



**Candidate Questionnaire – State Representative
2024 Election**

Your name: Yvette Benarroch

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Your phone number: 239-253-8507

Your campaign website: www.YvetteforFlorida.com

Your age: I am 54 years old

Today's date: 7/21/24

What year did you move to Southwest Florida, and where did you live previously?

I have lived in Collier County for over 20 years. I lived in Luquillo, Puerto Rico prior to moving to Florida.

Where did you go to high school, and if you received any post-secondary education, where did you go, what degree(s) did you receive, and when?

BBA Marketing from Interamerican University of Puerto Rico.
MBA Marketing/New Media/Communications from Southern New Hampshire University
Pest Control Technology Certificate from University of Florida
Arborist Certification
Certified Pest Control Operator Certification
Florida Storm Water Operator & Inspector Certification
Professional Landscape Design Certification
Horticulturist Certification
Florida Green Industries Best Management Practices Trainer Certification
Landscape Contractor

Please summarize your work experience, including employers and dates.

I am a co-owner, along with my husband, of a full-service landscaping business that has been proudly serving the Naples/Marco Island area for over 20 years. I also served in the US Air Force during Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm, where I held a Top-Secret Clearance and worked in the Intelligence Field in Communications, earning an Honorable Discharge.

This variety of experiences has equipped me with the leadership skills, dedication, and firsthand knowledge necessary to understand and address the challenges faced by our community.

Describe your community activities, either in elective office or as a volunteer, in the last five years.

Vice Chair Collier County Republican Party (2020-2022)
1st Vice President Florida Federation of Republican Women (Present)
Vice Chair Republican National Hispanic Assembly of Florida (2019-2021)
Chair Moms for Liberty Collier County Chapter (2022-2024)
Byron Donalds for Congress Campaign (2020)
Rick Scott for Senator Campaign (2018)
Latinos for Trump SW Florida (2020)
Trump Victory SW Florida (2020)
Governor DeSantis Campaign (2018 & 2022)
Latino American For Trumps Coalition (2024)

Why are you running for this position?

I am running for the Florida House because I am deeply committed to preserving the American Dream for everyone. As a mom, Air Force veteran, and successful business owner, my journey began 20 years ago when I moved to Florida with just a suitcase full of dreams. Today, I am living proof that in this great country, you can achieve success through hard work and determination. My military service taught me that the oath to serve has no expiration date, and now, I want to continue that service by fighting for our families, seniors and veterans' right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. I am dedicated to growing our economy, supporting law enforcement to keep our communities safe, and ensuring every child receives a quality education. With deep roots in this community and over 20 years of volunteering and service, I understand the everyday issues we face and am ready to work tirelessly for a better future for all.

What are the most critical issues facing Southwest Floridians today, and should you win the election, how will you address them?

As I knocked on thousands of doors in District 81, the most pressing concerns I encountered were the rising cost of living, illegal immigration, and excessive government overregulation. To address the cost of living, I will champion policies aimed at lowering taxes to ease financial pressures on families and individuals. Additionally, I will push for reforms that drive down homeowners insurance rates by fostering a more competitive market and improving risk assessments. Regarding illegal immigration, I will advocate for stronger border security and rigorous enforcement of immigration laws to safeguard local jobs and community resources. To combat overregulation, I will work to streamline bureaucratic processes and eliminate unnecessary red tape, creating a more business-friendly environment that supports economic growth. My approach is designed to address these critical issues effectively, ensuring a better quality of life for all residents.

Name one past policy decision of the Florida Legislature that you disagree with and would like to change if elected. How would you change it?

One bill I disagreed with and was glad Governor DeSantis vetoed is SB 280. As a strong advocate for property rights, I believe individuals should enjoy their property without undue government interference. SB 280 introduced excessive regulations that infringe on property owners' autonomy. As a homeowner, I recognize the need for sensible regulations to manage rental properties responsibly and maintain neighborhood integrity. However, SB 280's blanket restrictions don't consider different properties' unique circumstances and could burden responsible owners, negatively impacting our economy. In summary, while I support proper rental property management, SB 280 imposed excessive regulations that harm property rights. A more balanced approach is needed to protect property rights and address rental market issues.

What are your views about the role of state vs. local government as they relate to the issues facing Southwest Floridians today? How would these views influence your actions and decisions as a legislator?

State and local governments each play vital roles in addressing community needs. The state government sets broad policies and regulations that impact the entire region, such as economic policies and major infrastructure projects. I believe in a streamlined state approach that supports economic growth and individual freedoms while avoiding overreach. Local governments, on the other hand, are tasked with managing specific, community-focused issues like zoning, public safety, and local services. They have a closer understanding of the unique needs of their residents. To be effective, state and local governments must work in partnership. As a legislator, I will focus on fostering collaboration between state and local authorities to ensure that state policies support local initiatives and address community concerns. By working together and aligning our efforts, we can create a more efficient and responsive government that better serves the people of Florida.