

(For) HCR2001 - Proposition 129 - initiatives; single subject; title

Proposition 129 furthers the intent of the initiative process by ensuring that each measure which appears on the ballot addresses only one issue. It also aligns the initiative process with the long-standing legislative process which requires bills to address a single subject.

Over the years, voters have repeatedly been faced with false choices. Voters have had to make a choice to support or oppose an initiative in its entirety even when they may favor some parts but have serious concerns with others. It is only right that Arizonans be able to vote for or against important policy issues one at a time.

Under Proposition 129, groups would retain the same rights to put measures on the ballot. The only difference is that they will need to separate issues into more than one initiative if those issues are not directly related to each other. This will make the process clearer and fairer as it was intended to be by the framers of the Arizona Constitution

With Proposition 129 in effect, voters will have the peace of mind that comes with supporting ideas they value without having to accept convoluted measures that cover too many topics.

Vote YES on Proposition 129!

Suzanne Kinney, President & CEO, Arizona Chapter of NAIOP, Phoenix

Prop 129 is a commonsense reform. Currently, statutory initiatives are allowed to contain numerous provisions, none of which are legally required to be related, nor be reflected in the initiative's title.

Conversely, legislation introduced at the legislature must conform to this requirement.

Recently, the Arizona Supreme Court struck down two bills in part and one entirely that the legislature passed because they violated these two rules: 1. legislation must embrace one subject and 2. the title shall reflect in short, the subject of the content of the bill. These are commonly referred to as the single subject and title rule.

Prop 129 would rightly apply these requirements to ballot measures as well.

In the decision the court cited, “The single subject rule is meant to prevent ‘log-rolling,’ or combining different measures into one bill so that a legislator must approve a disfavored proposition to secure passage of a favored proposition.”

Prop 129 would prevent ballot measures from this “log-rolling” which forces voters to approve unpopular measures in exchange for popular ones. Ballot initiatives should include only provisions logically and naturally connection to one another to limit confusion of the voters, obfuscation by proponents, and a “Sophie’s Choice” for the electorate.

Additionally, the justices stated that the bill title, “must be worded so that it puts people on notice as to the contents of the act,” so that, “a reasonable person should be expected to know what an act deals with based on its title.”

(For) HCR2001 - Proposition 129 - initiatives; single subject; title

This is a practical expectation that provides simplicity and clarity for voters contemplating ballot propositions.

Ballot measures should have the same single subject and title requirement as legislation introduced by lawmakers, and for the same reasons. Both aim to become law; therefore, both should be transparent and limited in scope.

Vote YES on Proposition 129!

Aimee Yentes, Arizona Free Enterprise Club, Gilbert

Sponsored by Arizona Free Enterprise Club

Currently, ballot measures that amend the state's constitution must only pertain to one subject. This is good policy that ensures voters are not being conned into making unintended sweeping changes to our Constitution.

This same reform does not apply to statutory measures. But it should.

As it stands, ballot measures can include many varying topics that have nothing to do with one another. This is a way that out of state groups can sneak their own initiatives that voters are not in favor of under the facade of "fixing our roads" or "improving our water supply" but hiding provisions unrelated to these topics thereby deceptively confusing the voters into passing ideas that they ordinarily would not approve.

Prop. 129 creates a single subject rule so that these ballot measures are only allowed to deal with one subject such as applies to constitutional measures so that it is harder to confuse voters with several different topics all in one measure that they vote yes or no on. It is for this reason that I am proud to support Prop. 129! Vote Yes!

Kimberly Elia, Payson

Sponsored by Arizona Free Enterprise Club

Confusing voters is something that the legal language of ballot initiative measures can do. Lawmakers are required by a constitutional "single subject rule" which forces each piece of legislation to only focus on one subject matter.

Why then does this rule not apply to initiative measures? That's because they are stuffed full of many different things regarding various different subjects and can be marketed as only one of these subjects contained in the measure. For example, a measure may contain something about fixing roads, or increasing the amount of lanes on a highway, but also contain requirements for teaching Critical Race Theory in our schools. This could be branded as a measure to improve our roads while many voters are unaware of the other things contained in the initiative.

I'm proud to support Prop. 129 which creates the same single subject rule that lawmakers have to follow for initiative measures.

(For) HCR2001 - Proposition 129 - initiatives; single subject; title

With Prop. 129, we will no longer have these complex initiative measures that confuse voters and hide controversial things behind the facade of widely agreed upon goods for our communities. Vote YES for Prop. 129!

Karen LaBanz-Barnes, Queen Creek

Sponsored by Arizona Free Enterprise Club

Some laws should not be voted on together. Arizona law regarding statutory ballot initiatives currently has no restrictions on mixing different topics into a single initiative. For example, an initiative could include increased funding for a water treatment facility, but also include passing language expanding school choice or increased funding for public schools. This topic of education has nothing to do with the topic of water treatment. These two topics should not be grouped together and voted on, and yet, Arizona law currently allows them to be.

This is why I am proud to support Prop. 129, which institutes a single subject rule that applies to ballot initiatives. With this proposition, no longer will unrelated topics be allowed to be grouped together and voted on together.

A Yes vote for Prop. 129 is a Yes to simplify ballot measures and pass cleaner better laws! Vote YES Prop 129!

Laurie Johnson, Mesa

Sponsored by Arizona Free Enterprise

The Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry strongly urges you to vote YES on Proposition 129.

Proposition 129 ensures that out-of-state special interests can't use Arizona's ballot box to cram unrelated policies into a proposition without voters being at least accurately informed on the subject of each policy. Prop. 129 protects the integrity of the initiative system by requiring that an initiative stick to a single subject, and stops special interests from hiding parts of their agenda.

Arizona's system remains attractive to out-of-state activist groups seeking to use our ballot box to implement policies that are not in Arizona's best interests. There is greater urgency than ever to install stronger protections around Arizona's system of direct democracy.

The Arizona Constitution's initiative process allows the people to act directly in approving or rejecting laws. To protect that right, we need guardrails to stop out-of-state activists from gaming our system to impose their agenda on Arizona.

Proposition 129 is simple. It ensures that any proposition on a ballot is clear-cut and that voters are informed on the issue. Too often we have seen propositions falsely portrayed due to the oversimplification of complex topics. We need to make certain that any measure put before voters only contains one subject and require the subject to be expressed in the title of the initiative measure.

(For) HCR2001 - Proposition 129 - initiatives; single subject; title

Voter-protected measures are nearly impossible to amend once enacted, so limiting them to a single subject will make sure that Arizonans have complete knowledge on what they are voting for.

We urge you to vote YES on Proposition 129 to help protect the citizen initiative process.

Danny Seiden
President and CEO
Arizona Chamber of Commerce & Industry

Danny Seiden, President & CEO, Arizona Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Phoenix

Arizona laws passed by legislators are limited to one subject; citizen initiatives should be also. This measure simply holds all laws to that same standard. Ballot measures passed by voters are bound by the Voter Protection Act, meaning the Legislature cannot make corrections or adjustments except to further the intent of the measure. That's why it is so important to get ballot measures right.

By limiting ballot initiatives to a single subject, voters are less likely to get confused and more likely to understand exactly what they are potentially cementing into voter protected law. It forces those who are writing the ballot measure to be thorough in their intent and text.

Limiting initiatives to one subject also avoids the potential problem of voters having to decide whether to vote in favor of a ballot measure that they support in part and oppose in part.

Please vote YES

Cathi Herrod, President, Center for Arizona Policy Action, Phoenix

Many States across the country have what is called a single subject rule that requires bills and ballot measures to only deal with issues that are related to one another. Arizona only currently has this for the state legislature and the bills that it considers, not statutory ballot measures.

The lack of this rule can make voters confused as to what they are voting for when considering whether or not to support a measure with their vote due to unrelated issues being grouped together on a single measure.

Prop. 129 would institute this single subject rule that other states have for ballot measures in Arizona. This is a commonsense reform that helps voters become more educated and stops the confusion that comes with unrelated issues being voted on together.

I'm proud to support Prop. 129 and you should too!

Patricia Keitel, Sun City

Sponsored by Arizona Free Enterprise Club

(For) HCR2001 - Proposition 129 - initiatives; single subject; title

Prop 129 is short and sweet; it reads, “Every initiative measure shall embrace but one subject and matters properly connected therewith, which subject shall be expressed in the title; but if any subject shall be embraced in an initiative measure which shall not be expressed in the title, such initiative measure shall be void only as to so much thereof as shall not be embraced in the title.

That is all it does! Prop 129 requires a ballot measure to only relate to one topic and include a title to indicate what topic that is.

This measure is short and simple to read and understand. Unlike most measures bankrolled by special interest groups. These groups like the idea of logrolling bad ideas they can’t get passed at the legislature into one vast measure. This is purposefully confusing.

Let’s keep ballot measures SIMPLE and TRANSPARENT. Vote YES on Prop 129 and ensure ballot measures “embrace but one subject,” are “properly connected,” and are “expressed in the title.” Short, simple, and sensible. Yes on 129.

Mary Lou Steinlein, Mesa

Sponsored by Arizona Free Enterprise Club

One of the foundations of our great constitutional republic is our right as citizens to vote. As we exercise this right, it is important to know what we are voting on, but initiative measures can be chalk full of all sorts of different policies that often have nothing to do with one another, confusing many voters.

What Prop. 129 does is make issues on ballot initiative measures be related to one another so that it does not confuse voters with many different issues that don’t relate to each other at all. This single subject rule is common sense reform that the majority of states already have.

Vote YES for Prop. 129, and make Arizona join the rest of the country in having a single subject rule for initiative measures

Bob Graham, Mesa and Jackie Graham, Mesa

Sponsored by Arizona Free Enterprise Club

Special interest groups, most often from out of state, like to use every opportunity that they get to convince voters to pass wide-ranging initiatives. This way they are able to more easily deceive voters by concealing provisions they do not openly advertise. These are unpopular ideas they can sneak into an initiative, hidden by more popular ideas that they then advertise widely. This is wrong!

Arizona voters can protect our ballot box from these out-of-state con-artists by passing Prop 129! This initiative is very simple. It institutes a single subject rule for ballot initiatives and measures. This is a GREAT idea!

This is very serious. These ballot measures become law - we should be limiting their scope to ensure each topic gets its own separate vote. Voters deserve to be able to make the choice to pass a good law without

(For) HCR2001 - Proposition 129 - initiatives; single subject; title

having to accept a bad law!

If Arizona voters pass Prop 129, these special interest groups will no longer be able to use the expansive measures as a Trojan Horse for their worst ideas they would be unable to sell to voters otherwise! A single subject rule for these measures would prohibit this from happening.

Vote YES for Prop 129!

Dena Larson, Gilbert

Sponsored by Arizona Free Enterprise Club

Most states have a single subject rule that requires that initiative measures on the ballot only deal with one topic, meaning that everything in the measure is related to one another in some manner.

Currently, Arizona doesn't have any rule like that affects statutory initiatives that go on the ballot. Because of this, initiatives can have a whole assortment of different unrelated topics thrown into them, with voters having to vote on them as a whole. This is confusing to voters and forces them to vote for policies that they don't wish to support in order to vote for things that they would like to support. This is unfair and should be fixed!

Prop. 129 institutes a single subject rule that many states already have, making the confusing assortment of unrelated topics that go into initiatives currently sorted into separate ballot measures that have to be voted on separately. This makes it easier for voters to understand what they are being asked to vote for and helps them decide more easily whether or not they would or would not like to support any measure that appears on the ballot.

This makes a lot of sense! Vote YES for Prop. 129!

Frederick Sherwood, Peoria

Sponsored by Arizona Free Enterprise Club