

Political language... is designed to make lies sound truthful and murder respectable, and to give an appearance of solidity to pure wind.

George Orwell

Candidates for Corporation Commission

Bill Mundell



Bill Mundell came to Arizona from Illinois in 1968 with his parents. He graduated from Arizona State University with a B.A. in political science in 1974 and earned a law degree from St. Mary's University in San Antonio, Texas in 1977. He has been in private practice as an attorney in Chandler since 1977. He also served as Presiding Judge of the Chandler Municipal Court from 1980 to 1986. He served as a member of the Arizona House of Representatives from 1987 to 1992. As chairman of the House Environment Committee, he sponsored numerous pieces of legislation protecting Arizona's environment, including the state's first recycling law and a law preventing Arizona from becoming the nation's dumping ground for hazardous waste. During his tenure at the legislature, he was voted "One of Arizona's Top 10 Legislators." Governor Jane Hull appointed him to the Arizona Corporation Commission in 1999. In 2000, he was elected to serve on the Commission completing his final term in 2008. Governor Jan Brewer appointed Mundell as the Director of the Registrar of Contractors in February of 2009. He served as Director until February of 2015. Bill is married to Judge Barbara R. Mundell, and has two children, Meghan and Samantha.

Sandra Kennedy



Sandra Kennedy was first elected to the Arizona Corporation in 2008 on a platform of promoting solar energy in Arizona, and as a fierce consumer advocate. She started her public service when she was elected to the Arizona House of Representatives in November 1986, where she served for six years before successfully becoming a state senator in 1992. She served three terms as state senator. Her many past and present community and civic projects include the following: Tutor for Valley Christian Center and Valle Del Sol, Board member of the Arizona Cactus Pine Girl Scout Council, ex-Officio Member of Phoenix Community Alliance, and a former Board member of the Community Excellence Project.

Ms. Kennedy was voted Outstanding Young Woman of America for 1984. She is a member of the National Association of Female Executives, was a delegate to the Foreign Relations Conference in June of 1988 from the American Council of Young Political Leaders in Washington, D.C., and also a member of the National Conference of State Legislators.

Sandra Kennedy was born in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and came to Phoenix in 1971. She is the mother of three: Mahogany, Amber and Seth.

Imagine the 2019 Legislative Agenda



If we imagine it, believe it and work for it - it can happen. What would the 2019 Arizona Legislative agenda look like if [#2018YesWeCan](#) actually happens? What priorities would an Arizona with a Democrat as governor and Democratic majorities in the legislature work for?

My vision of that kind of Arizona state government would be vastly different than what we see in Phoenix today. As part of that senate majority, I'd push for an ethical, transparent and accountable legislative process that today's GOP is fighting to prevent.

With a new state government, would come a true commitment to public education at every level in every zip code. This single most powerful driver of social and economic opportunity would become the priority that it should be!

I'd work to restore fiscal responsibility that includes audits of every use of taxpayer money ensuring a return of investment rather than a subsidy of lobby and private interests. I would strive to invite public and stakeholder concerns into the budgetary process rather than merely the basement denizens of secrecy and unethical conflicts of interest. I would propose a budget that provides for sufficient revenue to meet the needs of a 21st century Arizona, ready to lead the nation toward a prosperity that's shared by every family.

I would push for the same open process with regard to environmental protections of public lands, pure air and water. I would ask Arizona to proceed with caution regarding unmitigated expansion without fully considering impacts on dangerously low water resources. I would encourage the state to move Arizona's commitment to renewable energy to a new level. Of course, Arizona must become the solar energy capital of the world!

2019 can be the beginning of a new Arizona. An Arizona that embraces Education, Economy, Ethics and Environment as fundamentally important to prosperity for every family and small business across the state. Now, let's get to work and turn imagination into reality - turn [#2018YesWeCan](#) into [#2019YesWeWill!](#)

Ralph Atchue, Candidate for Arizona Senate, LD11

Pay your 2018 DOV dues now, still only \$20!

To Be A “Best Value” State

By Hollace Lyon, Colonel, USAF, Retired



Blue light special is a phrase Kmart used to use to draw attention to certain sales merchandise. It became synonymous with a discount or bargain, as in bargain basement.

“It’s difficult to remember...” writes Nikelle Murphy on CheatSheet.com, “that Kmart was once the envy of Walmart founder Sam Walton.” Experts say the problems with Kmart’s business model include a lack of focus on the core brand and that Kmart didn’t invest in updating its stores, giving a dated feel to the brand. Sound like Arizona?

Governor Ducey’s and our GOP Legislators’ focus on tax cuts, corporate welfare, and privatization of our state resources, is attracting exactly that kind of company--low-tech and service industry jobs, that don’t provide stable, long term investments in updating our state’s infrastructure, and don’t look to participate in building thriving communities. They are offering Arizona as a “blue-light special”.

Take the recent \$20M tax cut legislation championed by our Rep. Mark Finchem, to subsidize the failing business model for the Navajo Coal Plant. Governor Ducey allegedly approved it in hopes of finding a buyer for it. For his part, Finchem said “Solar and wind energy get tax breaks and compete with the coal plant. It’s kind of hard to compete when you aren’t being given the [same] taxpayer support.” He chooses to ignore that the Arizona Corporation Commission can regulate these utilities. But, it makes sense Finchem doesn’t understand that tax breaks should be used to incentivize behavior *beneficial* to our communities and our state, because that hasn’t been standard practice in Arizona.

Other examples of the “blue light special” mentality from our GOP state leadership are the obvious ones.

- 1) Sweeping highway funds away for corporate tax giveaways instead of building turn-key modern infrastructure.
- 2) Severely cutting funds to public universities, then threatening to put the Legislature in charge of overseeing them, as our Rep. Finchem tried to do this year. (Just the hint has undoubtedly scared away potential partner researchers who see it as a formula for a nightmare bureaucracy.)
- 3) Deep cuts in public education and JTED (technical and trades training). Quality companies need ready access to an educated workforce and good public schools for their employees’ children, not uncertified/amateur instructors, as approved by the Legislature in 2017, or buildings and busses that haven’t had reasonable maintenance in ten years and are literally falling apart around the students.

We must upgrade our brand! Study after study has shown that companies don’t make location choices based on potential taxation levels, but on a host of other factors such as an educated/competitive workforce, modern infrastructure, and favorable climate. That *should* be Arizona--a great quality of life at a reasonable price.

That’s what Arizona *will* be when we change the leadership and take it out of the blue light special bin and put it front and center as a top-rated value. All it takes is lawmakers who are ready to lead into the future instead of being stuck in the past.

Join Us in July for Our Ice Cream Social!

OPPORTUNITIES, PLEASE BE GENEROUS.

HELP OUR LOCAL FOOD BANK

Please bring a donation of non-perishable food to our monthly meetings.

If everyone brings only one or two items it will add up to a significant contribution!

The Dems of Oro Valley care about the well-being of our less fortunate friends.

SUPPORT OUR TROOPS!

Thanks to all of you who support our brave troops.

Please bring any of these items to DOV for distribution to disabled veterans: deodorant, shaving items, toothpaste, tooth brushes, pocket novels and paper back puzzle books.

Please – no candy.

July Meeting

Monday
July 9, 2018
7 pm • OV Library

Speaker to be Announced

Come early at 6:45 and socialize! Meet new friends!