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**COMPLETE**

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**Time Spent:** 04:36:56  
**First Name:** STEVEN  
**Last Name:** ADKINS  
**Email:** s.d.adkinsld26@gmail.com

**Custom Data:** State Representative - District No. 26

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**PAGE 2: CAMPAIGN INFORMATION**

<b>Q1: Candidate Name</b>	Steven D. Adkins
<b>Q2: Party Affiliation</b>	Republican
<b>Q3: Legislative Chamber</b>	House
<b>Q4: Legislative District</b>	26
<b>Q5: Campaign Website</b>	<a href="http://www.azforstevenadkins.com/">http://www.azforstevenadkins.com/</a>
<b>Q6: Phone Number</b>	323-919-2899
<b>Q7: Email Address</b>	s.d.adkinsld26@gmail.com

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**PAGE 3: BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

**Q8: Have you ever been involved in any animal protection issues?**

NO,

Comments

I have not been directly involved in animal protection issues, but I am the operations manager for a festival in downtown mesa known as MACFest. We are blessed to be able to have coordinated with an on site adoption truck known as Waggin Wheels, where dozens of cats and dogs have been adopted at our event.

**Q9: Do you have, or have you had in the past, any companion animals that have had an impact on you?**

YES,

Comments

During my deployment to Afghanistan, one of my best friends was the platoons dog handler. During the deployment I lost my friend Colton Rusk. His dog Eli was able to retire from the service and unite with my friends family. The amount of love Colton had for Eli was evident, having the ability to still hug and see Eli after the war was a blessing for many of us. Their are now many puppies from Eli that have gone to friends and family. In a way its spreading Colton's love even after he has left us.

**Q10: Do you financially or philosophically support any local or national animal protection organizations?**

YES,

If so, which ones?

I support independent and private organizations philosophically. State ran shelters usually have terrible conditions, while private shelters have had a better success rate of adoptions and are a lot more caring about the animals in their possession.

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**PAGE 4: FARM ANIMALS**

**Q11: Do you support removing farm animals and horses from protection under Arizona's animal cruelty law and placing them under new, weaker laws in the agriculture code?**

NO,

Comments

Farm animals are the owners property, but as a living entity they also have a duty to feed, shelter and take care of the livestock. If an animal is dying or the farmer has lost his financial ground to keep producing he has a right to get rid of his property as he see's fit. I do however believe as a society we can make it easier for farmers to get rid of live stock so that their isn't a burden or tax levied on the farmers who are already losing their property.

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**PAGE 5: CITIZEN INITIATIVE PROCESS AND ANIMAL PROTECTION**

**Q12: Do you support Arizona's public initiative process?** NO

**Q13: If YES, what steps would you take to protect our public initiative process?**

The Country and the state are designed around a Republic and not a democracy. Imagine if a group that didn't believe in animal rights was able to persuade the public to pass an initiative that allowed people to torture animals. The problem with democratic processes is that it allows for people to be tricked into voting for bad initiatives. The solution is to vote out public servants from office who do not value life.

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**PAGE 6: ANIMAL CRUELTY LAW**

**Q14: Do you support strengthening Arizona's animal cruelty laws to correct loopholes that make it difficult to prosecute animal abusers?**

YES,

Comments

The law must be designed to make even the most heartless of men fear judicial action.

**Q15: Would you support legislation to make it more difficult for egregious acts of animal cruelty charged as felonies to be reduced to misdemeanors?**

NO,

COMMENTS

I would first delve into the current law to make a judgement of the criteria. If I find that there is none or it is not uniform in how the law is being interpreted then I may be inclined to pass new laws.

## PAGE 7: WILDLIFE AND HABITAT

**Q16: Do you support a process that includes less than 1% of hunters & anglers and limits the voice of a majority of Arizonans to participate in the Arizona Game & Fish Commission appointment process?**

YES,

Comments

Should the public tell doctors how to perform brain surgery? of course not. We want someone who is dedicated in the field to design better ways to perform these surgeries. The same can be said for the hunting industry. Unlike the early ages when mankind was expanding across the face of the earth, Hunting and conservation groups know it is best to preserve the animals for future generations. I may be against animal cruelty, but basic logic dictates to leave to the professionals the things we do not understand.

**Q17: Do you believe that the AZ Game and Fish Commission Appointment Recommendation Board should be repealed?**

NO,

Comments

I do not know the specifics on how the board is appointed or how it decides the best candidates, but I believe that process can be more transparent and uniform that all parties can find a common ground.

## PAGE 8: ENDANGERED WOLVES

**Q18: Do you support legislation that weakens protection for endangered Mexican gray wolves?**

NO

## PAGE 9: CAPTIVE DOLPHINS IN ARIZONA

**Q19: Do you support captive dolphin programs for human entertainment?**

Comments

I am still learning the harmful effects of these type of programs, but is there a difference of household pets and these type of venues? We enslave dogs, fishes, cats, birds and many other exotic animals for our entertainment, so what makes this any different? I believe a real discussion is needed on this subject as to determine instead acceptable living conditions such as we have for our pets.

## PAGE 10: ANIMAL CONTROL

**Q20: Do you believe that Arizona should have more uniform animal control laws to prevent inhumane treatment of animals?**

NO,

Comments

It is cost effective to allow the counties to decide the necessary precautions needed in these situations. The animals and lively hood in Maricopa are different than those in Coconino county.

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