

# Maria SYMS

ARIZONA HOUSE



Maria Syms has called Arizona her home for 20 years. The mother of three children, Syms cares deeply about making Arizona better for current and future generations. While serving as the Republican State Representative for LD28, Syms proved herself an effective leader standing up to big government, fighting for school choice, keeping our communities safe, and pushing for transparency from our elected officials.

Syms' accomplished career as a State Representative, Assistant Attorney General, Assistant United States Attorney, Paradise Valley Town Councilwoman, and private attorney, demonstrates her hard work and advocacy for opportunities that will make a better Arizona. A woman of action, Syms sponsored laws on the books today that help victims of sexual abuse and assault, lower prescription drug costs for hardworking Arizonans, provide support to veterans seeking to transition to the civilian workforce, and protect small businesses from predatory lawyers pursuing frivolous lawsuits. Syms' signature legislation required testing of the backlog of over 6000 rape kits giving dignity and justice to victims and making our communities safer.

The daughter of an immigrant, Syms personally understands that a good education is the great equalizer and the key to opportunity for our next generation. A public school mom herself, Syms is especially passionate about improving the quality of Arizona education and expanding choice and competition so all children can reach their full potential. Syms is a vocal advocate for parental empowerment and considers 2022 "the year of the parent" where schools will be held more accountable to families.

Syms was raised in a small town on Long Island and learned much of her work ethic and values growing up in her family's barbershop – the hub of community activity. Her father, Pasquale Mazzeo, grew up in post-war poverty in Italy and came to this country to achieve his American dream. Syms' mother Joyce was a dedicated teacher, who taught her the value of education in helping others and improving the community.

Syms graduated from Smith College and American University law school and she worked as a staff attorney and law clerk for federal appeals judges, including now Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito. Syms has served as an Adjunct Professor of Law at ASU. Syms holds a Master in Public Administration from Harvard Kennedy School.

Syms has been married for 25 years to physician Mark Syms, who inspires her with his lifelong commitment to healing others. They love and adore their three smart, dynamic and fun children, Matthew, Meredith and Marinna along with their dog Maizie.

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