



Arizona 2016 General Election Voter Guide

About General Election Endorsements

Humane Voters of Arizona (HVA) is an all volunteer, non-partisan organization that supports candidates who care about animals and animal protection. HVA does not provide endorsements for all legislative districts. In some district races HVA either does not endorse any of the candidates, or does not have information about the candidates. In such cases HVA has made no endorsements.

In races in which HVA is making endorsements, those endorsements are made on a non-partisan basis, considering HVA legislative reports and questionnaires. Please note that we only have legislative reports for incumbents and former legislators, and we only have questionnaires for candidates who have responded to our request. Voting records, when available, are always given more weight than questionnaire responses. Endorsements for incumbents are based on both 2015 and 2016 legislative voting records which are posted online on at www.HumaneVotersAZ.org

When making endorsements, HVA may consider other factors including opposing candidates, PAC and independent expenditure campaign funding in that race, and the climate of the legislative district. Some endorsed candidates do not have excellent voting records but would likely be better lawmakers on animal protection issues than their opponents.

In races where there are no HVA endorsements, please refer to legislative reports (for incumbents and former legislators) and candidate survey responses, which are posted on the HVA website. There are several incumbent candidates who currently do not meet HVA's criteria for endorsement, but who have recently improved their record on animal protection legislation, some for the first time in the history of their terms. For more information see the HVA 2015 and 2016 legislative reports and scorecards.

"Single-Shot" Voting: In AZ House races voters choose two representatives for each legislative district (LD). In LD's where HVA has endorsed only one candidate, please consider casting a single vote for the endorsed candidate, which will maximize their odds against opponents where votes are split.

HVA does not endorse federal candidates. For federal election endorsements visit the Humane Society Legislative Fund at www.hslf.org

Be a voice for Arizona's animals by voting in Arizona's General Election! Please share this voter guide with other animal advocates and encourage them to vote. Candidates who support animal protection need our help! Please consider helping animal-friendly candidates by volunteering or donating to their campaigns. If you can help, please contact us at humanevotersarizona@cox.net.

ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE

Arizona State House of Representatives

- LD 2: Rosanna Gabaldon (i)
- LD 3: Sally Ann Gonzales (i)
Macario Saldate (i)
- LD 4: Charlene R. Fernandez (i)*
- LD 7: Wenona Benally*
- LD 9: Randall Friese (i)*
- LD 10: Kirsten Engel*
Stefanie Mach (i)*

LD 12:

Comments: Incumbent Rep. Eddie Farnsworth has not had a favorable voting record on animal protection throughout his long term in office. However in 2016 he sponsored a bill that eliminated tax breaks for Tucson Greyhound Park, and a bill that requires courts to allow juvenile crime victims to have a therapy dog with them while testifying. Both measures passed the Legislature. See HVA [2016 Report](#)

- LD 14: Mike Holmes*
- LD 15: Brandon Dwyer*
- LD 16: Cara Prior*
Kelly Townsend (i)
- LD 18: Denise "Mitzi" Epstein*
- LD 19: Mark Cardenas (i)
Diego Espinoza (i)*
- LD 20: Paul Boyer (i)
Chris Gilfillan*
- LD 21: Deanna Rasmussen-Lacotta*
- LD 22: Phil Lovas (i)
- LD 23: Jay Lawrence (i)
Michelle Ugenti-Rita (i)

- LD 24: Lela Alston (i)*
Ken Clark (i)
- LD 25: Kathleen Rahn*
- LD 26: Athena Salman*
- LD 27: Reginald Bolding (i)
Rebecca Rios (i)*
- LD 28: Kelli Butler*
- LD 29: Richard Andrade (i)*

Key

LD = Legislative District

(i) = Incumbent

* = Responded to HVA Questionnaire ([posted here](#))

Arizona State Senate

LD 2: Andrea Dalessandro (i)

LD 3: Olivia Cajero Bedford (i)

LD 4: Lisa Otondo (i)

LD 5: Sonny Borrelli (House member running for Senate)

Comments: Although Rep. Borrelli's record on animal protection needs improvement, HVA has endorsed Borrelli over his primary election opponent, Ron Gould. As a former legislator, Gould had a poor voting record on animal protection, and for two years in a row killed a bill to stop roadside animal sales. See HVA [2012 Report](#)

LD 7: Jamescita Peshlakai (former House member)

LD 9: Steve Farley (i)

LD 10: David Bradley (i)*

LD 11:

Comments: HVA did not receive survey responses from either candidate in LD 11. Although incumbent Sen. Steve Smith does not have a strong voting record on animal protection, he deserves credit for cosponsoring animal cruelty bill SB 1227. See HVA [2016 Report](#)

LD 12: Elizabeth Brown*

LD 15: Tonya K. MacBeth*

LD 16: Scott Prior*

Comments: Incumbent Sen. David Farnsworth does not have a good record on animal-related measures but deserves credit for refusing to support the 2016 Pet Store bill in committee (SB 1248 later passed the Legislature) See HVA [2016 Report](#)

LD 17:

Comments: Incumbent Sen. Steve Yarbrough's long record on animal protection has not been favorable. However in 2016 he sponsored the bill that ended live greyhound racing in Arizona. HB 2127 passed the Legislature. See HVA [2016 Report](#)

LD 18: Sean Bowie*

LD 19: Lupe Chavira Contreras (i)

LD 22: Michael Muscato*

LD 23: John Kavanagh (i)*

LD 24: Katie Hobbs (i)

LD 26: Juan Jose Mendez (i)

LD 28: Eric Meyer * (House member running for Senate)

Comments: Rep. Eric Meyer is one of the legislature's strongest advocates for animals. He not only has a perfect record on animal protection, he served on the legislative animal caucus and helped on many animal-related bills. His opponent, Rep. Kate Brophy McGee, sponsored legislation to remove farm animals from protection under Arizona's animal cruelty code. As introduced, the bill also would have criminalized whistleblowers that exposed abuse of farm animals (the amended bill failed to pass) See HVA [2014 Report](#)

LD 29: Martin J. Quezada (i)*

LD 30: Robert Meza (i)

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BALLOT PROPOSITIONS

Peoria Proposition 400

Humane Voters of Arizona strongly supports Peoria's Proposition 400, which will provide funding for conservation of lands including Sunrise Mountain, Calderwood Butte, and Prince Mountain. This measure will preserve open spaces and provide connectivity and habitat protection for wildlife. We urge Peoria voters to vote Yes on Prop 400.

If you have questions or comments please contact us at humanevotersarizona@cox.net