

Responses cannot be edited

2020 Candidate Survey (due June 30)

Dear Candidate:

The Secular Coalition for Arizona is a 501(c)(4) nonprofit advocacy organization that works to ensure a secular state government. We lobby on behalf of all individuals who believe that public policy free of religious preference is the best way to ensure freedom of conscience for Arizonans of all faiths and of none.

We also represent the Arizona nontheistic community – a vibrant and growing community of Arizonans who self-identify as atheists, agnostics, humanists, freethinkers, and other labels of personal choosing – to elected officials and government bodies in and from Arizona. We mediate the relationship between the nontheistic community and elected officials.

Secular Coalition for Arizona is operated by a board of directors and executive staff, and receives policy influence and comment from diverse liaised secular groups throughout Arizona.

Although we have been asked many times by our supporters to do so, Secular Coalition for Arizona does not endorse candidates. Instead, we offer you the opportunity to provide your position on issues important to our constituency. We will present your answers on our website exactly as you submit it to us as part of the Secular Coalition for Arizona Candidate Guide.

Instructions: Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements. Please make comments if you would like to clarify your statement. Your answers will be published exactly as you return it to us. Questions? Contact Tory Roberg, Director of Government Affairs, tory@secularaz.org

* Required

Email address *

Girardforarizona@gmail.com

Candidate Name: *

Sharon Girard

Candidate Website:

www.GirardforArizona.com

House or Senate

House ▼

Legislative District: *

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“Public tax dollars should not be used to fund private religious education, either directly through tax credit scholarships (STOs) or indirectly through vouchers (Empowerment Scholarship Accounts).” Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: *

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strongly Disagree

Strongly Agree

Comments:

.....

“When it comes to government policy, health care decisions must be made in a religiously-neutral way based on science and evidence. When it comes to a woman’s health care decisions, the only beliefs that matter are hers. Lawmakers should not use their personal religious beliefs to dictate women’s access to reproductive health care.” Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: *

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strongly Disagree

Strongly Agree

Comments:

The government has no business getting involved in a woman's private healthcare decision.

.....

“A terminally ill, mentally capable person with a prognosis of six months or less to live should have the option to request from their doctor a prescription for medication which they can choose to self-ingest to die peacefully.” Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: *

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strongly Disagree

Strongly Agree

Comments:

.....

“Public schools should not teach “creationism” or “intelligent design” as viable alternatives to scientific theories on the origin of life.” Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: *

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strongly Disagree

Strongly Agree

Comments:

Only science based fact should be taught in school. If parents want to teach religion they may at home or move their child to a private religious school.

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“Religious institutions should not be exempt from the requirements and restrictions of tax policy that is imposed on all non-profit and charitable organizations.” Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: *

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strongly Disagree

Strongly Agree

Comments:

.....

“If a government meeting is opened with a prayer, it should be open and inclusive for representatives of all religious beliefs, including unpopular minority religions and people with no official beliefs or creed.” Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: *

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strongly Disagree

Strongly Agree

Comments:

All religious and non religious beliefs should be included. It is offensive to many when phrases such as "in Jesus name is used". Not everyone believes in Jesus or even believes in God and these beliefs must be respected.

"A statewide non-discrimination law is needed to protect all Arizonans from discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity or expression." Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: *

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

Comments:

"A patient has a right to know if their health provider will refuse certain services, treatments, prescriptions, or withhold scientific information and options based on the provider's sincerely held religious beliefs." Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: *

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

Comments:

As a retired healthcare provider I had an ethical duty to treat my patient no matter what. It is unethical to withhold treatment based on religious or other beliefs. I have treated criminals and many people I have not agreed with. I believe that a provider who refuses to perform services is in violation of their license and should be brought up on ethics charges. They took an oath to treat patients without judgement. That being said they can refuse to treat if they can find someone immediately to take over that care. If they cannot then they are in violation. I also agree that all patients should know that their provider may refuse to treat them because of held beliefs.

“Comprehensive, medically accurate and age-appropriate sex education is a matter of public health and safety, and should be offered in public schools with parents having the right to opt-out.” Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: *

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

Comments:

The only way to prevent disease, encourage a healthy lifestyle, increase our lifespan and promote public health is with this type of sex education mandated in public schools.

“Public employees deserve a workplace free from religious proselytizing and pressure by the Governor, agency heads, municipal or county leaders, or other persons in authority in public spheres.” Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: *

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

Comments:

There must be seperation of church and state.

“So-called ‘conversion therapy’ is a pseudoscientific practice attempting to ‘convert’ LGBT individuals to become heterosexual. Practicing this on LGBT youth should be banned in Arizona.” Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: *

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

Comments:

This is not outlawed in Arizona and must be.

"Religion is never an excuse to harm a child or allow harm to a child. Religious loopholes for medical neglect, physical abuse, and reporting requirements must be repealed." Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: *

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

Comments:

This is a form of child abuse and neglect.

"As a diverse and secular state, it is improper and unconstitutional for the government to direct taxpayer money to programs and institutions that discriminate on the basis of religion." Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: *

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

Comments:

"Solutions to the world's greatest challenges must be guided by science and evidence. Lawmakers have a responsibility to recognize and act upon the scientific consensus behind climate change." Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: *

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

Comments:

We have a moral and ethical duty to act now.

“When a citizen convicted of a drug crime is sentenced to mandatory rehabilitation, the government must provide access to options that are evidenced-based and free from religion.” Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: *

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

Comments:

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“Studying the Old and New Testaments of the Bible under the guise as literature and world history has no place in public school curriculum. The Bible can be discussed as part of a discussion on religions of the world and other religions are given equal time in the classroom.” Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: *

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

Comments:

A religious text should not be studied in a public school unless it is being studied as part of a class on world religions.

“Studying the Old and New Testaments of the Bible under the guise as literature and world history has no place in public school curriculum. The Bible can be discussed as part of a discussion on religions of the world and other religions are given equal time in the classroom.” Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: *

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

Comments:

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