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Collector: Email Invitation 8 (Email)
Started: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 7:52:12 PM
Last Modified: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 9:37:02 PM
Time Spent: 01:44:50
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Page 2: CAMPAIGN INFORMATION

Q1

Candidate Name

Alan Smith

Q2

Legislative District

15

Q3

Senate

Legislative Chamber

Q4

Democrat

Party Affiliation

Q5

Email Address

AlanSmithForArizona@gmail.com

Q6

Campaign Website

www.AlanSmithForArizona@gmail.com

Q7

Phone Number

602-256-8345

Page 3: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Q8

Have you ever been involved in any animal protection issues?

NO,

Comments:

First hand no. I have voted to ban bear baiting in a previous state. I also welcome the return of the wolf to Yellowstone and Colorado as well as the Mexican Gray Wolf in AZ, NM and Sonara.

Q9

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

YES,

Comments:

We had a rescue Silky Terrior, Duke, who went blind at about 9-10 yrs old. At first he pretty much shut down. We got another dog, a Havanese breeder reject, Copper, and he brought Duke back to enjoying life. Duke never played with dog toys. Copper was younger and wanted to play. Copper would squeek his toys over and over and Duke caught on and started enjoying playing with toys too. In a short time, he would get going in the morning and would start by going to the dog bed where we kept all his toys. He would play and squeek every one of a dozen or so, toss them out of the dog bed. He and Copper would do tug or wars with the rope toys. They both continued to walk everyday their 3 miles with us. Duke bumped his nose a lot around the house, but he learned how to find the doggie door to go outside and he and Copper had a very good life. When Duke passed away at 15-16, Copper never played with a toy again. Duke was a real inspiration on how he dealt with adversity, but with a little help, had a great life. We sure miss him. Copper is now older, nine. His nickname is velcro. because he loves to lean on us when we sit to watch tv or go to bed.

Q10

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

YES,

If so, which ones?:

We supported the Dumb Friends League in Denver when we lived there. Supported wold reintroduction to Yellowstone. I also have donated to a neighbor that captures feral cats in our community and has them neutered,

Q11

If elected, would you be interested in sponsoring or working on legislation to protect animals?

Yes,

Comments:

Yes. We need to be alert to animal neglect and help our communities with this problem.

Page 4: RESCUING ANIMALS FROM ABUSIVE CONDITIONS

Q12

Do you support the ability of law enforcement or animal control officers to seize animals who are in imminent danger of severe injury or death without a search warrant?

YES,

Comment:

Our communities must act when this situation is found to exist. Law enforcement needs to proper laws to intervene.

Page 5: THE WORKING ANIMAL PROTECTION ACT

Q13

Would you oppose legislation that prohibits local governments from enacting any ordinances to address inhumane treatment of working animals?

YES,

Comments:

I have a major problem with preemptive bills passed in our state legislature. We need local control of situations like this. It is state government overreach to limit local intervention.

Page 6: DOGFIGHTING AND COCKFIGHTING

Q14

Do you support adding dogfighting and cockfighting to the RICO statute to enable law enforcement to crack down on animal fighting rings by defeating the financial incentive to commit the crime?

YES,

Comment:

This must be stopped. Penalties must be sufficient to make dog and cock fighting end. If a RICO action is necessary to stop them, then lets implement it.

Page 7: CITIZEN INITIATIVE PROCESS AND ANIMAL PROTECTION

Q15

Do you support Arizona's public initiative process?

YES

Q16

If YES, what steps would you take to protect citizen initiatives?

Voter initiatives must be somewhat difficult to put together. They should not be easy. As it currently stands is fine. I think the current requirements are doable when the citizens put their minds and efforts to get one on the ballot. I disagree with the legislature's efforts to make them harder. Their legislature added referendum on the ballot this year requires all 30 districts to vote affirmative to pass an initiative--this is wrong. If anything, I think the legislature should not have such an easy path to offer a referendum.

Page 8: IMPROVING ANIMAL CRUELTY LAWS

Q17

Do you support amending the state animal cruelty law to clarify standards of care for domestic animals?

YES,

Comment:

Domestic animals need laws defining minimum care and defined law enforcement tools to take control of a situation.

Page 9: PUPPY MILLS

Q18

Would you support repealing the law that preempts cities from banning the sale of dogs from puppy mills?

YES,

Comments:

Again, I do not like preemptive bills that take away local control. The state of AZ is enabling the puppy mills to continue their unregulated mistreatment of animals by putting in laws like this. This preemptive law must be repealed.

Page 10: BAN ON CAT DECLAWING

Q19

Do you support legislation to prohibit non-therapeutic declawing of cats?

YES,

Comment:

There is no reason to do this horrible surgery to cats. This practice must end.

Page 11: ARIZONA GAME & FISH COMMISSION

Q20

Do you oppose a process that limits the voice of a majority of Arizonans to participate in the Arizona Game & Fish Commission appointment process?

YES,

Comments:

AZGFC must be diversified from its current make-up. I haven't studied this issue, but control of this dept by ranchers and clubs seems totally out of synch with having a balanced scientific approach to AZGFC management.

Page 12: ENDANGERED MEXICAN WOLVES

Q21

Do you support the recovery of endangered Mexican gray wolves in Arizona to help maintain a healthy ecosystem?

YES,

Comments:

Absolutely yes. Bringing back a predator has made a huge difference in the Yellowstone area ecology. I see huge benefits for AZ, New Mexico and Sonora Mexico too.

Page 13: FARM ANIMALS

Q22

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

YES,

Comments:

We must do the right thing for the animals when it comes to animal husbandry. Relaxing animal cruelty laws is not the answer.
