



ARIZONA
TECHNOLOGY
COUNCIL

2014

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VOTE TECHSMART



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The Vote TechSmart guide is a biannual resource produced by the Arizona Technology Council (AZTC) to give our members a comprehensive review of the Arizona legislative candidates' positions on the key issues affecting the technology industry. Our focus with this guide is on candidates who are running for the state House of Representatives and Senate in Arizona's 2014 election. We are not making endorsements on statewide races or races for U.S. Congress. Please let us know by email at info@aztechcouncil.org if you would like information on these other races.

The guide includes our endorsements based on the incumbents' past voting records on technology industry issues along with information from both a written survey and candidate interviews. AZTC's Public Policy Committee recently interviewed nearly 70 incumbent and non-incumbent candidates over a six-day period, asking important questions on behalf of the technology industry. Based on those responses as well as the candidate survey that was sent to all legislative office seekers, we submit our recommendations to you.

The Public Policy Committee also drew from some of its recent legislative victories and defeats and the incumbents' role or position on these bills when making candidate endorsements. Ensuring Arizona continues to grow its business-friendly environment remains one of AZTC's top priorities. While AZTC opposes any bill that would have negative economic impact, it supports legislation that furthers Arizona's mission to become the most pro-business state. A big victory was the passage of the extended Angel Investment Tax Credit Program (HB2272) that extends the life of the program by five years and was sponsored by Representative Tom Forese.

In addition, AZTC reviewed how each legislator voted on a list of specific bills important to the technology industry then assigned a letter grade of A through F for each lawmaker. The Public Policy Committee reviewed 15 bills from the 2013 and 2014 legislative sessions to determine which legislators showed a commitment to our member industries and member firms' issues. Bills reviewed dealt with the Refundable R&D Tax Credit program, Angel Investment Tax Credit program extension, university transfers of intellectual property, high school coding class credit, STEM funding, tax treatment on electricity used in manufacturing and many more.



Casting your vote in the upcoming election is critical to protect and advance Arizona as a top-tier technology state. As a member of the Council, you understand the role technology plays in Arizona's economy. It is crucial that we come together as one voice to elect candidates who have a strong and supportive views of the industry.

To help you make your choices among candidates who are seeking office in the Arizona Legislature, we have put together this resource. The candidates are listed below by legislative district. You can cast your vote for only one Senate candidate and two House candidates.

If you do not know your legislative district, you can find it by going to capwiz.com/techvoice/az/home.

If you are not currently registered to vote, you can register by going to the Arizona Secretary of State's website at azsos.gov. To stay current on politics and policies affecting the state's technology industry, visit the Advocacy page on the Arizona Technology Council's website at aztechcouncil.org/advocacy.

Arizona Technology Council

2014 ENDORSEMENTS

Legislative District 1

State Senate:

Steve Pierce (R) has been a prominent voice for rural Arizona and the technology community. He has a consistent track record of supporting the Arizona Technology Council agenda.

House of Representatives:

Karen Fann (R) has been a champion for the Arizona Technology Council during her tenure in the Legislature and sponsored the effort to expand the Refundable R&D Tax Credit program during the 2014 legislative session.

Linda Gray (R) is a former senator and was supportive of the Arizona Technology Council's agenda in her tenure as a legislator. She understands the importance of the technology industry to the overall economic development of the state.

Legislative District 2

State Senate:

Andrea Dalessandro (D) has a solid record of voting for Arizona Technology Council initiatives at the Legislature. She has worked to ensure the aerospace & defense companies in her southern Arizona district remain competitive in the global marketplace.

House of Representatives:

Demion Clinco (D) established himself as a friend to the technology community in his single session at the Legislature. He voted in favor of every piece of legislation supported by the Arizona Technology Council and is equipped to be a rising star in the minority caucus.

Rosanna Gabaldón (D) boasts a voting record that squarely supported the technology industry in Arizona. She was a proponent of both the Angel Investment and Refundable R&D Tax Credit programs.

Legislative District 3

State Senate:

No endorsements.

House of Representatives:

Sally Ann Gonzales (D) voted as a pro-tech legislator in her first term at the Arizona Capitol. She made it a point to listen to the concerns of the technology community and provide thoughtful feedback.

Macario Saldate (D) opened his door to the Arizona Technology Council throughout his first term at the Legislature. He supported the technology companies of rural Arizona by voting in favor of the Refundable R&D Tax Credit legislation.

Legislative District 4

State Senate:

Lynne Pancrazi (D) supports the technology sector in southern Arizona with her reliable voting record at the Arizona Legislature. She is a valued advocate for the Arizona Technology Council as the Senate assistant minority leader.

House of Representatives:

Lisa Otondo (D) established herself as a friend to the Arizona Technology Council during her first term at the Legislature. She approaches policy discussions with an eagerness to understand the full spectrum of concerns from both sides.

Legislative District 5

State Senate:

No endorsements.

House of Representatives:

Sonny Borrelli (R) supported the technology community agenda in his first term in the Legislature. He believes the state needs to be involved in economic development, particularly in rural Arizona.

Legislative District 6

State Senate / House of Representatives:

No endorsements.

Legislative District 7

State Senate:

Carlyle Begay (D) understands technology is the backbone of Arizona's economy and worked to help promote Arizona Technology Council initiatives in his first term at the state Legislature. He was appointed to the Senate last year and has been very supportive during his first legislative session.

House of Representatives:

No endorsements.

Legislative District 8

State Senate:

Barbara McGuire (D) is a positive advocate for technology companies in rural Arizona. She voted for every Arizona Technology Council initiative in the previous legislative session.

Harold Vangilder (R) stated he understands the importance of the Arizona Technology Council's priorities and is supportive of them. Attracting jobs for the state's citizens is one of his top priorities for the upcoming legislative session.

House of Representatives:

Frank Pratt (R) has been a strong advocate for technological issues, especially in the energy arena as the Energy, Environment and Natural Resource committee chairman. He kept an open door for the Arizona Technology Council and brings a unique understanding of rural Arizona to policy discussions. He is a leader in his caucus and valued advocate for the technology sector.

TJ Shope (R) was a consistent supporter of the Arizona Technology Council agenda in his first term at the Legislature. His commitment to both the stakeholder process and his own constituents make him a rising star at the Arizona House.

Legislative District 9

State Senate:

Steve Farley (D) continues to be a valued advocate for the Arizona Technology Council. He has worked diligently to ensure Arizona's infrastructure supports new industries and encourages economic development.

House of Representatives:

Ethan Orr (R) has been one of the Arizona Technology Council's champions in his first term. He has been extremely supportive of the Council's priorities as well as sponsored landmark legislation that will bring the space flight industry to our own backyard.

Victoria Steele (D) believes transportation infrastructure is key to improving international trade, commerce and tourism. She voted for most of the Arizona Technology Council initiatives in her first session as a legislator.

Legislative District 10

State Senate:

David Bradley (D) is a resolved advocate for the Arizona Technology Council. He represented his Tucson-area technology sector community well by voting in favor of the Angel Investment and Refundable R&D Tax Credit programs.

Mark Morrison (R) will work to make sure all students at all levels develop the ability to use the computer hardware and applications most commonly used in the workforce. He is willing to cosponsor the Refundable R&D, Angel Investment and Venture Capital initiatives at the Legislature.

House of Representatives:

Stephanie Mach (D) consistently voted for the Arizona Technology Council agenda during her first term at the Legislature. She has fought to ensure our children have high education standards and opportunities to secure jobs in the technology sector.

Bruce Wheeler (D), assistant minority leader in the House, is a champion for the high-tech industries based in the Tucson area. His voting record supports the global competitiveness of the companies in southern Arizona and across the state.

Legislative District 11

State Senate:

Scott Bartle (R) believes the technology sector provides high-quality, high-paying jobs that Arizona needs to grow its economy. As such, he is willing to be the prime sponsor of the Refundable R&D and Angel Investment Tax Credit programs.

House of Representatives:

Jo Grant (R) believes we need to make it easier to move technology and research done at our universities into the marketplace to create jobs and new businesses. She is willing to cosponsor the Refundable R&D, Angel Investment and Venture Capital bills as a legislator.

Venden "Vince" Leach (R) understands Arizona needs to diversify its business base in all sectors, technology key among them. He expressed early support of both the Refundable R&D and Angel Investment Tax Credit programs.

Legislative District 12

State Senate / House of Representatives:

No endorsements.

Legislative District 13

State Senate:

Don Shooter (R) has been an effective voice for the technology sector in the Arizona Senate. He led discussions on broadband infrastructure improvements in his last term and is committed to solving this state need.

House of Representatives:

Diane Landis (R) believes economic development starts with having an educated workforce that will entice technology companies to come to Arizona. She will work for education reforms that improve standards and regularly measure student achievement.

Legislative District 14

State Senate:

No endorsements.

House of Representatives:

David Gowan (R) believes in common sense incentives and reducing government burdens on business. As majority leader in the House, he helped effectively deliver the Arizona Technology Council's message to the majority caucus during his term at the Legislature.

David Stevens (R) has been a hero for the technology community during his tenure at the Arizona Legislature. On more than one occasion, he was instrumental in shepherding Arizona Technology Council legislation through the legislative process.

Legislative District 15

State Senate:

Nancy Barto (R) has a proven record of supporting the Council's initiatives. She voted for the Angel Investment Tax Credit program extension and cosponsored landmark legislation to exempt manufacturers from an electricity tax.

House of Representatives:

Heather Carter (R) has a consistent record of supporting the Arizona Technology Council agenda. Her ability to form broad coalitions makes her a prominent voice at the Arizona Legislature.

Legislative District 16

State Senate:

No endorsements.

House of Representatives:

Douglas Coleman (R) is a valued ally of the Arizona Technology Council and proponent of all our initiatives. He brings a contemplative approach to discussions surrounding government's role in technology sector growth.

Kelly Townsend (R) established herself as a proponent of free market principles in her first term at the Legislature. She voted in favor of the Angel Investment Tax Credit this past session.

Legislative District 17

State Senate:

No endorsements.

House of Representatives:

JD Mesnard (R) brings a common sense approach to lawmaking at the Arizona Capitol. As speaker pro tempore, he has led efforts to reform our state's tax code and alleviate tax burdens on local businesses.

Legislative District 18

State Senate:

Jeff Dial (R) will be moving from the House of Representatives to the Senate if reelected. He has been a tireless advocate for the technology sector in Arizona. He sponsored initiatives to make the state a leader in the data center industry and is committed to solving the issues that arise with the introduction of cutting edge technologies.

House of Representatives:

Bob Robson (R) is a long-time advocate of the technology community. He enabled Arizona Technology Council legislation to reach the floor of the House on several occasions.

Legislative District 19

State Senate:

Guadalupe Contreras (D) worked to promote high standards for students in his first term at the Legislature. He wants Arizona children to have the training needed to compete for the high-quality, high-wage jobs that exist in the technology sector.

House of Representatives:

Mark Cardenas (D) was a strong supporter of Arizona Technology Council legislation in his first term at the state House. He was a cosponsor of this year's effort to capitalize a venture capital fund in Arizona.

Legislative District 20

State Senate:

Kimberly Yee (R) is a valued friend of the Arizona Technology Council. She sponsored landmark legislation that improved the process for transferring technology and intellectual property from the Arizona Board of Regents to third parties.

House of Representatives:

Bill Adams (R) believes Arizona needs to increase funding for technology in the classroom. He will vote in favor of both the Refundable R&D and Angel Investment Tax Credit programs.

Amy Rose Schwabenlender (D) proposes the Legislature work in public/private partnerships to provide the necessary technology to Arizona classrooms. She would vote in favor of both the Refundable R&D and Angel Investment Tax Credit programs.

Legislative District 21

State Senate:

No endorsements.

House of Representatives:

Rick Gray (R) brings a steadfast resolve to difficult policy decisions and has an open door for the Arizona Technology Council. As the majority whip in the House, he is a leader among his colleagues and a valued ally in the effort to bring more high-technology companies to Arizona.

Legislative District 22

State Senate:

No endorsements.

House of Representatives:

David Livingston (R) is a determined advocate for reducing government burdens on business. He has a proven track record of voting for technology initiatives such as the Refundable R&D Tax Credit program.

Phil Lovas (R) is a strong conservative voice at the Arizona House. He approaches new issues thoughtfully and seeks input from stakeholders during the lawmaking process.

Legislative District 23

State Senate:

Jeffrey Schwartz (R) believes increased broadband connection, specifically in rural Arizona, is essential for education reform in our state. He expressed early support of the Refundable R&D, Angel Investment and Venture Capital initiatives.

House of Representatives:

Effie Carlson (R) believes the state should always be looking for ways to diversify its business base and values technology sector jobs in that composition. She expressed a willingness to vote for both the Refundable R&D and Angel Investment programs.

Bob Littlefield (R) lists economic growth as his top priority. To that end, he is willing to be a prime sponsor and Refundable R&D, Angel Investment or Venture Capital legislation.

Legislative District 24

State Senate:

Katie Hobbs (D) has a proven track record of voting for the technology agenda. She is a rising star in her caucus and well respected by colleagues from both sides of the aisle.

House of Representatives:

Lela Alston (D) supports education initiatives that prepare our children for a technology-based economy. She has dedicated most of her public-service career to championing education reforms and is a strong ally of the Arizona Technology Council.

Ken Clark (D) supports Arizona's College and Career Ready Standards and wants the Legislature to step back and allow teachers to do their job. He would be willing to cosponsor the Refundable R&D, Angel Investment and Venture Capital initiatives.

Legislative District 25

State Senate:

Bob Worsley (R) is a visionary and policy leader at the Arizona Senate. He understands the value of technology in a modern economy and advocates for advancement in all sectors, including the legislative process with his initiative AZVoices.gov.

House of Representatives:

Michelle Udall (R) believes we need to increase the number of high school and college graduates who are prepared to work in the technology sector. She is willing to be the prime sponsor of the Refundable R&D, Angel Investment and Venture Capital programs.

Legislative District 26

State Senate:

No endorsements.

House of Representatives:

Andrew Sherwood (D) brings a refreshing level of energy to the legislative process at the Arizona Capitol. He has a heightened capacity to absorb complex information and thoughtfully contemplates every vote he casts.

Legislative District 27

State Senate:

Aaron Marquez (D) believes students need exposure to technology earlier and more often in the classroom in order to enter a workforce that will demand the technological skills of a 21st century global economy. He would be willing to cosponsor the Refundable R&D, Angel and Venture Capital initiatives at the Legislature.

House of Representatives:

Rebecca Rios (D) supports Arizona's College and Career Ready Standards. She would also support tax credit incentives that attract more technology businesses to the state.

Reginald Bolding (D) believes Arizona long-term economic growth is tied to the investment and expansion of innovative industries that include high technology, medical research and clean energies. He supports the Refundable R&D, Angel Investment and Venture Capital programs.

Legislative District 28

State Senate:

Adam Driggs (R), the majority whip in the Senate, is a tireless advocate for the technology community. He was instrumental in bringing the commercial space flight industry to our state by sponsoring an amendment that enabled an Arizona Technology Council bill to move through the Senate.

House of Representatives:

Kate Brophy McGee (R) is a strong supporter of the technology sector in Arizona. She has been a tireless advocate for government reforms that encourage economic growth in Arizona.

Eric Meyer (D) has helped lead the minority caucus in supporting the Arizona Technology Council agenda at the state House. As minority whip, he brought a contemplative approach to discussions surrounding government's role in the growth of the technology sector.

Mary Hamway (R) supports Arizona's College and Career Ready Standards and a statewide assessment for 3rd, 8th and 11th grades. She supports the Refundable R&D Tax Credit program and is willing to co-sponsor the Angel Investment Tax Credit legislation.

Legislative District 29

State Senate / House of Representatives:

No endorsements.

Legislative District 30

State Senate:

Robert Meza (D) has a proven track record of supporting the technology community at the Senate. He has always made an effort to listen to the concerns of the Arizona Technology Council and promote constructive discussion among his colleagues.

House of Representatives:

Jonathan Larkin (D) voted soundly with the Arizona Technology Council in his first term at the Legislature. He has expressed an ambitious desire to learn and discuss complex policy issues.

Debbie McCune Davis (D) is a thoughtful leader in the minority caucus. She has an established record of voting for Arizona Technology Council initiatives and vocally supported programs such as the Refundable R&D Tax Credit.

TECH HOT, TECH NOT

The Council Names Legislators Who Made the Grade as Supporters of Arizona's Technology Agenda in the 2013 and 2014 Sessions

With the 2013 and 2014 legislative sessions behind us, the Arizona Technology Council reflected on how state legislators voted on initiatives critical to our organization and its members. Even with budget deficits looming in state government, the Council was able to make strides that moved the legislative agenda forward.

A couple of key successes in the 2014 session were HB2163 titled Limited Liability for Space Flight Activities and HB2265 titled Computer Science for Math Credit. The passage of both of these bills were strong examples of Arizona legislators recognizing the importance of the technology industry. The Public Policy Committee and Council staff work with legislators, elected officials and policy makers at all levels of government to educate them on the value and promise of the technology leading to the following:

1. University Intellectual Property Transfer Rules now provide a framework within which a university employee can establish and maintain a substantial interest in a private entity that supplies equipment, materials, supplies or services to the university in order to facilitate the transfer of technology development by the employee to commercial and industrial enterprises for economic development of the state and public benefit.
2. The Renewable Energy Facility Tax Credit for Manufacturers creates a corporate and individual tax credit for investment in new renewable energy resources if the power will be used primarily for manufacturing.

The Public Policy Committee reviewed the voting records of incumbents to determine whether they have provided ongoing support to the technology agenda including expanding access to investment capital, supporting tax policy to incent research and development investments, technology-based economic development, advocating for enhanced technology infrastructure, and a strong commitment to improving our public education system from kindergarten through postsecondary with technology-based and blended learning.

Incumbents' Letter Grades

The senators and representatives listed below are incumbents who are running for reelection or a seat in a different chamber. They are graded on their voting histories.

'A' LEGISLATORS

Sen. Bob Worsley	Rep. Ethan Orr
Sen. Carlyle Begay	Rep. Frank Pratt
Sen. Don Shooter	Rep. Heather Carter
Sen. John McComish	Rep. Jeff Dial
Sen. Kimberly Yee	Rep. Kate Brophy McGee
Sen. Lynne Pancrazi	Rep. Karen Fann
Sen. Robert Meza	Rep. Ruben Gallego
Sen. Steve Pierce	Rep. TJ Shope
Rep. Bruce Wheeler	Rep. Tom Forese
Rep. Chad Campbell	
Rep. Eric Meyer	House Speaker Andy Tobin

'B' LEGISLATORS

Sen. Adam Driggs	Rep. Doug Coleman
Sen. Al Melvin	Rep. Doris Goodale
Sen. Andrea Dalessandro	Rep. Guadalupe Contreras
Sen. Anna Tovar	Rep. JD Mesnard
Sen. Barbara McGuire	Rep. Juan Carlos Escamilla
Sen. David Bradley	Rep. Jonathan Larkin
Sen. David Farnsworth	Rep. Justin Pierce
Sen. Katie Hobbs	Rep. Kelly Townsend
Sen. Leah Landrum-Taylor	Rep. Lela Alston
Sen. Michele Reagan	Rep. Lisa Otondo
Sen. Nancy Barto	Rep. Macario Saldate
Sen. Steve Farley	Rep. Mark Cardenas
Rep. Andrew Sherwood	Rep. Norma Munoz
Rep. Bob Robson	Rep. Phil Lovas
Rep. Damien Clinco	Rep. Rick Gray
Rep. David Gowan	Rep. Rosanna Gabaldon
Rep. David Livingston	Rep. Sally Ann Gonzales
Rep. David Stevens	Rep. Sonny Borrelli
Rep. Debbie McCune Davis	Rep. Stephanie Mach
	Rep. Victoria Steele

'C' LEGISLATORS

Sen. Chester Crandell	Rep. Debbie Lesko
Sen. Eddie Ableser	Rep. Eddie Farnsworth
Sen. Gail Griffin	Rep. Jamescita Peshlakai
Sen. Olivia Cajero Bedford	Rep. Juan Mendez
Sen. Steve Yarbrough	Rep. Lydia Hernandez
Rep. Albert Hale	Rep. Martin Quezada
Rep. Bob Thorpe	Rep. Paul Boyer
Rep. Catherine Miranda	Rep. Steve Montenegro

'D' LEGISLATORS

Senate President Andy Biggs	Rep. Brenda Barton
Sen. Judy Burges	Rep. John Kavanagh
Sen. Kelli Ward	Rep. Justin Olson
Sen. Steve Gallardo	Rep. Michelle Ugenti
	Rep. Steve Smith

'F' LEGISLATORS

Sen. Rick Murphy	Rep. Darin Mitchell
Rep. Adam Kwasman	Rep. John Allen
Rep. Carl Seel	Rep. Warren Petersen



The Arizona Technology Council would like to thank its Public Policy Committee, whose members who helped develop this 2014 voter's guide. For questions regarding this guide or the Arizona Technology Council, please contact Council President + CEO Steven G. Zylstra by phone at 602.422.9447 or by email at szylstra@aztechcouncil.org.

As an advocate for technology companies in Arizona, the Council continuously monitors federal, state and local policies that impact the growth of Arizona's technology industry. With the strength of over 750 member companies, the Council informs and educates policy makers on issues that are important to Arizona's technology community.

The Public Policy Committee focuses on issues and initiatives that accelerate technology-related public policy and legislation in Arizona affecting the growth and development of the technology industry. The targeted initiatives focused on five areas encompass the work of this committee: tax policy; technology commercialization and development; workforce development; supply-chain development; and capital formation. This Committee, along with Council staff, work with legislators, elected officials and policy makers at all levels of government, to educate them on the value and promise of the technology industry. For more information on getting involved with this Committee, visit aztechcouncil.org/committees/publicpolicy.



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