diversity, and community to create equity and acceptance for all people. I have been fortunate to work with and serve many marginalized communities locally and globally for over a decade to carry out the mission of creating opportunities for dialogue, reflection, and advocacy. There are not many groups or organizations that advocate on behalf of our diverse communities in Oklahoma that do not know my dedication to serving them and elevating them in whatever way I can. As a legislator, I will continue to create opportunities for these communities, advocate on their behalf, and actively invite them to the table. Engagement begins with engagement, and I have always been and will always be a friend to the Muslim community and all communities.

BULLYING

We are currently in a social environment that tolerates and encourages bullying and harassment at all levels, because we continue to fail to address the deep social and cultural wounds that foster this behavior. I have always placed an emphasis on building relationships, because I believe care and consideration for one another makes it more difficult to make decisions that might have negative consequences and helps us to challenge harmful notions and stereotypes. Not only must we focus on creating a healthier environment for children and students at school, but at home as well. Public education should have elements of both mindfulness/reflection and cultural exchange and appreciation of difference. As a legislator, I would push for these changes in public education, as well as protections for students under attack. In addition, schools and communities need education on these issues and best practices, to increase the understanding and action around these issues.

HATE CRIMES

While it is often easy to identify that a crime has occurred, it is much more difficult under current federal and state law to prove that crime was bias-motivated. As someone who is not an expert in criminal law or hate crimes, I would work with organizations like CAIR OK and ACLU to determine what improvements might be needed in local law to further protections under this classification of crime and make recommendations accordingly.

EDUCATION

It only takes a few seconds of reading my background or stance on issues to know that I am an ardent advocate of public education and have worked to support education both in and out of the field for many years. As nearly the last state in the U.S. to value education and produce positive outcomes, it will take a major investment and overhaul at all levels to create an education system that benefits our children and community. As a legislator, I will fight to heavily invest in public education, educators, and core services to help repair our crumbling education system. I would advocate to increase active learning, technical development opportunities, and STEM in schools, to help our students be competitive on the local, national, and global scale.

HOUSE DISTRICT 83



Jason Reese

Jason Reese was raised as the only child of a single father who moved to a small town, enduring a long commute so Jason could attend a good school. Jason made it through the University of Oklahoma on part-time jobs and scholarships before leaving for Notre Dame Law School. While at Notre Dame, the attacks of September 11 occurred. Answering the call of duty, Jason enlisted in the U.S. Navy Reserve. While still in the Navy, Jason transferred back to OU to marry Jessica and settle in Oklahoma City.

After the Republican Party gained control of the Oklahoma House of Representatives for the first time in over eighty years, Jason was offered a position at the House conducting legal research and drafting legislation. In 2006, he left state government and entered the private sector. For the past eleven years, Jason has represented and advised Oklahoma businesses, especially in the field of employment law. His expertise in employment law was recognized by the Governor when he was appointed to the Merit Protection Commission, which oversees the employment decisions and policies of state agencies.

Jason and Jessica live in Quail Creek with their four children. The Reeses attend Christ the King, where all but baby Charlotte attend school as well. Jason is active in the community, serving as an usher for his church and on the board of the Quail Creek Homeowners Association. He is a member of Oklahoma City Rotary Club 29 and the Downtown Club. The service he finds the most fulfilling is as a member of the Board of Cristo Rey Catholic High School, a startup school tailored to fit the needs of underprivileged teens who otherwise would lack the opportunity to make a better life.

Party | *Republican*

Contact and More Info

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IMMIGRATION

No Answer

BUDGET

In order to increase accountability and transparency in state agencies, I favor a return to line-item budgeting.

INTERFAITH

No Answer

BULLYING

No Answer

HATE CRIMES

No Answer

EDUCATION

I favor immediately raising teacher pay to the regional average and will not vote for a budget that doesn't address this goal. Public higher education is an engine for economic development and social mobility. I will work to keep higher ed in this state excellent, accessible, and affordable.

HOUSE DISTRICT 84



Lauren Morris

My name is Lauren Morris, and I am running for State Representative for District 84. I have lived in Oklahoma since 2013, though our family has roots here in Oklahoma extending back nearly a century. Though I am not a professional politician, I believe that the citizens of this state and district deserve honest, responsible, and well-considered representation at the state level. As such, I have chosen to run in the upcoming election.

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE

Party | Democrat

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Tammy West

Tammy West is a Republican member of the Oklahoma House of Representatives, representing District 84. She was first elected to the chamber in 2016. West has a degree in business management from the University of Central Oklahoma. She has held various volunteer positions, including PTA president at the elementary, middle school and high school level. She has three children with her husband, Jon. Her children are all graduates of Putnam City West High School.

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE

INCUMBENT

Party | Republican

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Cyndi Munson

INCUMBENT

Party | Democrat

Contact and More Info

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First elected in September of 2015 and re-elected in 2016, Cyndi Munson became the first Asian-American woman elected to the Oklahoma Legislature. She has concentrated her legislative efforts on providing equal pay for equal work, strengthening the rights of survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault, assisting Oklahoma’s veterans, and working to make life easier for our loved ones who suffer from Alzheimer’s and dementia.

Originally from Lawton, Cyndi developed her passion for public service at an early age. Her father’s military service taught Cyndi and her sister, Sandra, the importance of giving back. A first generation college student, Cyndi graduated from the University of Central Oklahoma with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, and the University of Nebraska - Lincoln, where she earned a Master of Science in Leadership Education. Cyndi also spent a semester of her college experience studying at Georgetown University in Washington, DC.

Before her election to the Legislature, Cyndi spent a decade working and volunteering in Oklahoma City’s non-profit community. In her most recent work with Girl Scouts of Western Oklahoma, she provided leadership programs for thousands of girls in low-income schools, juvenile detention centers, and public housing.

Cyndi is a member of Leadership Oklahoma Class 31 and an alumni member of Leadership Oklahoma City’s LOYAL Class VIII. She serves on the Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women, is a member of the Oklahoma Messages Project Board of Directors, and is the past chair of the Infant Crisis Services Young Professionals Group.

In her free time, Cyndi enjoys running, reading, mentoring young women, trying new local restaurants and attending events in Oklahoma City, and spending time with her family and friends. Cyndi is also a member of Crestwood Vineyard Church in Oklahoma City.

CYNDI MUNSON CONTINUED

IMMIGRATION

Immigration is personal to me. As a Korean American woman, I am very aware of my mother's decision to come to the United States and become an American citizen. As Congress and the President work to reform immigration policy, their focus should be on policies that are humane and just. I believe families should remain together without the fear of deportation. Immigrant children and adults should be treated with compassion, not judgement. I am in support of the full Dream Act and we, as a country, should follow through on our promise to make sure our children and families are not living in fear of being separated. The pathway to citizenship should be easier and more clear, not difficult and confusing. Immigrants in Oklahoma play a vital role in our economy not only by bringing rich culture and diversity, but by also growing and strengthening our state's workforce. This presents a greater demand on us as a state to ensure we invest in public education and healthcare as well. We can work together by highlighting immigrant owned businesses in our state to bring greater awareness of their economic impact in our communities and to increase patronage. We should embrace and celebrate the work being done all across our state by immigrant families who have contributed to business, education, and healthcare.

BUDGET

We absolutely must continue working toward raising more revenue to invest in Oklahomans. Now that we have raised the gross production tax, cigarette tax, and gas/diesel tax, we need to make changes to our personal income tax structure. We should restore the income tax back to 5.25% and consider creating a new tax bracket for higher income earners starting at \$250,000. I would prioritize public education, healthcare, mental health, and human services. These four areas of our state government have been neglected for far too long and until we reinvest our revenue we will continue to see Oklahoma at the bottom of every good list and at the top of every bad list. In order for our economy to grow, we have to invest in the one thing that will do it: our people.

INTERFAITH

I will continue my work in engaging and supporting the great work being done by the Muslim and interfaith community. I will continue to speak out against my colleagues who choose to tear down any individual member or group for their own political gain. I will continue to engage in community activities and forums as well as build on my personal relationships within my Muslim and interfaith constituents. In order to increase civic engagement in minority communities, I will continue to show up to empower individuals by listening. I will continue my work on the barriers many, but specifically minority populations, face in our election system and processes.

BULLYING

Children and their families should be held accountable for their actions, especially bullying and harassment. I also believe we must better prepare our administrators, teachers, aides, and staff members to handle these situations not only after they occur, but also before. I would like to implement cultural competency trainings as a continuing and professional education course to better educate the adults running the school building. I also believe organizations, like CAIR, should be invited to our schools to give talks and answer questions to better educate our children and build curiosity and compassion toward their neighbors. I believe we can and will experience a decrease in bullying and harassment when we invest time toward better educating adults and children about the Muslim community and Islam.

HATE CRIMES

I am interested in working toward the prevention of bias-motivated crime and I believe it starts with dialogue. I believe leaders need to muster the courage to talk to their constituents about misleading, harmful, and hateful information used against Oklahomans that motivate hate crimes. As a community, we have to stand up to and call out individuals and organizations that choose to harm our neighbors. CAIR is already doing a tremendous job of starting and continuing dialogue with community members and elected leaders to better engage with the Muslim community specifically, but as an elected leader I can always do more to highlight the good works and deeds of CAIR and other organizations.

EDUCATION

Properly funding public education is the key to improving what is currently happening in Oklahoma. For the last decade, the Legislature has decreased taxes and faced numerous budget shortfalls which have resulted in negatively impacting public education. Though we were able to make some improvement during the 2018 Legislative Session, there is still plenty of work to do. Our teacher shortage is a crisis. Not only are we losing teachers to neighboring states and non-education industries, our colleges and universities have seen a dramatic decrease in teacher candidates graduating to teach in Oklahoma. The State Department of Education has reported an increase in emergency certified teachers, almost reaching 2,000 teachers. We must prioritize funding for education as an investment for our future.

HOUSE DISTRICT 85



Matt Jackson

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS
NO RESPONSE

Party | *Republican*



Stephen Paulson

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS
NO RESPONSE

Party | *Libertarian*

HOUSE DISTRICT 96



Kathy Wallis

Kathy Wallis is running for the Oklahoma House of Representatives District 96 because she understands the struggles faced by Oklahomans who are working hard to get ahead. For too long, the people in power have worked behind closed doors for special interest and themselves. Kathy knows it's time to represent and listen to those who are truly investing in our state - working families. Kathy passionately believes that we can turn things around and better all the communities in District 96. She is committed to working hard for every community in House District 96 – toward revitalizing and ensuring a bright future for every resident. Kathy believes, without a doubt, that our communities can once again be places where we all thrive, and where our children and grandchildren will want to live and work and raise their families.

Party | Democrat

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IMMIGRATION

I support legal immigration and realize that for decades immigrants have, and will continue to, play a vital role in our state and nation.

BUDGET

Education must absolutely be funded first. Short term revenue raising measures may be required. Long term, I believe that justice reform will free up much needed dollars from the state's budget to fund education and other core services.

INTERFAITH

I believe a representative's duty is to represent and engage with all of the citizens in the district.

BULLYING

Bullying and harassment should not be tolerated and our we must work with our schools and communities to provide a safe environment for all citizens.

HATE CRIMES

Although legislation is important, laws do not, in and of themselves, remove the underlying hate. Education through cultural awareness programs, building coalitions and building alliances with law enforcement and the communities are vital in fighting hate crimes.

EDUCATION

We have to allow teachers to teach and to provide them with appropriate funding and quality pay. Additionally, we must look at tuition incentives for encourage students to enter the teaching profession.

HOUSE DISTRICT 96



Lewis Moore

Lewis Moore of Edmond, Oklahoma is a Christian, conservative and Republican. He loves God and his family. As your state representative, I pledge to give equal treatment to all of eastern Oklahoma County's communities - Edmond, Arcadia, Choctaw, Harrah, Jones, Luther and Newalla. 2017 COMITEES: Insurance (CHAIRMAN), Judiciary Appropriations and Budget, Transportation, Elections and Ethics

INCUMBENT

Party | Republican

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IMMIGRATION

I believe in controlled borders and legal immigration. I believe in giving people an opportunity to help themselves and build up our country to be even stronger than ever. New immigrants should want to assimilate, learn about our culture, defend our constitution and way of life.

BUDGET

We need to prioritize a lean, effective budget process that as many Oklahomans as possible can understand. Taxpayers should know where their money is going and being spent. Our process and actual budget must be transparent to continue to have the faith of the taxpaying citizen. We need to lean out any waste, fraud, abuse and duplication. New spending on infrastructure should be spent to make roads and bridges safer for citizens and commerce.

INTERFAITH

I serve all my constituents to the best of my ability without regard to distinction. Citizens and legal residents of Oklahoma and these United States deserve respect.

BULLYING

There is no place for bullying of anybody in school or elsewhere. I have supported a bill that allowed students to transfer to any other school after 3 recorded incidents of bullying and take their tax dollars with them.

HATE CRIMES

All crimes have a degree of dislike, hatred or other evil intent. I am for reducing crime and preaching love for our neighbors and one another.

EDUCATION

Improving schools starts with a plan. Who is in charge? What is our goal? How are we going to achieve the goal? Reduce and eliminate anything getting in our way. We must have a transparent budget for education, see where the spending is occurring and make sure more money is spent in the classroom. Make it easier for administrators and teachers to accomplish the mission, with the help of the parents and families.

HOUSE DISTRICT 97



Jason Lowe

Jason Lowe is a Member of the 56th Legislature in the Oklahoma House of Representative (D-97). Attorney Jason Lowe is also a criminal defense attorney practicing law in Oklahoma City, Lawton and Tulsa, Oklahoma. He received his Bachelors of Art in Political Science at Virginia State University and continued his education at Oklahoma City University School of Law. Jason Lowe is the founder of the Lowe Law Firm. By it's sixth year in existence, the Lowe Law Firm has already handled thousand's of criminal cases. Most recently, Attorney Jason Lowe has successfully secured three consecutive not guilty verdicts. Jason Lowe gives back to the community by hosting an annual "Family Fun Day", a non-profit charity event that has provided more than 10,000 children with school supplies. He also holds informational forums on various topics surrounding the law and community interests, entitled "Knowledge is Power". Most recently, Mr. Lowe held an event for African-American business owners entitled, "The Triple Crown Affair" on the top floor of the Devon Tower. Proceeds from the event allowed him to present a check to Rogers Middle School for more than \$2,000. Finally, Mr. Lowe created the "Triple-E Youth Grant" for local churches with youth groups to help empower, encourage and educate our teens and future leaders of tomorrow. In recognition of his dedication to the community, he recently received the prestigious John Green Community Service Award, presented by the Oklahoma City Association of Black Lawyers. He has also received the Private Sector Hero Award from the Teachers Appreciation Foundation and Community Leadership Award from the Oklahoma City Black Chamber and many more.

INCUMBENT

Party | Democrat

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UNOPPOSED

HOUSE DISTRICT 99



Ajay Pittman

My name is Ayshia "Ajay" Pittman and I am a sixth-generation Oklahoman with dual citizenship as an enrolled member of the Seminole Nation. My grandparents and parents have taught me the value of hard work and the importance of advocating on behalf of all people, especially those who cannot do so for themselves. Honoring my heritage and respecting my culture is key to my way of life. Respect for diversity is a principle that guides my actions every day. During my formative years, I attended school in HD99 and graduated from Northeast Health Science & Engineering Academy. In 2017, I founded the Global Millennial Project (GMP), a one-stop shop for millennials to access evidence-based research and encounter success stories that inspire them to strive for abundance in their lives. I was driven to act when I saw that my fellow millennials were not being educated on home ownership, financial literacy, and other real life circumstances that require training to insure success. My family and I truly believe that "Service is the price that you pay for the space you occupy". Historically, society has not empowered women, especially women of color, to see themselves as viable candidates. As a millennial woman of color, I ask "Why not me?" I have watched successful leaders hard at work, and I know what it takes to get that hard work done. I am ready to make Oklahoma history by leading HD99 as a second-generation state representative and as a Native American and African American woman. I humbly ask for your vote so I can provide the skilled leadership our community and state deserve at the capitol.

Party | Democrat

Contact and More Info

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UNOPPOSED

HOUSE DISTRICT 100



Zach Pearson

Zach was born and raised in Mustang, Oklahoma and attended Mustang public schools. Zach graduated from Lincoln's Challenge Military Academy. He has spent the majority of his life searching for his calling. He currently cares for his legally blind sister and his niece whose father died when she was 2 from a rare genetic cancer. The two motivate Zach to always keep improving not only himself but the world around him. Zach currently works in the Banking Industry. In the past Zach has worked in the sales and sales management industry, as a roughneck in the oil industry, been in law enforcement, served in the Military, worked in the transportation industry, been a portable sanitation engineer and worked in the hospitality industry. Some call Zach a 'jack of all trades'. Zach attended Oklahoma State as a mechanical engineering major. Zach switched to public service in hopes of making Oklahoma a great place once again after taking a U.S. Government and State and Local Government course in which he was very passionate and outspoken. "The future of Oklahoma lies in our diversity and though the security of a quality public education." All donations to Zach and his campaign for office will be used to get him elected so that Zach can fight to secure the future of Oklahoma.

Party | Democrat

Contact and More Info

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE



Marilyn M. Stark

I am a pro-life, Christian, and Republican, who is concerned by what I see and hear in the world around me and in the political arena specifically. Having worked in Intensive Care and Home Health as a Registered Nurse for 15 years followed by almost 20 years at Love Link Ministries, Inc., I have a wide variety of experience. As a nurse, I learned to assess a situation, make life and death decisions, and act. I also learned to advocate for patients and families. I served as a volunteer, office manager, board member and ultimately as the Executive Director of Love Link Ministries, Inc. We worked with men trying to leave drugs and alcohol behind; helped feed the working poor and unemployed; and worked to restore dignity and empower each individual. I have worked with budgets; navigated Federal, City and State agencies; and networked with various non-profit, city and state agencies to meet needs. I understand that education is key to many of the issues plaguing Oklahoma. I am also keenly aware of the need for reform in mental health, drug and alcohol rehabilitation and our prison system. I understand the need for multiple revenue streams, cutting costs, and balanced budgets. Accountability, transparency, and communication are key!

Party | Republican

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE

SENATE DISTRICT CANDIDATES

SENATE DISTRICT 14



Justin Arledge

A proud citizen of the unconquered and unconquerable Chickasaw Nation, Justin is President of the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma City and a graduate of the Leadership Native Oklahoma program. Through these leadership programs Justin has been able to visit with and learn from tribal leaders all over Oklahoma, which include, Chief Bill John Baker of the Cherokee Nation, Chairman Rocky Barret of the Citizen of the Potawatami Nation and many others.

Professionally, Justin is a Certified Insurance Counselor and Vice President of Sullivan Insurance Agency, an award winning agency which specializes in insuring tribal entities commercial agriculture, small to large business, personal lines and all lines of healthcare. Justin is also a recent graduate from the Future Insurance Leaders of Oklahoma. Understanding workers compensation and all lines of insurance Justin will be a great candidate to oversee the insurance commissioner.

Party | Democrat

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IMMIGRATION

I see immigration as vital to our economy. The United States was founded on immigration and the workforce that it provided. Immigrants in Oklahoma's economy make up all spectrum's of the workforce. Having these immigrants is a blessing.

BUDGET

Yes, we need new revenue measures, such as allowing the tribes to implement sports gambling (which was just allowed by the U.S. Supreme Court), repeal the capital gains tax exemption, pass SQ788 for medical marijuana, start taxing rock companies that are hauling our states property to another state (these usufruct rights must be protected). Also, accepting the Medicaid expansion from the federal government that our FICA dollars pay into is critical to helping rural hospitals and are aging baby boomer population. These new revenue measures can fix infrastructure, fully fund education, and provide quality health insurance. We certainly need to prioritize rural communities and fixing the dilapidated water situation and crumbling infrastructure. If I were to put a number of priority it would be

1a) Fully fund education

1b) Overhaul our water system to provide clean water to citizens

1c) Fund healthcare with the medicaid expansion and start funding nursing homes, assisted living, and hospice for the upcoming baby boomer population

1d) Provide benefits to all volunteer fire departments to protect the brave men and women who choose to volunteer for their community.

INTERFAITH

It all starts with education, if you provide quality education that focuses on sympathy, understanding, and cultural recognition over the next 15 years you can start to see a change. We currently focus on test scores and children's mental health and well being are overlooked. Also, community engagement and sit downs for people to meet and get to know each other will go a long way.

JUSTIN ARLEDGE CONTINUED

BULLYING

Again, I think it starts at home. If you can change the minds of parents and educate students that we all have similarities and compassion and grace is our biggest strength we can work towards ending racism and bullying. If a child is a bully and continual harassment is evident parents need to be brought in and confronted about their child's behavior. Here are a few steps that are recommended by the Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory - Equity Center

- 1) Strong well-publicized policies and procedures - I like this stance because it takes a no tolerance stance and provides upfront what is acceptable and what is not*
- 2) Training for all district employees - quality training is currently lacking in our education system*
- 3) Informing all students, parents, and community members about what constitutes harassment, the districts tolerance for harassment, consequences for harassment, and resources available for victims*
- 4) Classroom and curricular strategies for establishing and reinforcing equitable attitudes and actions.*

HATE CRIMES

To strengthen our community we must develop strong links with the community. Family and community support is critical to the success of any effort to reduce harassment. Providing a hand book to parents may reduce parent concern and build support. To change our attitude creating a multicultural education environment as a tool to prevent harassment and help everyone understand we are all just people and we all hurt. This could be implemented as working environments in a harassment free learning environment.

EDUCATION

This is going to be a generational change and must be implemented at all levels of education. In order for the programs to work, that I mentioned above, we first must have revenue to support these programs. However, we can't keep going to the legislature to ask for more revenue we must decrease our expenses to lengthen our budget. The number 2 expense in our education system is utilities, so I would propose placing solar and Geo-thermal on every school to decrease this expense and allow the opportunity to have year around schooling so children aren't falling behind in reading levels over the summer by 2-3 grade levels. Every school system will be different so addressing the needs and problems first before throwing money at it must be the first step.

SENATE DISTRICT 14



Frank Simpson

INCUMBENT

Party | *Republican*

Contact and More Info

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Frank Simpson was encouraged to run for the Oklahoma State Senate by friends, family and mentors. He was elected to his first term of office on November 2, 2010, and reelected November 4, 2014. He is honored to serve the citizens of Love, Carter, Murray, and Johnston Counties.

Frank and his wife Linda moved to southern Oklahoma in 1995. Although not native Oklahomans, Senator Simpson says he and Linda like to say, "We got here as quick as we could."

Senator Simpson is a native of Arkansas and graduated from Little Rock Central High School in 1963. After graduation from high school, he enlisted in the United States Navy and served 26 years active duty retiring as a Chief Warrant Officer in 1988. During his naval career, Senator Simpson served on nine sea commands; including a six month deployment with the Multinational Peacekeeping Force in Beirut, Lebanon. He received the Navy Commendation Medal, the Navy Achievement Medal and numerous other awards and citations.

Senator Simpson's civilian career involved positions with Kmart, Dollar General, and Big Lots where he served in facility management and logistics. He managed the construction of major distribution centers for all three retailers. Senator Simpson has also served in the ministry since 2000. He has pastored United Methodist Churches in Thackerville and Gene Autry, Oklahoma, and currently pastors the First United Methodist Church in Mannsville.

He is married to the former Linda Patoka. They have four daughters: Teresa, Cynthia, Tonya, and Lyn. They have 15 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren.

Senator Simpson is a member of the Military Officers Association of America, and is past president of the Southern Oklahoma Chapter and past president of the State Council of Chapters. He is also a member of the American Legion.

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE

SENATE DISTRICT 16



Mary B Boren

In 1992, Boren graduated law school with Distinction from OU, and began her education policy career as a Carl Albert Executive Fellow with the State Regents for High Education and also worked for the State Department of Education. Governor Walters and Governor Henry enlisted Boren to serve as an interim legal analyst during the last weeks of the legislative sessions in 1993, 1994, and 2003. Boren credits her participation in the Institute for Child Advocacy's Kids Count Leaders training, and American Bar Association's Children and Law Committee, as motivation to represent foster parents, grandparents, and parents undergoing family crisis. She has volunteered for the Oklahoma Lawyers for Children since 1997, and in 2007 she also worked with other attorneys to start Trinity Legal aid Clinic.

Mary Boren is married to Nathan Boren, M.D. In 2003, He completed his rural commitment through the Oklahoma Physicians Manpower Training Commission and they moved back to Norman. Since then, Boren's family has been a member of the Alameda Church of Christ, and all three of their children were educated within the Norman Public School system. "Balancing work and life is a challenge, but like most Oklahoma parents we know the importance of staying involved in PTA, school and church activities." Boren said. She is currently a member of Latina's Women In Norman to support the Mosaic after-school program for English language learners at Truman Elementary, and served as coordinator for the Alameda Church of Christ's tutoring program. After the 2013 storms, Boren worked for the Center for Children and Families to connect storm survivors with mental health resources working closely with the Native American mental health network, the Red Cross, Catholic Charities, The Salvation Army, and Society of St. Vincent DePaul.

My most challenging and inspiring work was serving others as a school counselor from 2009-2015. I served many students in need of weekend food, housing, clothing, academic support and even out-patient mental health care. I worked closely with parents to help them acquire the skills needed to access extra help for their children," Boren said. In 2013, Boren was elected to represent nearly 3000 teachers on the district's bargaining team. "The extra scrutiny I experienced for participating as a member of bargaining team prepared me to understand the stress teachers experience under the high-stakes, and under-funded climate in Oklahoma's public schools," Boren said. "The stories and experiences of Oklahoma teachers that I witnessed haunt me but also inspire me to fight against detractors who compromise the trust and value of public schools and teachers."

As State Senator I will serve to build trust in our public services by those who've become dismayed by current political climate. I'll continue to work hard with Oklahomans of every kind, location, and experience, to improve the well-being of our family, friends and neighbors.

Party | Democrat

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IMMIGRATION

My position on immigration is formed by The Constitution of the United States and also personal experiences with immigrants. The US Constitution sets a clear expectation that we are to treat immigrants with dignity and fairness. I will advocate for laws and the enforcement of laws that are consistent with The US Constitution, and the expectation that people should be treated equally, fairly and with dignity. I've worked as a pro-bono attorney with Catholic Charities of Oklahoma to protect the legal rights of immigrants.

As a school counselor I've served the children of immigrant parents and recognized that our economy is enriched by their lives because of their diverse experiences, desire to work hard and make their way through the opportunities our state offers.

Currently, my family is helping a person who is on a student visa with housing because of state budget cuts that have limited his income.

My oldest son was the roommate of a young man from Palestine in 2014-2015 on the International Floor in the dorms at OU. We delighted in his friendship and were enriched by his experiences.

Oklahoma has so many global connections. We must find a way to extend our value for loving our neighbors into our immigration policy. In doing so, we can leverage our economic capacity beyond traditional sources.

MARY BOREN CONTINUED

BUDGET

Yes we must pass more revenue raising measures. From talking to Oklahomans I've learned there is a strong support for 7% tax bracket, 7% Gross Domestic Product Tax, and 7% Capital Gains Tax (with ag exemption).

My priority for funding is to fully fund classrooms K-College. This means competitive wages for teachers, and professors, funding for instructional materials, and the OK Promise Scholarship, and safe environments for learning. My next priority would be to fully fund our courtrooms and justice system and eliminate private prisons. Finally, core services that enhance the wellbeing of Oklahomans would be my priority.

INTERFAITH

I would serve the Muslim and interfaith community by building relationships within the community. This means meeting with leaders personally and regularly. The other day, I shared an article about Noah and Ramadan on social media. Through the article, I learned more about the story of Noah and it enhanced my personal faith, greatly. In sharing this, I hoped to share information within my religious groups about the ways diverse religious experiences can enhance one's personal faith.

I love sharing my family's experience of my oldest Christian son sharing a dorm room with a devoted Muslim student at OU. My son witnessed first hand the discrimination and hostility his roommate endured. My son was also able to attend the Mosque one weekend which broadened his understanding of the importance of religious community. While attending OU graduate school, I have actively met students from diverse experiences including a student from Malawi who is also Muslim. I tried to help him get acclimated to Norman during his first class.

BULLYING

As a school counselor I was trained to implement and teach an anti-bullying curriculum. Unfortunately, these lessons are under-cut by unfunded mandates of school testing. My professional training allows me to understand and see the progression of dehumanizing people as part of the bullying cycle. To prevent the dehumanizing of others, it is critical to promote and teach empathy and compassion to students and even adults. Improving the Emotional intelligence of Oklahomans could increase our overall wellbeing by reducing child abuse and neglect, domestic violence, and hate crimes.

I attempt to live out this important civic goal each time I engage around politics on social media. Instead of "blocking" people who disagree with me, I model peace-making skills that my faith and professional training has taught me.

To strengthen the protections of minority students and their families, I believe it is vitally important to articulate the morality supporting our anti-discrimination laws. I also believe it is important to empower immigrant and minority elders and parents to participate in the education of children. So many barriers keep the immigrant and minority parents alienated from public forums. One way I attempted to do this was a pilot program with Hispanic families at Adams Elementary that provided homework help in their mobile home communities in the evening. This pilot program resulted in an afterschool program called Mosaicos to has been in place for several years at Truman Elementary.

HATE CRIMES

The work of the Southern Poverty Law Center is most helpful to me regarding bias-motivated crime. The art exhibit regarding lynching in America is powerfully effective in addressing the impact that bias-motivated crime can have on a culture and people. To strengthen or change our treatment of our laws, I think it is important to stir up the sense of emotional and human connection first, through public forums, art, poetry, film, story-telling. These avenues prepare the heart and mind to accept the needs to become more civil towards one another.

I would also recognize within communities the benefits of having strong laws. Norman and Oklahoma City are moving forward with better protections and we need to figure out ways to highlight how these laws are working well. In doing so, it would reduce the fear more traditional communities may have and open up the possibilities for accepting the assistance of legal reforms.

EDUCATION

The unfunded mandates need to stop. These have been tolerated too long to advance the political goals of a few. Teachers need to be released from the burden of "reforms" that stigmatize public schools and the children and families they serve. As a school counselor from 2009-2015 I witnessed first hand the demise of the morale of teachers due to legislative measures. Unfortunately, Oklahoma's education policy and funding is controlled a few powerful and wealthy people, and power must shift from their grasp to the pen of the voter. I'm working very hard to engage and register voters to offset the misuse of power by a few

Once power shifts to voters, then we can enact policies that make sense and will work for Oklahomans. We've had shining moments in Oklahoma education where we have come together to address our problems. We enacted HB 1017 in 1990. We enacted comprehensive Pre-K. We enacted the professional educator standards before many other states were able to accomplish certification standards. Oklahoma has the resources and the information to provide world-class education, but we need the leaders who love Oklahomans, and listen to Oklahomans, more than their campaign donors.

SENATE DISTRICT 16



Becki Maldonado

Party | *Republican*

Contact and More Info

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I am a secondary English teacher. I have my Masters in Instructional Leadership and Academic Curriculum from the University of Oklahoma. Currently, I am completing my dissertation, which will focus on teacher advocacy, education, and politics. My bachelors degree is in Business Management.

I began working at the age of 14. At the age of 19, I became a retail manager. I was responsible for hiring and training employees. In one year, our counter grew from two employees to twenty employees.

2005 - I began working for a non-governmental organization and managed volunteers to advocate for hunger and poverty, immigration, disaster readiness, and disaster recovery issues.

2008 - I moved to Oklahoma and managed a loan company. I worked with the judicial system to create a win-win situation that allowed customers to have a second chance to pay back their defaulted loans without being garnished but also preserved the rights of the company to garnish customers, who refused to work with the company and pay back their loans.

2011 - I became the escrow manager for a local mortgage company. I was responsible for training employees in the areas of property taxes and home owners insurance.

2015 - I entered the education world and began to pursue my masters and Ph.D. I work in the urban setting with at-risk youth from diverse backgrounds. I received my masters in Instructional Leadership and Academic Curriculum December 2016 from the University of Oklahoma. It is anticipated I will be receiving my Ph.D. in Instructional Leadership and Academic Curriculum May 2019 from the University of Oklahoma.

I am a single mother of two teenage boys. I love watching movies and reading graphic novels and young adult books.

I believe the way to achieve equality for all is through equity and providing access and opportunity for people regardless of race, gender, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, etc.

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS NO RESPONSE

SENATE DISTRICT 22



William Andrews

A fourth-generation Oklahoman, William Andrews decided to run for office after witnessing the dysfunction in state government. A legislature that was either unwilling or unable to come to an agreement that would provide adequate education funding enraged tens of thousands of parents, educators and Oklahomans who believed that the promise of the state lies not in catering to corporate interests and lobbyists, but in the proper education of the state's youth.

A graduate of Deer Creek, Andrews has lived in the area most of his life. He graduated from the University of Central Oklahoma in 1993 and currently works for the university as a web developer.

After nearly a decade as an award-winning newspaper reporter and graphic designer, Andrews made the transition to new media. For the past twelve years he has worked as a web developer at the University of Central Oklahoma. As an employee of the metropolitan area's only public university, he has assisted thousands of students in their journey towards a college degree. His dedication has twice earned him honors as staff member of the year in the College of Liberal Arts.

His wife has taught elementary grades in Oklahoma City for almost 20 years, and was a finalist for the district's teacher of the year. The couple's daughter who will graduate high school in May as high-school valedictorian and will be attending Dartmouth on scholarship in the fall.

Andrews said he believes legislators can find solutions if they are willing to be reasonable. Unfortunately, the current group of legislators is incapable of that. So, it's time to change that.

As senator for the 22nd district, encompassing most of the Deer Creek area, Piedmont, Yukon, Okarche and parts of Oklahoma City, Andrews said he would not only value the diversity of rural and urban communities, but depend on it when making decisions.

Party | Democrat

Contact and More Info

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

INTERFAITH

I would serve the Muslim and interfaith community by advocating a strict separation of church and state, as our founding fathers envisioned. Thomas Jefferson coined the phrase 'wall of separation' in a letter to the Danbury Baptists who had complained to him about the harassment and unfair treatment they received. It is the ultimate irony that the descendants of the same people who sought relief from religious persecution are now the very ones seeking to persecute those of other or no faith. The Oklahoma Constitution also makes it clear that no public monies shall be used to benefit -- directly or indirectly - any faith or sect. Too many of our politicians are willing to ignore the very words which created our state and nation.

I do advocate hate crime prosecutions when the crime is committed against a person or group because of their religion, sexual orientation, gender or race. I would encourage groups of all faiths and belief systems to attend events at the capitol and I would encourage members of the legislature to do greater outreach to communities that have been historically marginalized or been victims of discrimination. It's not enough to talk about fairness and equality. Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. and John Lewis and Muhammad Ali endured all sorts of vileness and in some cases the show of force from the state was required to ensure that equal treatment was provided. Hopefully we will not see those actions become necessary again, but we must make it clear that the state is ready, willing and able to enforce laws mandating equitable treatment for all Oklahomans, not just the majority.

WILLIAM ANDREWS CONTINUED

IMMIGRATION

Other than Native Americans, every person in this country is only a few generations removed from being an immigrant. I believe that immigrants play an essential role in Oklahoma's economic success. Immigrants provide more than simply the skilled and unskilled labor positions that are portrayed in stereotypes; they perform a vast range of roles. Working at a university, I engage with people from five other continents on an almost daily basis and I value the contributions they make. Were it not for the expertise and diverse knowledge they bring, our state would be much poorer - both economically and culturally. We should encourage more immigration to Oklahoma, from all over the world.

BUDGET

Priority One for all candidates should be adequate funding for common and higher education. Over the past decade, drastic cuts by the legislature have caused tuition at universities to increase far faster than inflation. Students are working long hours, sometimes at more than one job, and in many cases taking out more loans to pay for higher education. Teachers in common education have not seen a raise in a decade and our educational infrastructure is crumbling with outdated materials and substandard equipment. HB1010XX was a start, but just barely. The raises necessary for teachers and support staff should be about twice what the legislature approved. In addition, I would like to see the legislature support the allocation of \$90 million a year for five years to improve materials and facilities at Oklahoma public schools; this can be reviewed biennially for adjustment as necessary after we get Oklahoma's public schools on par with surrounding states.

We can raise this revenue in a number of ways, and not just by raising taxes on the middle class.

- The Gross Production Tax was put in place to lure drillers to Oklahoma to try the then-untested fracking process, which succeeded well beyond expectations. That program was put in place to lure drillers to Oklahoma to try the then-untested fracking process. Oklahoma deserves to be repaid for the chance they took for the oil and gas industry; eliminating the tax break on horizontal wells would be a start.*

- The Capital Gains exemption that benefits only a few dozen of the wealthiest Oklahomans could be eliminated, along with returning the state income tax rate to 5.25 percent from 5 percent. The rate was lowered when a short-sighted legislature and governor refused to recognize the boom-bust cycle that has always caused fluctuations in Oklahoma's revenue. They willingly exchanged future prosperity for an immediate election gimmick. Obviously, this is not sustainable.*

- Finally, I would reduce the exorbitant spending of our corrections department by reduced the number of people Oklahoma incarcerates. Oklahoma now leads the world in incarceration, with 75% of those in prison being non-violent offenders, the majority of those for simple possession. Those people could be productive members of society and contribute rather than consume.*

BULLYING

The state must make it clear that a zero-tolerance policy will be adopted. Students and families who suffer harassment and bullying in schools will receive swift and immediate correction. Administrations who turn a blind eye to such behavior will be called to account for permitting the violation of civil rights of students and families - this includes school administration, law enforcement or any other government employee. Further, I would advocate an aggressive campaign to inform Oklahomans that the only people not welcome in the state are those who would advocate violence or hatred for another because of their religion, race, sexual orientation or any other class.

HATE CRIMES

I do think current laws that exist are adequate, but I do not think they are being adequately enforced. I would welcome more information about the subject, however. I think, in most cases, the perpetrators of bias-motivated crime do not receive sufficient correction, however. In many places in Oklahoma, an antiquated, racist, sexist, xenophobic attitude has been allowed to persist in the local and sometimes even statewide government. It needs to be rooted out and exposed wherever and whenever it occurs.

Justice Louis Brandeis once wrote that "publicity is justly commended as a remedy for social and industrial diseases. Sunlight is said to be the best of disinfectants." That still holds true

EDUCATION

The first part of the solution calls for investing in Oklahoma education as though it was something we valued. A nation-leading educational system will pay for itself when businesses relocate to Oklahoma rather than trying to escape the state. Ideally, a sizeable initial investment would be made to raise the pay of our teachers to an adequate level and stop the hemorrhaging of qualified personnel to other states and other professions. I do not support vouchers, forced consolidation or using building funds to pay teacher salaries. In one of her books, Molly Ivins quotes an East Texas legislator who said of public education, "We don't know if throwing money at the problem won't solve it. We've never tried it." While I don't support wasteful spending, the data is clear about how, where, and how much we should be spending to provide a quality education to every child.

SENATE DISTRICT 22



Stephanie Bice

A new kind of leader, Stephanie Bice was elected to the Oklahoma state Senate in 2014. She represents District 22 which is comprised of northern Oklahoma County and eastern Canadian County, including parts of Edmond, Deer Creek, Piedmont and Yukon.

In her first term in office, Stephanie proved to be out-of-the-ordinary because of her extraordinary accomplishments.

Stephanie is a fourth-generation Oklahoman, mom, wife, and former vice president of a digital marketing company.

She graduated from Putnam City High School in Oklahoma City, and earned a bachelor's degree in marketing with a minor in international business from Oklahoma State University.

Before her election to the state Senate, Stephanie worked in her family's technology company in a variety of capacities, including financial oversight, business strategy and marketing, and she partnered as an owner in her own social media company.

Stephanie previously has served on the Executive Board of the Oklahoma City chapter of American Marketing Association as well as School Advisory Board member and chair of the Pastoral Board for St. Eugene Catholic Church and School.

Stephanie and her husband, Geoffrey, were married in 1996 and are members of St. Eugene Catholic Church in Oklahoma City. They have two daughters.

Despite serving as a first-term senator, Stephanie's leadership skills and abilities garnered state and national attention. She was chosen as one of 52 legislators across the U.S. for the State Legislative Leaders Foundation Emerging Leaders Class of 2015. She also was selected a GOPAC Emerging Leader for 2015 and received the Oklahoma State Chamber of Commerce Rising Star award. Stephanie also was selected a member of the Governing Institute Women in Government Leadership Class of 2016.

Stephanie serves as assistant majority floor leader in the Oklahoma Senate.

INCUMBENT

Party | *Republican*

Contact and More Info

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE

SENATE DISTRICT 30



Julia Kirt

Party | Democrat

Contact and More Info

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A fifth generation Oklahoman, Julia Kirt is an experienced community leader who has run statewide nonprofit organizations for more than 18 years. She currently serves as the Executive Director of Oklahomans for the Arts. Her organization works with the state legislature and municipalities to support public investments and arts education in Oklahoma.

The daughter of an Air Force veteran and a minister, Julia learned the value of giving back to her community from an early age. She graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a Masters in Art History. For 15 years, Julia led the Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition, working with thousands of artists to develop strong small businesses. She created business training workshops, secured grants, and coordinated public events across the state with public and private partners.

A committed leader, Julia uses her experience to serve the public. She works to help all students in Oklahoma City receive arts education by serving on the All Access Arts Committee. Julia also served as a Leader in Residence at the University of Central Oklahoma. She continues to help connect the university, students and the community as an Advisory Board Member of UCO's College of Fine Arts & Design. She is a Board Member for Downtown OKC Strategic Initiatives, which encourages creative businesses and street level activity downtown.

Julia has been recognized for her work in the community. She graduated from Leadership OKC Class XXI and Salt & Light Leadership Training Class 6. She was named a "Forty under Forty Making a Difference" by Oklahoma Magazine, a "40 under 40" by OKC Business, and an "Achiever Under 40" by the Journal Record. In 2014, Julia received a Governor's Arts Award.

Julia lives in Oklahoma City with her husband, Nathan Guilford, and their two children, Roger and Lila, who attend their neighborhood public elementary school. Nathan owns a small business in Warr Acres. The two remain active in the community. Julia actively participates at her church, St Paul's Episcopal, Rotary Club 29 and serves as a volunteer for the Oklahoma City Public School District.

JULIA KIRT CONTINUED

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IMMIGRATION

Immigration is an important part of our country and state's culture and economy. State senators should not attempt to legislate immigration decisions that are guided by federal policy. Our legislature should protect all Oklahomans from discrimination and harassment. I respect all Oklahomans. I admire Oklahoma's immigrants and their stories.

BUDGET

We should consider all types of revenue to ensure we fully fund important state services. Short term, I would consider eliminating the capital gains tax deduction, increasing income tax on high earners and reducing tax incentives and tax credits.

State Department of Education- First we must add back in the funds cut over the past few years. Then, we must increase funds so that our per pupil expenditures exceed the regional average.

Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services- Our state critically underfunds mental health services, leaving many without treatment. This agency could serve more, helping stabilize families and make communities safer. Investments in mental health would reduce problems for the criminal justice system, Department of Human Services and more.

INTERFAITH

I would serve the Muslim and interfaith community with respect. As a legislator I would work to ensure their rights and safety. Every Oklahoman should be able to participate in the political process and trust that lawmakers have their best interests at heart. Many of our lawmakers have focused on divisive legislation instead of balancing our budget or ensuring wellbeing. Some even avoided their constituents and ignored Open Meeting rules, instead negotiating behind closed doors. As a State Senator, I will lead with transparency and cooperation.

BULLYING

We have to ensure implementation of ongoing bullying prevention strategies for the safety and wellbeing of minority students. Our State Department of Education has policies in place. I would assess our outcomes from the strategies and evaluate the effectiveness of these policies. As we approach to bullying prevention as a public health issue, our legislature has to lead the state in stopping harassment.

HATE CRIMES

All Oklahomans should feel safe in our state and should know that the legal system will provide justice fitting to the crime. I would welcome CAIR to provide me information to help me understand the types of changes needed and more about the challenges faced.

EDUCATION

Our education system must give children better opportunities and clearer career paths. We also must improve lifelong learning, allowing adults to retrain, build new skills and reenter the workforce. We must add back in the funds cut over the past few years. Then, we must increase funds so that our per pupil expenditures exceed the regional average.

SENATE DISTRICT 30



John Symcox

Party | *Republican*

Contact and More Info

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I am a life-long Oklahoman and community leader with strong principles & values rooted in my faith and constitutionally conservative values. As a Republican, I believe that government has the responsibility to allow people to fulfill their maximum individual potential. The government must be a great steward of the tax dollars it has been entrusted with. I believe that personal responsibility and consequences are the bedrock of personal growth. Every person is valuable and should have the opportunity to pursue the life they dream.

I bring extensive finance and banking experience. I will work with our communities and businesses to help strengthen and grow the economy, and bring more jobs to the state. I have deep roots in Oklahoma and a commitment to public service through volunteerism and community involvement. My desire to help our state overcome its financial problems and education system deficiencies has led me to run for public office. I am extremely passionate about education, jobs, mental health, prison reform, economic growth, the homeless and fiscal responsibility.

As a fifth-generation community banker and financial advisor, I am a fiscal conservative with a passion for helping others and developing financial solutions for the state, nonprofits and businesses that bring stability to our state systems. Currently, I serve as the president of the board of directors of Upward Transitions, a nonprofit dedicated to helping the homeless and people most at risk of being homeless. I was raised in Norman, Oklahoma and am a product of the Norman Public School system. I graduated from Westminster College with a degree in Business Finance. I am not a politician, but a private citizen with a passion to help others. Our state government doesn't currently represent our true values or the determined spirit I know is at the core of Oklahoma. Join me in making a difference for generations to come. I promise to be authentic, maintain my integrity, and bring innovation to our state government. Regardless of our political leanings, we all truly care about Oklahoma and the people that call this place home. Let's change the conversation and pursue "A Stronger Oklahoma" together!

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE

SENATE DISTRICT 32



Jacobi Crowley

Party | Democrat

Contact and More Info

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As a Lawton native and graduate of Eisenhower High School, Jacobis' roots to our community run deep. He credits his family and teachers for being instrumental in the achievement of earning a scholarship to Southeastern Oklahoma State University. The positive role models in his life influenced his decision to major in Special Education with a minor in Behavioral Management. Upon earning his degree, he moved back to his hometown to help make a difference in the lives of the youth.

His brother, Mark Berry Jr., and he were raised in a single parent home by their mother, Virginia Berry. She taught them the value of dedication, credence, hard-work, and perseverance. Most importantly, she taught them how to keep God first. He will not waiver from these core principles while pursuing change in his community.

He works as a Crisis Interventionist at Lawton Public Schools and is an ordained minister at New Life Fellowship Church. He is a mentor, instructor, adviser, and role model for his students. Jacobi is able to help invest in the youth and share his love of football by working as an assistant football coach at Eisenhower High School.

Jacobi is passionate about education, as it is fundamental to the success of all children. Vital programs are facing cuts and more of Oklahoma schools may be forced to close or consolidate. It is inexcusable for our leaders to expect us to accept paying more, getting less, and consistently see the needs of our children being put last. Our financial struggles in regards to education are absolutely due to poor planning, political game play, and a lack of effort on the part of our leaders.

Jacobi believes that funding directly impacts our teachers' ability to develop a well-educated workforce and this will adversely impact both our city and state's ability to attract successful companies with competitive wages and benefits. If we truly want a stronger economy, an economy that will continue to flourish for generations to come, it is imperative that we provide a concentrated focus on supporting our schools. Our schools currently receive 28% less funding today than they did in 2008. Jacobi believes as long as we continue to allow our leaders to fail our schools, we will continue to see qualified teachers and graduates with education degrees leave us for states where their skills are appreciated and their work is supported.

Jacobi is running to represent Senate District 32, because of his commitment to his community and the youth. As your representative, Jacobi will implementing programs to assist in education, stimulate new business growth, support responsible budget & taxes, and establish smart on crime approach to our justice system.

"If we want to get serious about the betterment of our state, we must invest in it. Investing in something requires commitment on every level, and the commitment on this level starts with your vote. I can't wait to meet you during the campaign, so I can earn your vote."

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE

SENATE DISTRICT 32



John Michael Montgomery

Born and raised in Lawton, I have learned the importance of conservative values and was taught the importance of hard work and integrity. I believe in building strong families.

I graduated from Eisenhower High School and began college at Cameron University, where I became involved in ROTC and student government. I then transferred to the University of Oklahoma to pursue a B.A. in International Studies. I studied abroad in Brazil and studied Russian for two years.

My time in Brazil reaffirmed my belief that we must have a strong middle class in order for this country to continue being great. Being the son of a Goodyear worker, it is quite personal to me to fight for a community which has the kind of jobs on which a family can be raised.

I am committed to building an education system which uses common sense, not Common Core. We should challenge and encourage our children to become the best that they can be. I understand state funding cuts and ridiculous mandates over the last few years have hurt Lawton's schools more than others.

The challenges we have are great, but last time I checked, this is the United States of America, one nation under God. Get behind me, and I will fight for our teachers, children, and most of all for Lawton. I am confident that with your support, we shall overcome.

Party | *Republican*

Contact and More Info

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE

SENATE DISTRICT 36



Bryan O'Brien

NO RESPONSE

Bryan has spent his life serving his community as a teacher, a coach, and as a volunteer. After watching our legislature make cut after cut to education and other core services, Bryan realized he could no longer sit on the sidelines.

Following nearly forty years in the classroom, Bryan is the right candidate to go to Oklahoma City and educate our legislators on the importance of funding our schools, providing access to healthcare for all, and reducing mass incarceration.

Party | *Democrat*

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE

SENATE DISTRICT 36



John Haste

John and his wife, Jennifer, have been married 19 years. They are members of First Baptist Church of Broken Arrow where John serves as an usher and as chairman of the personnel board. John wants his adult son to have abundant opportunities that will keep him in Oklahoma for the long haul to live and raise his own family.

John was born and spent his early childhood in rural Arkansas. He attended secondary schools and college in Tennessee. His career has taken him internationally and all over the country, but he's an Okie by choice. Oklahoma may sit at the bottom of many rankings, but John knows the heart of our state is top notch and he's determined to change the rankings to reflect our true potential.

As a successful business executive for more than two decades, John Haste's career has been about common sense leadership, setting ambitious goals, and then exceeding them. He has expertise in driving collaboration between competing interests to develop real solutions. It's exactly what Oklahoma needs now.

Party | *Republican*

Contact and More Info

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE

SENATE DISTRICT 40



Carrie Hicks

Carri Hicks is a mother, an educator, and a lifelong Oklahoman. The daughter of a public school teacher, Hicks graduated from Oklahoma City University. She earned her Bachelor's Degree in Mass Communications and Political Science. Hicks furthered her education at OCU by earning a Master's Degree with a focus on Leadership Management. She went on to work for United Way of Central Oklahoma and Saint Luke's United Methodist Church. Hicks developed skills in fundraising, advertising, and publishing throughout her career in the nonprofit sector.

A life-long learner with a passion for education, Hicks decided to seek a career change. She earned her Masters in Early Childhood Education and applied for a teaching certificate. Hicks began working as a public school teacher at the Putnam City School District in 2011. After three years teaching Kindergarten at Tulakes Elementary, Hicks moved to the Deer Creek School District. After two years teaching First Grade, Hicks now teaches Fourth Grade Math and Science at Grove Valley.

Today Hicks lives in Northwest Oklahoma City with her husband of six years, Spencer. They are the proud parents of three children: Camilla, Holli, and Sawyer. A dedicated community servant, Hicks is an active volunteer for education-related causes. Hicks leads the Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Camp. STEM camp gives more than 200 students each year a chance to learn outside the classroom.

Party | Democrat

Contact and More Info

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IMMIGRATION

America is a nation of immigrants. We are a stronger country when we have a rich tapestry of peoples. With different life experiences, immigrants offer their culture and background to any community. We particularly see this in the business community. Our state would be much less vibrant if it weren't for our citizens from around the world. Immigrants play a vital role in our economy. We see it in thriving small business owners, the medical field, education, and other important facets of our workforce.

BUDGET

We need a more stable revenue stream. Our current leadership keeps adding regressive taxes and fees to fund our government services, which as we've seen with shortfall after shortfall is tough to budget. Education is my top priority, followed by healthcare. Having a well-educated population affects change in graduation rates and incarceration rates.

INTERFAITH

Governor Henry has been an incredible mentor to me. He has told me about the Iftar Dinner held at the mansion. It was one of his favorite yearly events. Sadly, the current governor did away with this event. It was a great way to bring people of all faiths and beliefs together, to get to know one another. I feel the more opportunities we have to come together, to meet each other, the more tolerance and understanding there will be.

CARRIE HICKS CONTINUED

BULLYING

Every child deserves a quality education, and every child deserves to feel safe at school. As a teacher I have experienced first-hand the increase in classroom sizes. In that environment it is extremely difficult to create the kind of community and respect among peers. With smaller classroom sizes I know teachers would be more effective and proactive in their roles to keep all children safe. Additionally, that leadership starts at the top. We need continued collaboration and dialogue about the protections afforded to all students under Title VI of the Civil Rights act across all major education stakeholders, administration, school boards, classroom teachers, parents, and students.

HATE CRIMES

People need to be held accountable for their actions. There is indisputable evidence that violent, bias-motivated crimes are a serious, widespread problem in Oklahoma and across the United States. It is not the frequency or number of these incidents that set them apart from other crimes. It is the effect they have on the victims, their families, their communities, and in some instances, the entire state or nation. Many police departments do not have protocols in place for the accurate reporting of bias-motivated crimes. We need leaders who are willing to be a loud voice for the fair and equal treatment of all peoples.

EDUCATION

Education is one of the primary reasons I declared my candidacy. Oklahoma is failing a generation of students by approving emergency certifications at a record number. Over 2,000 certifications were issued in the past year. This gives the impression that as long as schools are open, everything is fine. It is not fine. We have to ensure that the pay afforded to classroom teachers and support staff, supports a cost of living. We need protected classroom sizes for optimal learning. We know we need more funding dedicated to the classroom for basic supplies like textbooks. Anyone who is promising to fix education, also needs to understand that we need to fix the budget. In order to move Oklahoma's education system forward we need to be aggressive in finding responsible recurring revenue.

SENATE DISTRICT 40



Joe Howell

Oklahoma-native Dr. Joe Howell has spent his career serving both the community of, the residents, and their beloved animals of the area. He served as President of the American Veterinary Medical Association 2002 - 2003 and Chairman of Executive Board of the American Veterinary Medical 2004-2004.

Dr. Howell has served on the Board of Trustees and as President of the Oklahoma City Museum of Art for nearly twenty years.

Dr. Howell has served on the Board of Trustees of the Kirkpatrick Foundation for over seventeen years and is proud to support Oklahoma's largest philanthropic foundation in history supporting arts, education and animal welfare.

Additionally, Dr. Howell has been a member of the Downtown Oklahoma City Rotary Club for twenty-three years, he is serving as a consultant to American Humane Association serving as one of two Ethetists in USA and is a member of the Board of Governors of the Oklahoma State University Foundation. Oklahoma-native Dr. Joe Howell has spent his career serving both the community of Oklahoma City, the residents, and their beloved animals of the area. He served as President of the American Veterinary Medical Association 2002 - 2003 and Chairman of Executive Board of the American Veterinary Medical 2004-2004.

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Party | *Republican*

Contact and More Info

www.facebook.com/VoteJoeHowell/

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE

SENATE DISTRICT 46



Kay Floyd

Kay Floyd graduated from Oklahoma State University in 1980 with a Bachelor of Science degree in psychology, a minor degree in political science, and a minor degree in philosophy. After graduating from OSU, Senator Floyd attended law school at the University of Oklahoma where she received her Juris Doctor degree.

After two years in private practice, Senator Floyd became an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Oklahoma working in both the civil and criminal divisions. During the development of Oklahoma's equine industry in 1987, Senator Floyd became Deputy Executive Director for the Oklahoma Horse Racing Commission.

In 1989, Senator Floyd was appointed as an Administrative Law Judge for the State of Oklahoma and served in that capacity for 22 years. Her appointment made her one of the youngest women in Oklahoma history to receive a judicial appointment. During that time she also served as a Special Municipal Court Judge for the City of Oklahoma City.

Along with her judicial duties, Senator Floyd has been an adjunct professor at Oklahoma State University and an attorney for the senior citizens division of Legal Aid of Western Oklahoma. Senator Floyd has worked as a volunteer on the Citizens Action Committee for the Oklahoma City Animal Shelter and is also a member of the Oklahoma Bar Association's Women in Law committee, Legislative Monitoring committee, and Government and Administrative Law Practice committee.

Senator Floyd is a founding member and Vice President of the Board of Directors for the Justice Alma Wilson SeeWorth Academy which was established in 1998 and which currently serves 485 at-risk youth in the Oklahoma City community. She has served on the OKC AIDS Walk Board of Directors and is currently a member of the Board of Directors of Lyric Theatre in Oklahoma City.

Senator Floyd was elected to the Oklahoma House of Representatives in 2012 where she focused on improving our education system and working for Oklahoma's women and children. She authored bills to provide suicide prevention assistance in Oklahoma's schools, curb domestic violence and study its correlation with poverty, and worked to provide measures to analyze the frivolous costs of the Legislature considering and approving unconstitutional legislation.

Senator Floyd was elected to the State Senate in 2014 and plans to continue her work and service to the people of Oklahoma there.

INCUMBENT

Party | *Democrat*

Contact and More Info

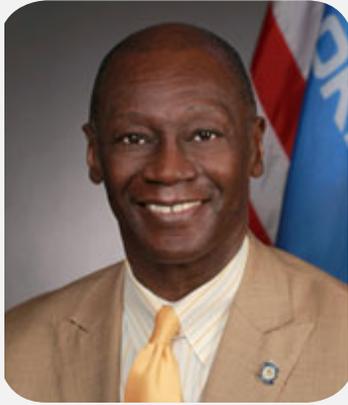
floyd@oksenate.gov

405-521-5610

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

NO RESPONSE

SENATE DISTRICT 48



George E Young

George Young is an experienced leader with deep roots in our community. Prior to serving as our State Representative, George was the senior pastor at Oklahoma City's Holy Temple Baptist Church and has served in the ministry for over 30 years.

As a man of faith, George will continue to stand up for what's right and fight for our families at the State Capitol.

In fact, George Young is highly respected by his colleagues on both sides of the aisle for his commitment to criminal justice reform, public education, and better jobs.

Party | Democrat

Contact and More Info

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QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IMMIGRATION

Immigration is a very important issue nationally and locally. Our borders are a focus of real significance but the idea that a wall, separation of families, unhindered pick up and deportation are not the answers. The very depicting of those who have made this country a place of improving opportunities for all as less than human is inexcusable. We must have a system of examining the request of those who would like to be citizens and those who are under duress improved and those improvements put into action. We are a country of immigrants and it does us well when we remember that. Locally I am seeing the conversation and corresponding actions being that of more awareness as to how we can assist and not attack.

BUDGET

We have allowed a legislature that has been controlled by those who believe that we can cut our way into prosperity, to cut us into despair and desperation. I am happy to see the legislature, during the last session raise the gross production tax to 6%, but now it is a reasonable request to see that raised to 8% and to correct the capital gains ceiling. We must reinstate the earned income tax credit and look at changing the tax rate on high income earners. Education is still the priority. In addition, we must allocate more money to our judicial and law enforcement areas. Our Department of Corrections is continually in a strain and asking for more because our judicial and law enforcement are placing more individuals under supervision and incarceration to help their budget deficits. Fees and fines should never be the cause of incarceration. Our incarceration rates speak to our demise. We need to follow up on State Questions 781 and get more accurate calculations to get more funding for mental health and substance abuse counseling and services.

INTERFAITH

I am very proud of my history in working with the Muslim and interfaith community. As a pastor in this state for 30-years this is not a new effort for me. As a former president of the Oklahoma Conference of Churches and the Progressive Oklahoma Baptist Convention, I have made it a life work to help in bringing faith cultures together. I have served a district the last two sessions with the idea of bringing more civic engagement by having town halls quite often to inform and to listen.

BULLYING

Bullying and harassment are real issues and they stem from misinformation and a lack of authentic cultural interaction within our communities. We must monitor the role of social media to the extent of not invading one's privacy rights, but to prevent others from creating environments of fear and danger. We must continue the work of raising this subject in our schools and in our communities. The more we engage in conversations about our differences, the more we see our common goals and needs are so similar. I support the programs in our schools, but also the force of law in helping to fight these issues.

HATE CRIMES

We have made some strides in placing laws on the books to address the acts of hate crimes, but as I stated in the previous view, we must have continuous and focused engagement within our communities to assist us in making this transition that is occurring in our state. Our demographics are changing and we must not ignore this, but embrace this, it is the very essence of our being, the basis of our success as a nation that is struggling to become what the founders were alluding to in the founding documents. Law enforcement and the judiciary must use its' force of law to stem this rise in hate crimes.

EDUCATION

I would and will propose legislation to raise the schedule of pay for our teachers and to increase the funding for classroom expenditures. We made great strides during the last session, but we are not there yet. We still have too many emergency certified teachers in our classrooms and we have too many teachers who continue to struggle to get the needed resources, to create within our children, the hope of tomorrow, and the will to have a better future.

SENATE DISTRICT 48



Willard Linzy

Willard Linzy has a Son who is an active-duty Marine and two grandsons, and a daughter who is a highschool senior. He was born in Oklahoma City and attended public schools. His earliest interest as a child focused on law enforcement and community development. During his high school years he participated in the Oklahoma City Police Explorers Post and rose to the ranks of Chief, serving three consecutive terms. He studied piano as a child and through his sophomore year at the Univ. of Oklahoma in Norman, OK while serving as youth minister of music and organist at the church of his youth. He served fifteen years as the benevolence ministry leader and deacon for the Britton Road Church of Christ and served four years as a deacon for the Garden Oaks Church of Christ

Party | Republican

Contact and More Info

willard.linzy@gmail.com

He completed undergraduate studies at Central State Univ. in Edmond, OK while pursuing a career in law enforcement with the Oklahoma Dept. of Human Services and later transferred to the social work division. In 1992 he accepted his first appointment in the areas of public finance as a fiscal analyst with the Oklahoma Office of State Finance serving under the administration of both Governor David Walters and Governor Frank Keating. For a short time afterward he served as finance officer for the Office of the Oklahoma State Attorney General and then served as the disaster financial manager for the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management, the state companion agency to FEMA. After twenty-six years of state service, he turned his focus towards community and economic development through his private sector commitment and his candidacy to become a member of the Oklahoma State House of Representative. He ran unsuccessfully in 2006 and 2008. He is a licensed insurance agent with Allstate as an Employee Benefits Specialist and works with employers to address the needs of their uninsured & under-insured employees in the workplace.

In 1993 he began volunteer service as a mentor with the Brotherhood Association of America Development Inc. which is a youth mentoring organization "Where African American Young Men Become Leaders" and as an answer to the question which he raised regarding "who will they lead?", he formed the Oklahoma Central Region Interdisciplinary Steering Council in 1995 as an effort to foster community rebuilding within the Greater Oklahoma City areas. He continues to work with commitment towards "Building a More Benevolent Community" and this effort has been expanded to reach into communities throughout the Caribbean and across the continent of Africa.

QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

IMMIGRATION

I believe that most American citizens came to our country as immigrants and were welcomed here by those who occupied the land at the time of their arrival... we have formed a nation governed by the Rule-of-Law and however bad those laws have been in past years all citizens have held a duty to obey them or be subjected to the penalty for engaging in unlawful conduct (civil disobedience) ... our country is justly comprised of U.S. born (DACA) and Naturalized citizens... illegal immigration represents an unlawful action and justifiably should subject such a dweller to due process criminal penalties.

BUDGET

I oppose increased taxation and the Oklahoma Constitution mandates the enactment of a balanced budget... Grow the economy if we need more revenues or cut spending... prioritization is a matter of legislative debate.

INTERFAITH

I view that law-abiding citizens should exercise every right and enjoy the privileges that any other law-abiding citizen enjoys... increased engagement within a minority community is increased best by members of that community becoming more engaged with each other, and that is not something that should be legislated.

BULLYING

I believe that conscientious reporting and more aggressive enforcement will bring about the change that your association seeks.

HATE CRIMES

I will speak well of good conduct and oppose bad... the voice of one can bring about change.

EDUCATION

I believe that there are systemic biases and inefficiencies in the current education model which produce undesirable outcomes... allocation of funding prioritizations, low performing schools, lack of classroom resources, high level of failing test scores, and secondary remediation cost do not suggest a need for increased funding... in my view the state is underwriting outcomes that don't merit the level of spending that we are forcing taxpayers to pay for... major reforms are needed.

NOTES