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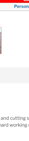
Laura J. Woods

Laura J. Woods is a former Republican member of the Colorado State Senate, representing District 19 from 2015 to 2017.



Laura Woods
Republican Party
Prior offices
Colorado State Senate District 19
Succeeded by Rachel Zenzinger
Contact
Personal website

Biography

Woods' professional experience includes working as a freelance court reporter and as the owner of a reporting firm called Avery Woods Reporting.[1]

Email editor@ballotpedia.org to notify us of updates to this biography.

Committee assignments

2015 legislative session

At the beginning of the 2015 legislative session, Woods served on the following committees:

Colorado committee assignments, 2015 [show]

Rated Higher and $250 Less than others
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Campaign themes

2014

Woods' campaign has emphasized the following themes:[2]

- Taxes/Spending and Government:

Excerpt: "I will work to reduce the size and scope of government. This also includes reducing taxes and cutting spending. I am committed to cutting all unnecessary programs in order to free up the budget rather than forcing hard working moms and dads to foot the bill."

- Education:

Excerpt: "I believe Colorado families deserve a broader range of educational choices, including, but not limited to, school vouchers. And I believe parents, not the legislature, have the right to determine at what age their children should be taught sex education. I also believe Common Core is bad for our schools, bad for our kids."

- Guns:

Excerpt: "I am proud to support the right to keep and bear arms. I will fight to repeal the radical gun controls that were forced on Colorado in 2013 and have pledged to sponsor or co-sponsor a "Constitutional Carry" bill if elected."

- Right to Work:

Excerpt: "No one should be forced to join a union in order to secure a job in the state of Colorado. I will be a leader in passing legislation in Colorado to protect the rights of workers and fight against forced unionism."

- Traditional Family Values:

Excerpt: "I believe in the sanctity of the family and support traditional Marriage. I will fight to protect the right of religious conscience for the people of Colorado. No one should have to sacrifice their faith or religious beliefs in order to appease another group of people."

Sponsored legislation

The following table lists bills sponsored by this legislator. Bills are monitored by BillTrack50 and sorted by action history. The following list may not be comprehensive. To see all bills sponsored by this person, click on the legislator's name in the title of the table.

Bills Sponsored By: Laura Woods

CO SB16 - Transportation Fuel Distributors' Tax ...
Transportation Fuel Distributors' Tax Liens
09/10/2016: *Governor Signed*

CO SB172 - Electronic Notices In County Property ...
Electronic Notices In County Property Tax Disputes
09/10/2016: *Governor Signed*

CO SB181 - Sentencing Juveniles Convicted Of Cla...
Sentencing Juveniles Convicted Of Class 1 Felonies
09/10/2016: *Governor Signed*

CO SB180 - DOC Programs For Juvenile Offenders

Elections

2016

See also: Colorado State Senate elections, 2016

Elections for the Colorado State Senate took place in 2016. The primary election took place on June 28, 2016, and the general election was held on November 8, 2016. The candidate filing deadline was April 4, 2016.[3]

Rachel Zenzinger defeated incumbent Laura J. Woods and Hans Romer in the Colorado State Senate District 19 general election.[4][5]

Colorado State Senate, District 19 General Election, 2016			[hide]
Party	Candidate	Vote %	Votes
Democratic	✓ Rachel Zenzinger	47.78%	39,670
Republican	Laura J. Woods Incumbent	45.97%	37,592
Libertarian	Hans Romer	6.25%	5,112
	Total Votes		81,774

Source: Colorado Secretary of State

Rachel Zenzinger ran unopposed in the Colorado State Senate District 19 Democratic primary.[6][7]

Incumbent Laura J. Woods ran unopposed in the Colorado State Senate District 19 Republican primary.[8][7]

This district was included in the Democratic Legislative Campaign Committee's list of "2016 Essential Races." Read more »

2014

See also: Colorado State Senate elections, 2014

Elections for the Colorado State Senate took place in 2014. A primary election took place on June 24, 2014. The general election was held on November 4, 2014. The signature filing deadline for candidates wishing to run in this election was March 31, 2014. Incumbent Rachel Zenzinger was unopposed in the Democratic primary, while Laura J. Woods defeated Jim Wilson in the Republican primary. Woods defeated Zenzinger and Gregg Miller (L) in the general election.[9][10][11]

This race was picked by analysts as one of two that were important for the control of the Colorado State Senate. The Democrats held the smallest possible majority in the chamber at one seat following the successful 2013 recalls of Senate President John Morse (D) and Angela Giron (D) and later resignation of Evie Hudak (D) after recall petitions were turned in against her. When Zenzinger, Hudak's former campaign manager, was first appointed, some conservatives argued that she would simply continue with Hudak's policies. "Sen. Hudak's constituents were hungry for change and liberal activists served up more of the same. Democrats may have a different name, but she's been behind Hudak's policies. Anyone who thinks Zenzinger is going to stand up to her own Democrat majority is fooling themselves," said Kelly Maher of the conservative group Compass Colorado.[12]

Jefferson County, where this seat is located, was considered by some to be "the epicenter of Colorado politics." Because of Zenzinger's relationship to Hudak, she was considered vulnerable to a Republican challenge.[13] According to Chalkbeat, Zenzinger holds a "substantial fundraising lead" over Woods.[14]

Colorado State Senate, District 19, General Election, 2014			[Collapse]
PARTY	CANDIDATE	VOTE %	VOTES
Republican	✓Laura J. Woods	47.6%	29,907
Democratic	Rachel Zenzinger Incumbent	46.6%	29,244
Libertarian	Gregg Miller	5.8%	3,664
Total Votes			62,815

Colorado State Senate District 19 Republican Primary, 2014		[Collapse]
CANDIDATE	VOTE %	VOTES
✓Laura J. Woods	55.4%	6,813
Lang Sias	44.6%	5,484
Total Votes		12,297

Campaign donors

The finance data shown here comes from the disclosures required of candidates and parties. Depending on the election or state, this may not represent all the funds spent on their behalf. Satellite spending groups may or may not have expended funds related to the candidate or politician on whose page you are viewing. For more information, see our campaign finance data from elections may be incomplete. For elections to federal offices, complete data can be found at the FEC website. Click here for more on federal campaign finance law and here for more on state campaign finance law.

Laura Woods campaign contribution history [hide]

Year	Office	Result	Contributions
2014	Colorado State Senate District 19	✓	$133,658
	Grand total raised		$133,658

Source: FTM (Follow the Money)

2014

Woods won election to the Colorado State Senate in 2014. During that election cycle, Woods raised a total of $133,658.

Colorado State Senate 2014 election - Campaign Contributions [show]

Endorsements

2014

In 2014, Woods' endorsements included the following:[15]

- The RMGO SuperPac, U.S. Senator Bill Anderson, and Colorado state senators George Rivera, David Schultheis, and Ted Harvey.

Scorecards

See also: State legislative scorecards and State legislative scorecards in Colorado

A scorecard evaluates a legislator's voting record. Its purpose is to inform voters about the legislator's political positions. Because scorecards have varying purposes and methodologies, each report should be considered on its own merits. For example, an advocacy group's scorecard may assess a legislator's voting record on one issue while a state newspaper's scorecard may evaluate the voting record in its entirety.

Ballotpedia is in the process of developing an encyclopedic list of published scorecards. Some states have a limited number of available scorecards or scorecards produced only by select groups. It is Ballotpedia's goal to incorporate all available scorecards regardless of ideology or number.

Click here for an overview of legislative scorecards in all 50 states. To contribute to the list of Colorado scorecards, email suggestions to editor@ballotpedia.org.

2017

In 2017, the 71st Colorado State Legislature was in session from January 11 through May 10. There was also a special session from October 2-3.

- ACLU of Colorado:

Legislators are scored on their votes on bills the ACLU of Colorado "felt were the best representations of the civil liberties issues facing Colorado today."

- Colorado Senior Lobby, Inc.:

Legislators are scored on their votes related to senior issues.

- Colorado Union of Taxpayers:

Legislators are scored on their votes on bills related to fiscal policy.

- Colorado Voters for Animals:

Legislators are scored on their stances on animal issues.

- Conservation Colorado: House and Senate:

Legislators are scored on their votes on bills related to environmental conservation.

- Mental Health Colorado:

Legislators are scored on their votes related to mental health issues.

- NARAL Pro-Choice Colorado:

Legislators are scored on their votes on bills related to reproductive health issues.

- One Colorado:

Legislators are scored based on their votes on LGBT issues.

- Principles of Liberty:

Legislators are scored on their votes on bills related to "core principles of liberty," which the organization defines as "Free People," "Free Markets," and "Good Government."

- The American Conservative Union:

Legislators are scored on their votes on conservative issues.

- Women's Lobby of Colorado:

Legislators are scored on their stances on women's issues.

2016

To view all the scorecards we found for this legislator in 2016, click [show]. [show]

2015

To view all the scorecards we found for this legislator in 2015, click [show]. [show]

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This section links to a Google news search for the term **"Laura + Woods + Colorado + Senate"**

Laura Woods News Feed

See also

- Colorado General Assembly
- Colorado State Senate
- Colorado Senate Committees
- Colorado state legislative districts

External links

- Laura Woods on Facebook
- Profile from Open States
- Profile from Project Vote Smart
- Campaign contributions via Follow the Money

Suggest a link

Footnotes

1. ↑ Laura Woods campaign website, "About," accessed May 16, 2014
2. ↑ Laura Woods campaign website, "Issues," accessed May 16, 2014
3. ↑ Colorado Secretary of State, "Elections & Voting," accessed October 6, 2015
4. ↑ Colorado Secretary of State, "General election candidates," accessed August 16, 2016
5. ↑ Colorado Secretary of State, "2016 General Election results," accessed December 14, 2016
6. ↑ [6] [7] Colorado Secretary of State, "2016 Primary Election Candidate List," accessed May 3, 2016
7. ↑ [7] [7] Colorado Secretary of State, "House 56, 2016 Primary," accessed August 19, 2016
Only the first two references on this page are shown above. Click to show more.

Political offices		
Preceded by Rachel Zenzinger (D)	Colorado State Senate District 19 2015-2017	Succeeded by Rachel Zenzinger (D)

Current members of the Colorado State Senate [show]

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