

	Fact Sheet for Rachel Jones Republican Candidate for AZ House — LD17												
Criminalizing Abortion													
1	Jones supports prohibition of abortion except when it is necessary to prevent the death of the mother.*												
<i>Background Information: In Arizona, SB1164 was signed into law effective 9/24/22. This new law is a Mississippi-style abortion ban that only exempts cases of "medical emergency." Because of the absurd way pregnancy dates are calculated, it kicks in at 11 weeks of pregnancy, at most. Doctors who help women anyway would face class 6 felony charges, with no exceptions for rape or incest. It would also ban abortions for families that learn in pregnancy later on that a fetus is not viable. *Arizona pre-Roe law: a near-total abortion ban first enacted decades before Arizona was granted statehood in 1912, and it's only exception is if the life of the patient is in danger. Recently, Arizona's Assistant Attorney General urged a judge to allow the state to enforce the 1912 near-total ban on abortions, and a decision to reinstate the ban was made on 9/23/22. Effectively, there are 2 abortion bans on the books in Arizona, with no certainty about which one is law.</i>													
Defunding Public Education													
2	Jones supports allowing all parents to use tax credits, vouchers, or education savings accounts to enable their children to attend any private, homeschool, or online academy, with no requirements for curriculum, accreditation, or teacher certification. She further commented "how important it is that the money follows the child to the educational setting which allows the child to be successful."												
<i>Background Information: This removes priority status from students with special needs who use the current ESA voucher program and will siphon at least \$1 billion from AZ K-12 public schools every single year. This is a 20% cut to schools, which they cannot withstand. Teachers will be laid off, class sizes will grow, and schools will ultimately be forced to close, resulting in fewer neighborhood options for Arizona families.</i> <i>"The proponents of these policies and the corporate interests that bankroll them insist their goal is to improve the quality of education – a dubious claim, this report states "in the face of the reality that too often there is little to no public accountability, fiscal transparency, or maintenance of civil rights protections for students in privatized programs." ESA proponents often laud "the money following the child" without acknowledging that public schools are faced with far less resources and unchanged overhead costs. (enlarge infographic here)</i> Where AZ student funding goes <table border="1"> <tr> <td>When a student attends a public school</td> <td>100% Of state and local funding for that student goes to the public school</td> </tr> <tr> <td>When a student uses an Empowerment Scholarship Account to attend a private school</td> <td>0% Of state and local funding goes to the public school they left</td> </tr> </table> Where ESA school voucher money goes: <table border="1"> <tr> <td>90%</td> <td>Goes to parents through ESA</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5%</td> <td>Remains in the State General Fund</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4%</td> <td>To AZ Dept. of Ed. for ESA administration</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1%</td> <td>To AZ State Treasurer for administration</td> </tr> </table> Public schools retain NO funding when a student uses a voucher or Empowerment Scholarship Account to attend a private school. AZ public schools receive \$6,653 per student in equalization formula funding, but the average ESA amount is about \$11,000 per student because 58% of the 6,550 students who used ESAs in 2019 are special education students. Sources: ARS 15-2402, J.B.C., AZ Dept. of Ed. 		When a student attends a public school	100% Of state and local funding for that student goes to the public school	When a student uses an Empowerment Scholarship Account to attend a private school	0% Of state and local funding goes to the public school they left	90%	Goes to parents through ESA	5%	Remains in the State General Fund	4%	To AZ Dept. of Ed. for ESA administration	1%	To AZ State Treasurer for administration
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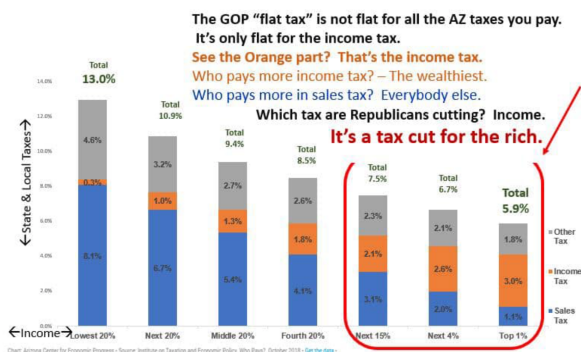


Fact Sheet for Rachel Jones Republican Candidate for AZ House — LD17

Defunding Public Education — continued

- 3 Jones lists “[low taxes](#)” in areas of public policy she is personally passionate about, and [supports](#) keeping last year’s massive income tax cut in Arizona’s state tax code.

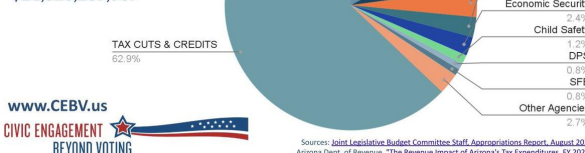
Background Information: The majority of our taxes fund education in Arizona, and cutting taxes will only starve our schools further. The revenues that AZ collects add up to all the services you receive: neighborhood schools, roads, parks, broadband, libraries, civic services, and healthcare. If lawmakers reduced the tax cuts and credits received by pet special interests, the wealthy, and businesses, the state could cut taxes for ALL. Decades of irresponsible governing and the new “flat tax” have fed economic [economic inequality](#) in Arizona. For the average Arizona resident, sales tax comprises the majority of their tax burden. (view full-size [bar chart](#) & [pie chart](#))



Arizona General Fund Budget vs. Tax Cuts & Credits

Total General Fund budget in FY 2021: \$12,739,847,900

Total tax cuts & credits in FY 2021: \$21,823,289,587



Election “Fraud” and Roadblocks to Voting

- 4 Jones: “Election Integrity is a key issue in this upcoming election. We must ensure that our elections are free and fair. [One day, one vote, voter ID for ALL ballots, no drop boxes](#), and eliminating the opportunity for fraud needs to happen, so that our sacred right to vote is assured.” These “election integrity” beliefs were ignored by the candidate, when she encouraged voters to mail in their early ballots “[BEFORE ELECTION DAY!!!](#)”

Background Information: GOP lawmakers are working to restrict voting rights in Arizona. “Legislation is categorized as restrictive if it would make it harder for eligible Americans to register, stay on the rolls, and/or vote as compared to existing state law.” To read further about voting laws that current Arizona state lawmakers have continued to introduce or enact that restrict access to the vote click [here](#).

Endorsements

- 5 Jones is [endorsed](#) by the AZ Free Enterprise Club, a dark-money group that backed a recent successful lawsuit to [eliminate the AZ Free and Fair Elections Act from the November ballot](#). This pro-voting ballot initiative was signed by nearly 500,000 Arizonans.

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Endorsements — continued	
6	Jones is endorsed by Center for Arizona Policy, a right-wing dark-money group. “CAP’s extremist agenda is facilitated by like-minded lawmakers.” CAP’s success in lobbying the Arizona Legislature has been described as follows: CAP “take(s) advantage of the fact that most Arizonans don’t bother to turn out for the primary election where most races are decided. And then CAP makes sure that the legislators who do get elected know they are being watched.”
Controlling & Censoring Education	
7	Jones believes that “our public education system is broken, (and) CRT, extreme sexuality, and indoctrination is taking over our children’s schools.”
<i><u>Background Information:</u> Critical Race Theory or “CRT” is increasingly being used by the far-right as a catch-all term for equity programs and teaching about systemic racism. The AZ Legislature has sponsored bills that would allow parents to scour lessons for elements of “critical race theory” or anything else they didn’t like. This year the AZ Legislature tried to pass SB1211, which would require teachers to upload a list of every book and worksheet they use in their classrooms online for parental review. Recently, Governor Ducey signed a book ban bill, HB2495, which passed on party lines. In its initial language, this bill prohibited public schools from sharing any sexually explicit learning material with students, which was defined to include the mention— of homosexuality. An amendment removed the term homosexuality from the bill language and allowed material defined as “part of classical or early American literature,” but as these terms are not defined, critics say it still essentially acts as a book ban. State law already makes it a felony to show pornography to children.</i>	
8	Rachel Jones supports requiring any government entity, including schools, to inform parents about their child’s physical, emotional, or mental health.
<i><u>Background Information:</u> Gov. Ducey recently signed a new law that gives parents disturbingly broad access to all their children’s public school records unless abuse reporting law is involved, and allows parents to sue if not “satisfied.” HB2161 by Rep. Steve Kaiser, R-Phoenix, began its legislative life as a more controversial bill that would have forced teachers to tell parents everything a student tells them — including outing them if a student confides in a teacher that they are LGBTQ+.</i>	
LGBTQ+ Rights for Adults and Youth	
9	Jones opposes adding “sexual orientation,” “gender identity,” or “gender expression” to the protected classes of race, religion, age, sex, and ancestry in nondiscrimination law. She further states that “sexual orientation and gender identity should NOT be included as protected classes because they are choices.”

	Fact Sheet for Rachel Jones Republican Candidate for AZ House— LD17
LGBTQ+ Rights for Adults and Youth — continued	
10	Jones opposes allowing children assigned male at birth who identify as girls to play in team sports. She further states that “it is dangerous, unfair and absolutely ridiculous”
<i>Background Information: The narrow, unscientific belief that there are only two genders has infected our politics and culture, and is often used by nonscientists to claim a scientific basis for dehumanizing those they don't understand. The truth is, biological sex and gender are complicated. Over a third of Americans in their teens and early 20s know someone who uses gender-neutral pronouns, and one out of every 100 Americans is intersex. Nonbinary people have existed across history and cultures, and deserve identification that matches their identities. Arizona’s LGBTQ+ Equality Profile is here.</i>	
11	Jones supports allowing parents to seek professional counseling for their minor children with same-sex attraction or gender identity issues—a practice dangerously close to discredited “conversion therapy.”
<i>Background Information: This is in reference to reparative (conversion) therapy, which the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry asserts “lacks scientific credibility and clinical utility.” “Additionally, there is evidence that such interventions are harmful.” In 2022, the Arizona Legislature held a hearing on HB2802 which proposed making licensed health providers offering conversion therapy to minors subject to discipline from their state licensing boards, effectively banning the practice in an official capacity. Parents and unlicensed religious figures, however, would be exempt.</i>	
Health Misinformation	
12	Jones: “People were denied Ivermectin and passed away.” Doctors wouldn't prescribe it. Pharmacists wouldn't allow it. Feel free to be angry.”
<i>Background Information: This post was flagged by Facebook and labeled “Partly false information checked by independent fact-checkers.”</i>	
Far-right Politics	
13	Jones is running as a team with 2 other Republican candidates in LD17 that refer to themselves as “America First.”
<i>Background Information: America First refers to a policy stance in the United States that generally emphasizes nationalism and non-interventionism. America First has a disturbing history that a number of scholars (such as Deborah Dash Moore), commentators (such as Bill Kristol) and Jewish organizations (including the ADL and JCPA) criticized Trump's use of the slogan because of its historical association with nativism and anti-Semitism.</i>	