

(For) I-16-2022 - Arizonans for Free and Fair Elections

Arizonans for Fair Elections is an unprecedented local coalition, united to protect democracy and safeguard elections. In our lifetimes, this work has never been more important.

Hundreds of volunteers from dozens of organizations coalesced to fight for this measure. We stand with groups who have dedicated their lives to protecting the right to vote. We stand with organizations working tirelessly to improve education, support veterans, protect the environment, advance animal welfare, protect workers, ensure equality, protect the freedom of religion, improve our criminal justice system, fight for abortion rights and reproductive justice. Our team includes veterans, Republicans, Democrats, Independents, healthcare workers, community leaders, clergy, parents, students, retirees, first responders and tribal nations – all of whom believe in democracy and the power of the people to make positive change.

We are diverse. We are local. We are BIPOC led. We transcend political partisanship. We are defending Arizona's constitution. We are defending your right to vote.

When passed, this measure:

- Prevents the state legislature from overturning presidential election results.
- Keeps ballots private.
- Guards against ballots and other election materials being turned over to unaccountable outside entities for improper uses.
- Protects citizens' right to vote by mail and stay on the permanent early voting list.
- Requires Tribal input on the location and hours of polling places.
- Protects voters with disabilities by ensuring access to a variety of voting methods, including curbside.
- Extends in-person early voting through the day before election day.
- Allows voters to vote at any polling location in their county.
- Makes voter registration more accessible and accurate.
- Safeguards voters' constitutional right to pass their own laws.
- The Fair Elections Act fights corruption and limits the power of lobbyists.

Vote yes on **Prop xxx**. www.AZFairElections.com

Teresa Mabry, Co Executive Director, Arizona Democracy Resource Center, Phoenix

The League of Women Voters of Arizona strongly supports this initiative, which will protect voting access from recent attacks by the Arizona Legislature. This initiative will

- Reinstate the popular and convenient Permanent Early Voting List (PEVL) for mail balloting
- Assure voters will be automatically registered or updated when applying for a license or changing their address at the MVD
- Allow for same-day voter registration
- Extend in-person early voting
- Protects the rights of Tribal voters by requiring Tribal input on the location and hours of polling places,

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and protects voters with disabilities by ensuring the availability of a variety of voting methods, including curbside voting

-- Preserve ballot privacy by ensuring that no marking may be placed on the ballot to identify the voter

-- Assure Presidential electors cast their vote according to the wishes of the people and not their own bias

-- Counter the influence of money in elections by reducing the amount that an individual or PAC may give to candidates and increasing funding for Clean Elections Candidates

A “YES” vote on this initiative preserves and expands the rights of all Arizonans to participate in the democratic process fully.

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ARIZONA URGES YOU TO VOTE YES.

Pinny Sheoran, President, League of Women Voters of Arizona, Phoenix

Sponsored by League of Women Voters of Arizona

Without free and fair elections, we can't build the future we want.

Activate 48 proudly supports Arizonans for Free and Fair Elections. And if you believe voting is a right and not a privilege, you should support it too.

Arizonans for Free and Fair Elections will protect widely-popular voting rights measures and prevent the state legislature from overturning election results. In addition to creating safe and hassle-free same-day voter registration, Arizonans for Free and Fair Elections will restore the Permanent Early Voting List. This would stop politicians from removing voters just for missing two elections.

Our democracy has been rigged by the wealthy and well-connected for too long. Arizonans for Free and Fair Elections would limit gifts from lobbyists to lawmakers, making room for everyday Arizonans in politics. We need decisionmakers to represent the people – not special interests.

Voting is the key to unlocking the full potential of our democracy. Activate 48 is a coalition led by LUCHA; Mi Familia Vota; Our Voice, Our Vote Arizona; and Chispa Arizona. Our partners include four of our state's leading movement-building organizations committed to engaging young people, Latinos, and communities of color in the political process. We are bringing together Arizonans across backgrounds, regions, and issues to shape a future that meets the needs of communities, not corporations.

As a people-powered movement, we believe that our future is determined by us, and by those who show up to vote. This fundamental right is under attack. Arizonans for Free and Fair Elections will help protect it.

We can't rely on politicians or judges to save us. Arizonans for Free and Fair Elections gives us the power to save ourselves, help each other, and build a democracy that works for every Arizonan. Join us in voting YES for Free and Fair Elections.

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Laura Dent, Coalition Director, Activate 48, Phoenix

Sponsored by Activate 48

Arizona's good governance is threatened. Redistricting made Arizona less Fair and Competitive. Unrelenting and unfounded claims of presidential election fraud have created a ruse in AZ for enacting voter suppression bills. Corporate-backed, out of state interests write and then promote such model legislation to state legislatures for adoption. Recent legislation threatens early voting, mail-in voting, drop boxes, ballot privacy, voting centers, and use of certified voting machines. **Prop XXX** will codify voting practices enacted in the 1990s by a Republican-majority AZ Legislature when the state enjoyed safe, secure and fair elections for more than 30 years!

Prop XXX also restores the Permanent Early Voting List from which more than 200,000 voters were thrown off simply for not using mail-in voting often enough. Other changes give Tribal residents more say about their polling times and locations, as well as more flexible rural addressing. It gives five days for ballots to be received and counted if postmarked by election day. Automatic voter registration via MVD is enhanced and voter registration confirmed; voter rolls are updated monthly instead of yearly. **Prop XXX** allows voter registration on election day but only by a county recorder's office employee at a designated polling place. It decriminalizes the act of turning in another's completed and sealed ballot. This is a favor and should not be a crime. **Prop XXX** also supports the Arizona Constitutional right to the Citizens Initiative process by permitting a trusted person to fill in the name and address for the signing voter, without having to resort to a complicated affidavit. Importantly, it disallows the Legislature from replacing the presidential electors.

On the whole, this ballot initiative simply secures the voter freedoms Arizonans enjoyed for decades. Please VOTE YES on **Proposition XXX**.

Julie Pindzola, Prescott

MWEG believes every eligible voter has the right to participate in the democratic process by being able to easily and securely cast a vote. We support equitable political representation and individual self-determination; our political structures and electoral systems should maximize participation, access, and security. Consequently, we lend our support to the Arizona Fair Elections Act (AZFE).

The AZFE would accomplish this by supporting extended early voting as well as polling place flexibility. It protects against unnecessary voter purges by creating a permanent early voting list to replace the current active early voting list. It protects the right to vote by mail. By offering a curing process, the AZFE allows individual voters to verify or correct any discrepancies while preserving their vote. The AZFE also ensures voting access for classes of voters that can often be overlooked and have difficulties casting a ballot — namely, tribal voters and individuals with disabilities.

We believe representation should always be driven by the will of the people rather than partisan politics. The AZFE stabilizes the process of selecting presidential electors and clearly outlines their responsibilities in order to avoid confusion and exploitation. It prevents state legislatures from overturning the will of the people in favor of personal political preference. In addition, it maintains the citizens' fundamental right to referendum, preserving the will of the people.

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We believe the AZFE will strengthen Arizona's representative government and accountability to Arizonans by bolstering ballot access and security and by upholding the will of the people.

Christie Black, Arizona Chapter Coordinator, Mormon Women for Ethical Government, Mesa and Andrea Messinger Dalton, Arizona Chapter Coordinator, Mormon Women for Ethical Government, Oro Valley

Sponsored by Mormon Women for Ethical Government

Let me be absolutely clear - **Prop xxx**, the Fair Elections Act, is the most definitive step we can take towards fighting to protect reproductive rights and abortion access in Arizona. Why?

A series of laws over the past few years have systematically stripped this power from voters - they've increased the number of signatures required to qualify, requiring each sheet of 15 or so signatures to have the full text of the measure stapled to it (that can be 50+ pages). If someone doesn't - or physically can't - contain their signature within the required margins, the entire sheet of signatures can be thrown out - this renders the process inaccessible for folks with limited fine motor control, for example.

Under the absolute *best* of circumstances, advocates who do collect the requisite number of signatures can expect to incur significant expenses. Just as an example - printing costs alone for the petitions can cost in the hundreds of thousands of dollars range. Signature gatherers can now be subpoenaed. Volunteers are amazing - but training them to meet the state's requirements is difficult, some may be turned off by the prospect of going to court, and many groups resort to hiring paid signature gatherers to aid in their efforts and ensure compliance with state law. With legal fees included, it's safe to say that any initiative needs to have at least a couple million dollars in the bank right off the bat. It should go through extensive legal review before being filed to ensure it won't be disqualified immediately.

Prop xxx, the Fair Elections Act, still ensures this process is legally rigorous but makes it more affordable, accessible, and efficient - thereby opening up a world of possibilities for action

Jodi Liggett, CEO, Az Center for Women's Advancement (ACWA), Tempe

Since 2004, Mi Familia Vota has been working to engage Latino communities around our 7 pillars of community engagement: worker's rights, education, environment, healthcare, immigration, and voting rights. All of these issue areas are important, however without voting rights, we cannot make progress anywhere. Arizonans for Fair Elections will defend our right to vote and make it easier for everyday Arizonans to participate in our electoral process.

Arizonans for Fair Elections will safeguard early voting from those who seek to make it harder to plan your vote. This proposition also limits gifts from lobbyists to lawmakers, reduces the amount of dark money in our politics, and prevents the state legislature from overturning election results. These measures are supported by a vast majority of Arizonans who believe that participation in our democracy shouldn't be reserved for the rich.

For years, Mi Familia Vota has worked to ensure increased access to the electoral process for Latino voters and to allow them to exercise their right to vote free of intimidation. Through the collaboration

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with partners, we have filed and supported legal cases to protect the voting rights and to fight voter suppression around the nation.

Arizonans for Fair Elections is yet another tool we have to increase access to the electoral process and fight voter suppression in Arizona. Please support Arizonans for Fair Elections to ensure we can shape a brighter future for all – together.

Carolina Rodriguez-Greer, Arizona State Director, Mi Familia Vota, Phoenix

As an Arizona resident and citizen deeply involved in the community I care about and call home, I am proud to support the Arizonans for Fair Elections ballot initiative as a major step forward in empowering everyday Arizonans like us to truly thrive. It is critical that Arizonans like myself, you, and your family are able to exercise our freedom to vote and that extreme politicians cannot overturn the will of the people.

Arizonans for Fair Elections empowers you and your family to make decisions over your everyday lives, not be at the mercy of corporations and extreme politicians who do not care about your wellbeing. Whether it's ensuring affordable housing, access to healthcare, good paying jobs or strong schools, it all starts with our ability to hold politicians accountable and make our voices heard on the issues impacting our daily lives.

Our communities and our families are at a pivotal moment. Arizonans for Fair Elections moves us towards a brighter, stronger, and more united future where your voice truly matters, something that is far too rare. I urge you to vote Yes on the Arizonans for Fair Elections initiative and put the power back in the hands of people like us.

Randy Perez Jr., Individual, Tempe

Communities have a right to clean air and water, healthy neighborhoods, and a safe climate for future generations of Arizonans. But none of this can come to fruition without fair and equitable access to the ballot box. Unfortunately, our voting rights in Arizona are under constant threat. Politicians are placing the interests of the wealthy and powerful ahead of the interests of everyday Arizonans. It's far past time we enact policy measures that safeguard our rights and provide us with an opportunity to drive real change in our government.

That's why we're proud to support **Proposition XXX**. This measure would be a meaningful first step towards expanding access to the ballot box and ensuring all Arizonans have a fair chance to participate in the democratic process. **Proposition XXX** would expand early voting access across the state and ensure eligible voters have an opportunity to cast their ballot, whether they vote by mail or show up at the polls on Election Day.

Proposition XXX would also place new limits on political contributions, a major first step towards rooting out dark money interests that pollute both our politics and our environment.

These are all common sense policy measures that help ease the voting process, protect eligible voters' right to cast their ballot, and lay the foundation for continuing efforts to eliminate financial influence in

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our institutions.

Clean air and water start with cleaning up our politics and protecting our democracy. Electing leaders who believe in protecting our communities and supporting sustainable policies around environmental justice is key. But without the protections provided by **Proposition XXX**, the voting rights of millions of Arizonans remain at risk. We must pass **Proposition XXX** to secure our rights and chart a path towards a better, brighter future for generations of Arizonans to come.

Vianey Olivarria, State Co-Director, Chispa Arizona, League of Conservative Voters, Phoenix

Our vote is our voice. As a faith leader, I believe our voice is sacred. My faith tradition teaches that we are to live out our moral and ethical values in our lives and our broader community. We do this by voting for policies that support our beliefs. Silencing our vote means silencing our voices and our beliefs. We live in a diverse community with diverse voices and beliefs. I believe all of these voices and beliefs deserve to be heard. The Arizona Faith Elections Act will ensure that our voices are heard by making voting free, fair, and accessible to all Arizonans. Please join me in Supporting the Arizona Fair Elections Act.

Reverend Katie Sexton-Wood

Rev. Katie Sexton, Glendale

As a veteran injured in the line of duty, I know standing in a long line to cast my vote can be physically painful. That is why protecting our freedom to vote by mail is essential. I took an oath to protect our freedom, and I take that oath seriously. The Fair Elections Act, **Prop xxx**, makes voting for people with disabilities far more accessible than it currently is. That is why I'm working to protect our freedom to vote. The Arizona Fair Elections Act, **Prop xxx**, will protect our right to vote by mail, ensuring disabled veterans like myself can make our voices heard.

Colter Wood, United States Navy Veteran

Colter Wood, Veteran, United States Navy, Glendale

I served this county in the Vietnam war because I love her and the freedom she offers us all, including the freedom to express our voice through our vote. I fought for this country, and now I'm fighting to protect our right to vote. Join me by supporting the Arizona Faith Elections Act, **Prop xxx**. **Prop xxx** will ensure that all people will continue to have the freedom to vote in safe, fair, and secure elections.

George Sexton, United States Air Force Veteran

George Sexton, Veteran, United States Air Force, Glendale

For people living with visible and invisible disabilities, voting has always been a challenge. Recent legislation by the Arizona state legislature has only made that more difficult. We do have an opportunity to fix it and that is through **Prop xxx**, the Fair Elections Act. Since I was paralyzed by an act of random gun violence I have experienced these difficulties firsthand.

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The first time I went to vote after my paralysis I was denied access to my ballot by stairs at my polling site. I began to work with the Maricopa County Recorder's Office on training election board workers on the importance of access at the polls. I know firsthand from my elections training work over a decade how easily we disenfranchise our most vulnerable voters. We can and we must do better.

The Fair Elections Act makes voting for people with disabilities far more accessible. It mandates that poll workers be trained on equipment that will help people with disabilities vote and allows for curbside and assisted voting when appropriate. It also requires the Citizens Clean Elections Commission to provide plain English explanations of ballot measures. These steps, along with others contained in **Prop xxx** will signal a new day for voting access in Arizona for me and all other legally eligible voters with disabilities.

We have a chance to ensure that voting in our state is truly accessible for all voters, not just able-bodied people. Please join me in supporting **Prop xxx**.

Jennifer Longdon, Representative, Phoenix

Indian Country in America has endured a sad and challenging voting history. In the grand scheme of life from not too long ago, the Voting Rights Act of 1965 finally reaffirmed, strengthened, and protected certain voting rights for the American Indian after years of suppression efforts like poll taxes, literacy tests, fraud, and intimidation. Suppression efforts have not stopped, even up to now in Arizona!

Yet in spite of this unwanted static, the Native American Vote in Arizona in the 2020 national election was the highest ever! That voting power may have determined the final outcome of Arizona's election results. Quickly thereafter, people and organizations gathered to find ways to suppress this vote once again. Ugh!

Let every vote count! Voices from votes are sacred!

That is why it is vital to vote "YES" for the Arizona Fair Elections Act, **pXXX** in November. Let's protect the voting rights for everyone, especially for Native Americans.

Jerry Gloshey Jr., Tribal Outreach Director, Arizona Deserves Better, Whiteriver

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Voting Rights Initiative Protects Direct Democracy

The Arizona Fair Elections Act has powerful language that could help re-instate choice.

The Legislature has passed many statutes to make putting new laws on the ballot difficult. The Arizona Fair Elections Act reverses many of the Legislature's attacks on the Initiative process.

One area that will be changing is the standard for review in the courts. It is now "strict" and will be changed to "liberally construed."

Another big change is that courts can only throw measures off the ballot based on a challenge to their petition signatures and a requirement that a copy of the proposed measure be attached to the petition.

It makes petition circulation easier: Currently, every piece of information on the petition sheet has to be filled in by the signer. Once the Arizona Fair Elections Act becomes law, only the signature itself will

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have to be filled in by the voter. The date, address, etc., could be filled in by circulators.

Currently, only one signature sheet can be attached to each copy of the law. The Fair Elections Act authorizes up to 10 signature sheets to be attached to a single copy of the law. This packet of 10 signature sheets will require only one notarization.

Currently, a separate signature sheet has to be created if people are from different counties. Allowing signatures from multiple counties will make signature collection more efficient.

Attorneys for anti-Initiative groups often issue mass subpoenas to circulators, hoping they will not show up for court so their signatures can be thrown out. The new law does away with this abuse.

Please vote yes on **Proposition XXX** the Arizona Fair Elections Act.

Melissa Foy-Jentoft, Chair, Navajo County Democratic Party, Lakeside

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The Tohono O’odham Nation and other Native people in Arizona have the same right to vote as all citizens in our democracy. It is how we ensure that our communities can hold elected leaders accountable on the issues that affect us. Without a vote, you have no voice in the halls of power.

Following the unprecedented turnout by Native voters in the 2020 election, there have been systematic suppression attempts to make it more difficult for Native people to vote. These efforts to obstruct our sacred right to vote are as familiar as they are shameful. They are trying to turn back the clock on our democracy and disenfranchise tribes and other minority communities in Arizona.

We need to banish these voter suppression tactics back to the history books and keep moving forward.

We need the Arizona Fair Elections Act.

The Arizona Fair Elections Act protects the voting rights of Native people and all Arizonans. Please vote "YES" on the Arizona Fair Elections Act, **pXXX**. Thank you.

Ned Norris Jr., Chairman, Tohono O’odham Nation, Tucson

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We have a duty to our ancestors and future generations to protect our sacred land. As a sovereign Nation within the borders of the United States, an important part of protecting our Nation is voting.

There have been many attempts in Phoenix over the last year to stop Natives from voting. I urge you to protect our rights by voting "Yes" on the Arizona Voting Rights Act, **pXXX**

Lorraine Coin, Hotevilla

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Initiative Would Stop Voter Suppression, Give Arizona One of Best Voting Laws

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Rightwing legislation would fingerprint voters, eliminate early voting and stop mail voting and actually allow the Legislature to throw out all the ballots and pick the winner. The rightwing faction is desperate to cling to power.

The Arizona Fair Elections Act includes Automatic Voter Registration for drivers in the state as well as election-day registration. It also removes voter suppression measures rammed through after the U.S. Supreme Court gutted the Voting Rights Act and upheld changes that make it more difficult to vote.

Would-be Congressman Walt Blackman so far has the prize for wildest attack on voters. He wants to require a new voter ID card, which would require a passport or citizenship certificate and other documents, to vote. Anyone voting in person would also need either fingerprints or a “unique security code” issued to the voter. No form of Tribal ID would be allowed.

This is one of many dozens voter suppression bills introduced by right-wing extremists.

A bill introduced by Rep. John Fillmore would eliminate most early and absentee voting and require people to vote in their home precincts, rather than at vote centers set up around the state. Most dramatically, Fillmore’s bill would require the legislature to hold a special session after an election to review election processes and results, and to “accept or reject the election results.”

The Voting Rights Initiative **PXXX** would overturn all of these rightwing fever dreams and provide Arizona with one of the best Voting Rights laws in the United States.

Carol Sletten, Pinetop

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As a grassroots organization, LUCHA Arizona knows that the power of our institutions should rest with the people. LUCHA was the driving force behind raising the minimum wage and securing paid sick time for workers across the state in 2016, a big win for everyday Arizonans.

We now face a bigger challenge — our democracy is under attack. We witnessed this first-hand in Arizona where efforts to undermine everyday Arizonans’ right to vote have been on full display. These efforts are not only dangerous for our institutions, but they perpetuate broken systems that favor corporations over communities. What’s more, a number of state and federal politicians alike have worked in tandem with anti-democracy activists to undermine our democracy to maintain their political stronghold. Something has to change.

Proposition XXX will create new safeguards to protect our voting rights. The measure will allow voters to cast their ballot at any polling location in their county, establish same-day voter registration, and restore the Permanent Early Voting List. It will also place new limits on lobbyist contributions to candidates, an important step towards ensuring policymakers working for the communities they represent, not catering to elite special interests.

For too long, our communities have taken a back seat to the wealthy and well-connected, diminishing our electoral power and silencing our voices. **Proposition XXX** enacts desperately-needed measures to protect voters’ rights and ensure our government represents and upholds the values Arizonans want to see in their institutions.

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Alejandra Gomez, Co-Executive Director, Living United for Change in Arizona (LUCHA), Phoenix and Tomas Robles, Co-Executive Director, Living United for Change in Arizona (LUCHA), Phoenix

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Helping Neighbors Getting Their Ballots Turned In

Arizona is one of 12 states that make it a crime to give a mail ballot to a friend or neighbor to place in the mail or return to a drop box or polling place. The Arizona Fair Elections Act will eliminate this restriction because it's designed to keep minorities out of the political process.

The rightwing's obsession with "ballot harvesting" shows how much they fear the power of minorities at the ballot box.

Let's look at how the law is enforced differently in neighborhoods based on the economic status of the residents. Paradise Valley is one of Arizona's most affluent communities. Homes worth \$10 million are not uncommon. If a white woman from Paradise Valley takes the ballot from a white neighbor to the post office, there is no chance she would ever be prosecuted for ballot harvesting.

Now let's look at the community of Red Mesa on the Navajo Reservation, considerably less affluent. A grandmother from Red Mesa would have to drive 418 miles round trip to turn her ballot in at the county seat in St. Johns. If she takes her neighbor's ballot to turn in, she is subject to arrest for a felony. Publicizing these discriminatory laws in less affluent neighborhoods scares people, and makes them afraid to touch ballots.

The one case of actual abuse in Ballot Harvesting involved a crooked Republican Congressman from North Carolina whose operatives committed a host of felonies that would remain serious crimes in Arizona.

Arizona has one of the toughest voting security laws in the country. Election officials look up birth certificates to establish the citizenship of people seeking to register to vote.

Please vote yes on **PXXX**, the Arizona Fair Elections Act.

Steve Gorman-Hackstadt, Show Low

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The Arizona Fair Elections Act, **Proposition XXX** will protect voters against extremists in the Legislature who have both filed court cases against mail voting and put a measure on the ballot that would sharply reduce voting.

Extremist Kelli Ward filed a lawsuit saying the state Constitution prohibits early voting and mail voting. This is a wild claim considering Arizona has had no-excuse mail balloting for 30 years and 90% of the voters in the state use it. The Constitution actually says, "All elections by the people shall be by ballot, or by such other method as may be prescribed by law; Provided, that secrecy in voting shall be preserved."

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The Founding Mothers, creating our Constitution in 1912, did not give right-leaning justices much to work with.

The Legislature put a referendum on the ballot which would require mail ballots to have either the date of birth of the voter, their driver's license number, the last four digits of their Social Security number or their Voter ID. People will not be excited about having this information floating around in the mail.

When Arizona legislators heard similar restrictions were causing up to 30% of ballots to be rejected in Texas, they said, "Whoo - Hah, let's do it."

The ballot initiative repeals some old voter suppression measures, gives Arizona one of the best voting laws in the United States and protects voters and the state's electoral votes into the future. It also reforms campaign finance and reduces the influence of lobbyists.

A right-wing commentator said the initiative is a state version of the federal HR-1, which has been blocked by the filibuster. While this is not really correct, it's generally a compliment.

Mitchell Major, M.D., Pinetop

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Arizona Fair Elections Act Pushes Back On Anti-Democracy Mob

As Arizonans increasingly adopted mail voting, the rightwing knew the end was near. They needed to stop Native Americans from voting. One of the ways was to make it harder to get ballots turned in. Before 2016, if you lived 200 miles from the county seat and your car was broken down, you could give your ballot to a neighbor to turn it in.

The rightwing thought they had found gold in blocking these ballots from being counted. A new law made the neighbor guilty of a felony. Of course, this law has never been enforced in wealthy communities like Paradise Valley, but if you live in a remote Native community you are made to believe that the law is out to prosecute "ballot harvesting" as they call it.

So, the lawyers took up the six-year fight through the courts. Of course, the voters won at every level. Until, it came before Justice Samuel Alito and the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Arizona Fair Elections Act repeals the statute, leaving nothing for Alito to uphold.

In the same case, Alito ruled that out-of-precinct ballots had to be thrown out. This wasn't much of an issue for many Arizonans because they have "voting centers" that support voting for residents of all precincts. But, the heavily Democratic counties of Pima (Tucson) and Apache (Window Rock) had many individual precincts and no voting centers. It was a chance to throw out Democratic votes.

The Initiative allows a voter to cast a ballot in any precinct in the county.

Please vote "yes" on **Proposition XXX**.

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Virginia Dotson, Vernon

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Why allow election-day registration?

Arizonans have a right to go to the polls and vote. That was the way it worked in Territorial Days, but in more recent history we accepted closing voter registration a month before election day and denying many citizens the right to vote.

Changing back to Election Day registration will enable an estimated 171,000 additional Arizonans to have the opportunity to vote.

Nineteen states and the District of Columbia offer Election Day registration. Montana and North Carolina offer same-day registration through the early voting period.

The old registration deadlines stem from running a paper-based system and some element of Jim Crow. (There are no Election-Day Registrations allowed in the Deep South.) Arizona's current registration deadline – 29 days before an election – is tied to the tedious process of counties having to create paper polling books for each of the voting locations in their counties.

That really isn't necessary anymore. Counties use electronic polling books that are automatically updated for all polling locations as soon as a new voter is registered.

A study by the University of Massachusetts found that same-day registration increased voting by blacks and Latinx voters by as much as 17% in some states. "Voter registration was designed in part to make voting more difficult for Black and brown communities, and it has always served as an obstacle to voting for people of color," said study authors Jesse Williamson and Laura Rhodes.

A University of Chicago study found that same-day registration is especially helpful in turning out younger voters.

The National Council of State Legislatures says, "Multiple studies place the effect (of same-day registration) between an increase of 3% to 7%, with an average of a 5% increase."

Please vote "yes" on the Arizona Fair Elections Act, **Proposition XXXX**.

Gloria Baum, Show Low

Sponsored by Arizona Deserves Better

Arizona Fair Elections Act Responds to Double-Cross Against Navajo Nation.

The Arizona Fair Elections Act addresses past attempts at voter suppression, provides Arizona with one of the best election laws in the country and protects Democracy into the future.

One of the provisions slaps back hard at state Attorney General Mark Brnovich for his ugly attempt to

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double-cross the voters of the Navajo Nation. Though unloved by Trump, Brnovich is doing everything he can to toady up to the former president in hopes of getting an endorsement for the Arizona U.S. Senate race.

In casting aside any shred of dignity or self-respect, Brnovich has been doing everything he can to mess up Arizona's elections and aid the loony stop-the-steal mob in their attempts to suppress the vote.

The story of Brnovich vs. The Navajo Nation started with a lawsuit the Tribe filed against the State of Arizona. The Navajos complained in their suit that Arizona did not give voters a chance to "cure" their ballots if a signature was missing on a mail-in ballot envelope.

The state, led by Secretary of State Katy Hobbs, settled the suit in federal court, promising to give voters five business days to provide missing signatures, or otherwise prove that they had legally cast the ballot in question. The federal judge accepted the settlement.

Brnovich, desperate for far-right brownie points, refused to allow the settlement to be written into the official Elections Procedures Manual. It's one of a number of instances when Brnovich has shown questionable legal ethics.

The good news is that the Arizona Fair Election Initiative writes the settlement with the Navajo Nation into law, and when it passes in November, will allow five days to "cure" missing signatures.

Please vote "yes" on **Proposition XXX**, the Arizona Fair Elections Act.

Janis Newton, Pinetop

Sponsored by Arizona Deserves Better

Whatever our color, background, age, ability or zip code, we believe that voters pick our leaders—our leaders do not pick which voters to hear and which to silence.

But after turning out in record numbers to demand change, we have watched self-serving politicians spread lies about the 2020 election and pass anti-voter laws across the country, trying to rig the rules in their favor to ensure that the richest remain in power no matter how the people vote. Here in Arizona, politicians have put up dozens of new barriers to voting, including trying to eliminate our popular and bipartisan Vote-by-Mail system and most in-person early voting.

Fortunately, as Arizonans, we have a constitutional right to legislate by citizen initiative. Together, we are using the ballot initiative process to safeguard our right to vote.

Proposition XXX, the Arizonans for Free and Fair Elections initiative, protects our right to vote by mail. It also protects our elections from partisan interference and ensures that our ballots remain private. It fights corruption by limiting gifts from lobbyists to politicians and reducing PAC and individual contributions to political campaigns. And it blocks the state legislature from being able to overturn the results of a presidential election.

As Arizonans, we have the power to protect our rights. Just as we turned out in record numbers in the last

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election, Arizonans must come together now across race, place and party to safeguard our most fundamental freedom: our ability as voters to determine our state's future.

It's up to us as Arizonans to protect our right to vote. Join us in voting YES on **Proposition XXX**, the Arizonans for Free and Fair Elections initiative.

Montserrat Arredondo, Executive Director, One Arizona, Phoenix

As an organization focused on addressing the problems facing Arizona's rural communities, we are committed to protecting rural Arizonans' right to vote and have a say in the issues that affect our lives.

That's why we are supporting **Proposition XXX**, the Arizonans for Free and Fair Elections initiative, and we urge you to do the same.

The Arizonans for Free and Fair Elections Initiative ensures that our ballots remain private and protects our elections from interference by partisan actors. The initiative combats corruption in the political process, including by limiting the gifts that lobbyists can give to politicians. The initiative has provisions designed specifically to protect the voting rights of rural voters. And, perhaps most importantly, it blocks the state legislature from being able to overturn the results of an election.

Whatever our color, background, age, ability or zip code, Arizonans know that voters should choose our leaders – not the other way around. It's time for us to come together and protect one of our most basic rights – our freedom to vote.

Vote YES on **Proposition XXX**, the Arizonans for Free and Fair Elections initiative.

Natali Fierros Bock, Co-Executive Director, Rural Arizona Engagement, San Tan Valley and Pablo Correa, Co-Executive Director, Rural Arizona Engagement, Casa Grande

Sponsored by One Arizona

The Navajo Nation is home to some of the most dedicated voters in Arizona. Our Navajo people are proud to exercise their right to vote in all elections. When Navajo people vote, we have the power to change the outcome of elections.

Our right to vote is sacred. Not that long ago the right to vote was denied to the First Americans across this country. Many tactics were used to keep our Navajo people from exercising our right to vote such as language tests, requests for unnecessary documents, arguments that we were not true citizens of the state, and intimidation.

Unfortunately, we are currently experiencing the greatest threat to Navajo voters in decades. The excess of laws passed by the Arizona Legislature this year, limiting the right to vote, illustrates the great lengths that some legislators will go to deny people their constitutional right. We cannot rely on the courts to protect us against this onslaught of anti-voting law, as the current U.S. Supreme Court has issued a decision upholding Arizona's voter suppression laws. Therefore, it is up to us to protect our rights.

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For these reasons, I ask you to support the Arizona Fair Elections Act, **Proposition XXX**, in November. This initiative promotes and protects our right to vote by taking down barriers to voting created by state legislators, ensure equal access to voting, and protecting the right to vote from partisan interference.

The Navajo Nation will remain a powerful Nation with all of us uniting together for this good cause. Thank you for your support!

Hagoonee'

Thank you,

Jonathan Nez, President, Navajo Nation, Shonto

Sponsored by Arizona Deserves Better

The Southwest Conference of the United Church of Christ is pleased to endorse the **Prop xxx**, Arizona Fair Elections Act (AFEA), a proposed 2022 Arizona ballot measure that removes barriers and ensures equal access to voting.

Specifically, the AFEA protects every Arizonan's right to vote by mail; protects voting access for Tribal voters and voters with disabilities; gives people more time and options for voting; makes voter registration more accessible and accurate; protects voters rights to receive needed assistance including offering food and water to voters waiting in line.

The ballot measure safeguards elections from partisan interference by preventing the state legislature from overturning presidential election results, keeping our ballots private, and safeguards voters' right to pass our own laws. It also prohibits lobbyists from giving certain gifts to politicians, lowers contribution limits from individuals and PACs, and offers "Clean Elections" candidates a more competitive opportunity.

For Christians public policy is never only about politics. It's the way we live out Jesus's commandment to love our neighbors as ourselves. Advocacy in the public square is the way we pursue peace and justice in our communities.

Prop xxx takes a step toward building a just world for everyone.

William M. Lyons, Rev. Dr., Southwest Conference United Church of Christ, Phoenix

Arizona Fair Elections Act Protects Arizona's Electoral Votes

In looking to overturn the 2020 election, the Trump mafia targeted Arizona, considering its electoral votes among the easiest to steal.

The Arizona Fair Elections Act ensures that the state's electoral votes will not be stolen.

An obscure passage in the Constitution says, "Each State shall appoint, in such Manner as the Legislature thereof may direct, a Number of Electors ... "

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In any serious reading of the Constitution, this essentially authorizes the Legislature to set up the meeting where the Electors will be confirmed.

But like cult leaders, certain right-wing lawyers and judges have created a whole “Super Legislature” theory that says the Legislature can give the state’s electoral votes to Donald Duck, even if the cartoon character didn’t run in the election.

Nevermind that the Constitution in many places mandates a republican form of government and supports fair elections and democracy. The Federalist papers consistently expect that elections will be held and their results honored.

The Initiative says:

“The manner of selecting Presidential Electors for a presidential election shall be governed by the law in effect on January 1 of the year of the presidential election.”

The wording states that the goal posts have to be set before Jan. 1 and cannot be moved during the election year.

It says:

“The presidential electors of this state shall cast their electoral college votes for the candidate for president and the candidate for vice president who jointly received the highest number of votes in this state as prescribed in the canvass”

This language will be protected by the State Constitution, which strictly limits changes that can be made by the Legislature in Initiatives passed by the voters.

Please vote yes on the Arizona Fair Elections Act, **Proposition XXX**.

Kathleen Dubbs, Tucson

Sponsored by Arizona Deserves Better

Common Defense is the country’s largest veteran-led grassroots organization committed to engaging, organizing, training and mobilizing veterans to elect accountable leaders.

As veterans, as Arizonans, and as members of Common Defense, we urge you to vote YES on **Proposition XXX**, the Arizonans for Fair Elections initiative.

Americans agree that voters should have the power to choose our leaders—not the other way around. This is one of the most fundamental building blocks of our democracy, and a basic freedom enshrined in our constitution.

The Arizonans for Fair Elections initiative ensures that this basic principle is respected. It protects voting access for people with disabilities, rural voters and others. It keeps our ballots private and safeguards voters' right to pass our own laws. It addresses corruption and money in politics by lowering the contribution limits from PACs and individuals to political candidates, and prohibits lobbyists from giving

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certain gifts to politicians. And it prevents the state legislature from overturning elections.

Protect your right to vote—vote YES on **Proposition XXX**, the Arizonans for Fair Elections initiative.

Joanna Sweatt, Organizing Director, Common Defense, Chandler; Chad Flannery, Member, Common Defense, Chandler; Christopher Emmons, Member, Common Defense, Mesa; Jason Moon, Member, Common Defense, Phoenix; Frank Thompson, Member, Common Defense, Tucson; and Sylvia Andersh, Member, Common Defense, Tucson

Sponsored by One Arizona

Voting Yes on Initiative Will Stop Rampant Attempts At Voter Suppression

The Arizona Legislative is under the spell of a radical faction controlled by lobbyists for the private-school, private-prison industry. The faction leaders realize that the only way they can secure the flow of your tax dollars into their pockets is to suppress the vote.

The Initiative includes features like election-day registration and automatic voter registration for drivers and high school students. It also stops the Legislature from enacting new voter suppression measures and from giving the state’s electoral votes to any presidential candidate other than the winner.

While there would be advantages to a national Voting Rights Law, the Senate filibuster is blocking it for now. Getting good voting rights legislation in place in the battleground state of Arizona is an important step.

The Initiative does things like counting ballots postmarked by election day, and empowering voters to give their ballots to friends and others to get them in the mail.

Arizona is in a unique place to act because its founders produced a Constitution in 1912 that allows the people Direct Democracy, the right to vote enactments of the Legislature up or down through a Referendum, the right of the people to create their own laws through the Initiative process and the right to recall sitting state officials.

The Initiative is an important step in turning back 50 years of radical rightwing attempts to govern the country by suppressing the vote. The Initiative limits how much lobbyists can give Legislators, limits campaign contributions, and supports public funding of campaigns.

Please vote “yes” on **Proposition XXX**. the Arizona Fair Elections Act.

Larry Romo, Lakeside

Sponsored by Arizona Deserves Better

In Democracy, there’s a system of checks and balances that prevents the majority from abusing its power. One of those is the option to put an issue directly before voters via a ballot initiative when the legislature fails to act in the best interest of all their constituents. Arizona’s lawmakers view this as a threat to their

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ability to impose their agenda on the rest of us. That's why they have spent several years passing bills to suppress Arizonans' access to direct democracy, making it harder and more expensive for grassroots groups to get initiatives on the ballot for voters to decide.

We experienced this firsthand. Our organization worked for years with a bipartisan coalition to promote sensible sentencing reform. Despite widespread support, the legislature blocked every bill. So we decided to put sentencing reform on the ballot. In 2020, we created the Second Chance initiative, which would have allowed people to earn their way out of prison and restored the power of judges to determine sentences. We collected more than the required number of signatures (during the height of the pandemic), chiefly because the majority of Arizonans are personally impacted by incarceration—they have loved ones or friends caught up in the system, and they know change is needed. But politically-connected prosecutors and others with a vested interest in the status quo interfered with lawsuits and challenges and prevented it from getting on the ballot. Arizona maintains the 5th highest incarceration rate in the US, with little rehabilitation or increase in public safety.

The Fair Elections Act will prevent this meddling from politicians and special interests and let the will of the people be done. Vote yes on **Proposition XX** and ensure your right to decide.

Caroline Isaacs, Executive Director, Just Communities Arizona, Tucson

With LGBTQ rights under attack around the nation and efforts to take away our most basic civil liberties steadily increasing, the ability to vote and create and pass our own laws is more important than ever. But especially for the LGBTQ community. **Prop xxx**, the Fair Elections Act, protects our community's ability to take direct action to protect ourselves should the extreme members of the state legislature continue to use restricting our rights as a way to score political points with their base.

By changing the onerous, overly broad requirements on ballot initiative signatures to be the same as those required of candidates and taking vital steps to prevent thousands of signatures from being thrown out due to technicalities, **Prop xxx** puts power back into the hands of the people and takes it away from politicians who continue to use LGBTQ people as pawns in their political games.

Please join me in supporting **Prop xxx**, the Fair Elections Act!

Bridget Sharpe
AZ State Director, the Human Rights Campaign

Bridget Sharpe, Arizona State Director, Human Rights Campaign, Washington DC

Natives Fought the War, Then Fought for Right to Vote

Frank Harrison and Harry Austin, two Fort McDowell Yavapai men, were among many Native Americans who loyally and bravely served their nation in World War II. When they returned home after the war ended, the two men sought to register to vote at the Maricopa County Recorder's Office. Their requests were denied, setting in motion events that eventually confirmed the right of Native Americans to vote in state elections.

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After their request to register to vote was rejected, Harrison and Austin filed a lawsuit alleging that they were denied their constitutional right to vote in state elections. They lost in Maricopa County Superior Court but prevailed on appeal to the Arizona Supreme Court, who found that the men were American and Arizona citizens and therefore had the right to vote. That 1948 decision affirmed Native Americans' voting rights in Arizona and helped blaze the path for all Native Americans throughout the country to have the right to vote.

But even having the law on their side didn't prevent state and local governments from erecting barriers to Native Americans' exercise of their voting rights. Numerous laws and procedures have been adopted in recent years that have made it more difficult for Natives to vote. This is particularly true for Natives residing on large remote reservations.

Many bills were introduced in the just completed 2022 legislative session that make it harder for citizens to vote. These changes would disproportionately impact Native Americans and make it more difficult for them to exercise their hard-won constitutional right to vote.

Please vote "Yes" for the Arizona Fair Elections Act, **Proposition XXX**.

It protects voting rights for all of us and honors the many sacrifices of our military veterans.

Bernadine Burnette, President, Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, Fort McDowell

Sponsored by Arizona Deserves Better

Arizona Voting Rights Act Protects the Disabled

Arizona's Voting Rights Initiative has provisions to make sure disabled people can cast their ballots.

Disabled people asked for an explanation of ballot measures. The Arizona Clean Elections Commission will be responsible for creating a plain English explanation of ballot measures.

Disabled people also asked for mandatory training for election workers so they know how to set up special machines for the disabled.

In Arizona, people who are under guardianship are not allowed to vote. One day last spring, a large group gathered in Dallas waiting for John-John Kennedy to return to life 20 years after dying in a plane crash. All of those people are allowed to vote. But a man working in a grocery store who needs help from his mother to balance his checkbook is categorically denied the right to participate in democracy.

When the Initiative goes into effect, judges deciding guardianship will indicate in their orders whether the individual is allowed to vote.

Some disabled people like to be driven to the polling location and sit in the car while an election official brings out the ballot to be marked. With passage of the Initiative, it will be required by law.

For some disabled people, being able to vote over the phone from their own home will be a good thing. The technology for this is advancing rapidly under the auspices of well-respected advocates for the blind.

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The Initiative directs the Secretary of State to put this technology in place in Arizona when it is proven reliable and secure.

The Initiative also gives disabled people the right to vote at the polls, by mail, at the polls with an approved machine, or at the polls with assistance.

Please vote “yes” on **Proposition XXX**, the Arizona Fair Elections Act.

Ron Holland, Lakeside

Sponsored by Arizona Deserves Better

Our vote is our voice in building the future we want for Arizona. No one should be able to take that away. **Proposition I-16-2022** will ensure this sacred right is protected from those who are scheming to keep us out of the voting booth. Voter engagement among the Black community is a powerful force within progressive politics. Our Voice, Our Vote Arizona knows it’s critically important to remove barriers from voting and encourage participation in our democracy. As a Black-led organization, we organize and advocate for legislation that empowers and protects Black people from inequity to the fight against policies that disenfranchise and disproportionately impact our communities.

That’s why we’re supporting **Proposition I-16-2022** - Arizonans for Free and Fair Elections.

Proposition I-16-2022 will defend against the state legislature overturning election results and will reduce the amount of dark money in our politics. In addition to creating safe and hassle-free same-day voter registration, **Proposition I-16-2022** will limit gifts from lobbyists to lawmakers. For far too long the wealthy and well-connected have rigged the game for their own benefit. **Proposition I-16-2022** will help level the playing field by expanding access to the ballot and creating a state government that is truly reflective of people all across Arizona.

Years of activism secured the right to vote for Black people in America. Generations marched, organized and bled for our most fundamental democratic right. We can’t take it for granted. If we want to work together toward a more just and equitable Arizona, we have to be heard on issues we care about.

This is why we’re asking you to support **Proposition I-16-2022**.

Roy Tatem Jr., Political Director, Our Voice, Our Vote Arizona, Chandler

Sponsored by Alexa-Rio Osaki

In 1924, Congress passed the Indian Citizenship Act. However, we were still prevented from voting in Arizona. Then, in 1928, Peter Porter and Rudolph Johnson of the Gila River Indian Community tried to register to vote in Pinal County, but were denied by the County Recorder because of their residence on their Reservation, and they were under "guardianship, non compos mentis, or insane." The Superior Court agreed with the County Recorder. Then, in 1948, a full 20 years later, Arizona Supreme Court decided to overturn the Porter v. Hall decision, and granted Native Americans in Arizona with the right to vote.

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Today, history is repeating itself. The recent Arizona legislature has put in place new barriers to our right to vote. Even though not named in the legislation, Native Americans living on Reservations will be effectively prevented from voting. These barriers are unfair, unjust and deny the right to equal protection under the law.

For this reason, I call upon all Arizonans to vote “YES” on the Arizona Fair Elections Act, **Proposition XXX**.

Terry Rambler, Chairman, San Carlos Apache Tribe, Bylas

Sponsored by Arizona Deserves Better

The Democrats of Legislative District 16 adamantly support the ARIZONANS for FREE and FAIR ELECTIONS measure (**I-16-2022**). A measure allowing Arizonans increased freedom and flexibility to vote in free and fair elections, while stopping attempts to suppress and/or manipulate the vote such as Propositions 128 and 309.

It does so by:

- Restoring the Permanent Early Voting List.
- Protecting mail voting from unnecessary regulations suppressing the vote.
- Providing a verifiable signature match provision, further promoting the election integrity Arizonans value and enjoy.
- Keeping ballots private and out of the hands of conspiracy theorists and their agents such as the Cyber Ninjas.
- Protecting access for Tribal and disabled voters.
- Extending in-person early voting through the day before the election.
- Allowing voters to deliver ballots to any polling location in their county.
- Making registration more accessible through automatic updates when an address is changed, or a driver’s license or state identification is obtained or renewed.
- Allowing distribution of food and water to voters waiting in line.
- Protecting voters’ rights to pass laws and preventing the legislature from overturning presidential election results.
- Protecting petition signatures from undue disqualification.
- Prohibiting lobbyists from influencing politicians with lavish, corruptive “gifts,” while limiting contributions from any one individual or PAC.
- Promoting ethical campaigns by increasing Clean Elections funding.
- Doing all of this with a “paid for” methodology by increasing the lobbyist fee, increasing the minimum tax for large businesses to \$150, and restoring the \$5 Clean Elections donation.

There are those who trumpet and defend voter suppression efforts with the simplistic “easy to vote, hard to cheat” slogan. The ARIZONANS for FREE and FAIR ELECTIONS measure deserves its own slogan: “Promoting and providing voters with a legitimate and meaningful voice in our democratic republic.”

Noel Reck, Vice-Chair, Democrats of Legislative District 16, Casa Grande

This Fair Elections Act is long, but don’t let that scare you. It is long because it needs to be. This un-does a lot of bad things that the (current) legislative majority - and the courts - have done, and it DOES a lot of GOOD things that they failed to do. Restoring the PERMANENT Early Voting List (rightly) gets the

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most attention. However, using the technology now available, we can do same-day and *authenticated* voter registration more securely than the old methods with the antiquated 29-day cutoff.

It also will make voting more accessible to people with disabilities, and those who live in rural areas or on sovereign lands. And, it gives ALL Arizonans more say on our laws by bringing us back to common sense guidelines on getting initiatives (& referenda) on the ballot. And - although it's hard to believe it's necessary - it says that the Presidential candidate who gets the most legitimate votes in the election will receive Arizona's Electoral votes, no matter whether some lawmakers are upset that their person didn't win.

I've been practicing election law & been involved in every election all over the state during the past 30+ years, from many different perspectives. We have a fair, safe and accurate elections system; these new provisions will make it better AND will make it MORE fair, safe and accurate. All of us should vote YES on the Fair Elections Act!

Paul Weich, Candidate, AZ House, LD12, Phoenix

The Hopi Chairman and Vice Chairman issued strong statements in support of the Arizona Fair Elections Act, **Proposition XXX**.

Timothy L. Nuvangyaoma, Chairman Hopi Tribe, Stated, "Creating obstacles to silence Hopi voices is incomprehensible.. The United States and the great State of Arizona were built on the backs of first nations, who stand strong on culture and tradition and we absolutely do not support these new measures to suppress the voices of Native Americans, especially Hopi."

Craig Andrews, Vice Chairman Hopi Tribe, said:

"Native votes count, equally across Arizona for all voters regardless -- Democrat, Republican or Independent. -- 22 tribes in Arizona., hose eligible to vote must be heard.. Hopi is a resilient tribe. We have been established since time immemorial. To set separate standards for the Native vote cannot be tolerated."

Please vote "yes" on the Arizona Fair Elections Act, **Proposition XXX**.

Timothy Nuvangyaoma, Chairman, Hopi Tribe, Second Mesa and Craig Andrews, Vice Chairman, Hopi Tribe, Kykotsmovi

Sponsored by Arizona Deserves Better

In a time where we are more divided than ever and our elected leaders often fall short of representing our interests accurately, Arizona's ballot initiative process and direct democracy mechanisms provide us with a way to pass our own laws. Save Our Schools Arizona, an organization of Democrats, Independents, Republicans, started around the idea that while we differ on some things politically we should all have the right to stop our legislature from passing a law that we, the people of Arizona, do not agree with.

Over the past several years there has been a clear effort to make this process, which was guaranteed to us in the Arizona Constitution, so difficult that it is almost impossible to execute without a multi-million

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dollar budget. And even with a massive budget, the rules of the signature process are so onerous (well above the standards the politicians hold themselves to for their own signatures) that one missed step can cause the voices of thousands to simply be thrown out.

Why should politicians be able to hold themselves to a much more relaxed signature standard than we the people must meet when trying to either hold lawmakers accountable or pass our own laws? It's time to end this double standard and the Fair Elections Act does that while making sure the process still has security and integrity. And not only does it take steps to protect our direct democracy process, it also removes the red tape that far too many legally eligible Arizonans encounter when trying to exercise their right to vote... making it easier to also hold our elected leaders directly accountable at the ballot box.

I'm proud to support **Prop xxx** and ask that you do as well.

Beth Lewis
Co-Founder and Executive Director
Save Our Schools Arizona

Beth Lewis, Executive Director, Save Our Schools Arizona, Chandler

In 2009 my life was forever altered when I was arrested for possession of less than a gram of marijuana. The arrest hung over me like a cloud, keeping me from finding a job for years even though I was doing everything right. I felt powerless and unable to change my circumstances until I joined Arizona NORML and started working to legalize recreational marijuana so others would not have to go through what I did.

In 2016 we fell just short of legalization and I was heartbroken - not only for me but for all those who worked so hard via the ballot initiative process to make it happen. But we learned, we regrouped, and we came back in 2020 with the Smart and Safe Act ballot initiative.

I remember the hours I spent in the sun gathering signatures and talking to voters, earning each of the 230,000+ signatures we had to gather to qualify. The system as it exists now is tough, and in many ways unnecessarily burdensome, but it does give us citizens the ability to make our own laws. And in my case, it gave me the chance to help pass a policy into law that ultimately helped me and thousands of Arizonans (and counting) expunge our records, get back on our feet, and get back to work.

Ballot initiatives help everyday Arizonans make our lives better. We need to protect and improve this process and **Prop xxx**, the Fair Elections Act, does that.

Please join me in supporting **Prop xxx**.

Edwin "Todd" Gilchrist, Deputy Director, Arizona NORML, Chandler

As students in our day and age, we have so many things working against us: student debt, rising rent, and now even our voting rights. As a student of Arizona State University, I, along with many other students, have to balance classes and work to make ends meet. Although we are passionate about solving issues such as canceling student debt, addressing our climate crisis, and even undertaking gun reform with new innovative solutions, our future is going nowhere. Any meaningful change we work towards won't get

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anywhere without the ability to vote. **Prop xxx**, the Arizona Fair Elections Act ensures that our power as young people can get things done, and removes all of the obstacles from voting. Automatic and same day registration ensures that students never miss out on an election. Restoring the Permanent Early Voting List allows students to freely and safely participate in our elections without having to miss class or work. Limiting campaign finance favors the power of the people instead of the power of huge corporations and money. Any issue we want to take on can be more easily put on the ballot with reformed petitions rules. This is what a democracy should and can look like by getting **Prop xxx** the Arizona Fair Elections Act on the ballot and voting in favor of it in the general election. To all students in Arizona, especially my Sun Devils, I implore you to take your power back.

Brandon Ortega, Arizona State Lead, UN-PAC, Phoenix

Since 1917, nearly 3,000 Arizonans have died in wars overseas to protect the foundational principle of American democracy: the right to vote. Nearly half a million Arizona residents alive today served too, believing that they were defending the constitutional rights that are guaranteed to all Americans. The recent attempts by the Arizona Legislature to roll back our most fundamental rights are an affront to the sacrifices that all of these Arizonans made. This initiative would remove barriers to voting, ensure equal access to the ballot, and, most importantly, prevent the state legislature from overriding the will of the people. We have come dangerously close to seeing these rights taken away, and it's time for the voters to secure them. As veterans of the armed forces, we can't think of a better way to protect our most sacred rights than by supporting **Prop xxx**, the Arizonans Fair Elections Act.

Aaron Marquez, Executive Director, VetsForward, Phoenix

I am supporting **Prop xxx**, the Arizonans for Fair Elections ballot initiative because it expands access to voting across the state. As I end my bachelor's degree at ASU, I have had various opportunities to be civically engaged through volunteering on city council campaigns, ballot initiatives, talking to my sorority sisters about voting, and voting myself. In every form of civic engagement, I have listened to stories of the people of Arizona experiencing barriers to voting. One of the biggest barriers that I've seen and have experienced myself is having the time to vote. As a college student who has worked two to three jobs at one time, I haven't always been able to take time off to vote. However, on the Permanent Early Voter List, which the legislature undermined last session, I have been able to vote in every election from city council to state legislature to presidential. This means that my ballot was cast and my voice heard in elections that I care about. **Prop xxx**, the Arizonans for Fair Elections fully restores the Permanent Early Voter List to make sure that no matter how many hours we work or what our school schedule looks like, we can cast our ballots.

Katelynn Showers, Student, Arizona State University, Tempe

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The Arizona Fair Elections Ballot Initiative, **Prop XXX** is critical for Arizonans like me. As a Black Chicana health equity researcher and full-spectrum doula, my work is rooted in making sure folks have the access to the resources they need to live their best lives. Access to voting and fair elections is critical to ensuring our government is working for us and by us. The people know their needs the best - It is time

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we had the tools to act on it!

Prop XXX will protect us all by making sure we remain on the permanent early voting list and prevent politicians from kicking us off for missing an election. It also makes voting easier by making sure our registrations are updated when we sign up for a driver's license or other ID at the MVD. It protects our freedom to vote by extending early voting through the day before Election Day.

Most importantly to me, the Initiative protects the voters' right to pass our own laws! It reduces the amount that an individual or a PAC can contribute to candidates and protects ballot measure petition signatures from being disqualified for frequently abused technicalities.

The Arizona Fair Elections Ballot Initiative, **Prop XXX** protects our right to vote but also gives us the chance to make sure our voices are heard in every election! Our communities are so diverse, strong, and powerful. The Arizona Fair Election Ballot Initiative **Prop XXX** helps us harness that power and bring it to every ballot box in the state.

Guadalupe Mabry Torres, Guadalupe

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I am going to vote for **Prop xxx**, the Arizonans for Fair Elections Act, this November because it limits the amount of influence that corporations and lobbyists have on our elected officials. As a recent graduate with an astrophysics degree, I value money being spent on scientific research that will help move us forward as a species instead of lining the pockets of our elected officials or going to items of war. By eliminating the influence of money with our elected officials, it creates a more representative sample bias so when officials are elected, they are representative of most of the state, not those who are privileged enough to have access to voting.

Noah Contreras, Astrophysicist, Tempe

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The Arizonans for Fair Elections increases access to voting for historically marginalized groups in Arizona. As a social worker in Arizona, I see day-in and day-out the effects that the system has on our communities. Voting is often seen as a sign of a healthy community and our communities in Arizona have long been swept aside for big corporation money. The Arizonans for Fair Elections ballot initiative ensures that historically marginalized communities are centered and met when it comes to voting in our great state. This initiative will create equal access to voting no matter where you live or your physical ability. The communities I serve every day often face so many barriers when it comes to housing, food stamps, or job placement. Voting shouldn't be another barrier and Arizonans for Fair Elections makes sure voting isn't.

Lisa Heatherly-Contreras, Social Worker, Chandler

Sponsored by ADRC Action