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THE STATE OF ARIZONA
CITIZENS CLEAN ELECTIONS COMMISSION

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC MEETING

Phoenix, Arizona
November 20, 2025
10:00 a.m.

By: Kathryn A. Blackwelder, RPR
Certified Reporter
Certificate No. 50666

**CERTIFIED
TRANSCRIPT**

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1 PUBLIC MEETING BEFORE THE CITIZENS CLEAN 2 ELECTIONS COMMISSION convened at 10:00 a.m. on November 3 20, 2025, at the State of Arizona, Clean Elections 4 Commission, 1110 West Washington, Conference Room, 5 Phoenix, Arizona, in the presence of the following 6 Board Members: 7 8 Mr. Mark Kimble, Chairman 9 Mr. Galen Paton 10 Ms. Christina Werther 11 Mr. Sam Crump 12 Mr. Steve Titla 13 14 OTHERS PRESENT: 15 Thomas M. Collins, Executive Director 16 Paula Thomas, Executive Officer 17 Mike Becker, Policy Director 18 Gina Roberts, Voter Education Director 19 Alec Shaffer, Web Content Manager 20 Avery Xola, Voter Education Manager 21 Mary O'Grady, Osborn Maledon 22 Isabela von Dehl, Richards & Moskowitz 23 Bill Richards, Richards & Moskowitz 24 Samantha Fox, Richards & Moskowitz 25 Cathy Herring, KCA	1 Commissioner Werther. 2 Is there a second? 3 COMMISSIONER PATON: I'll second it. 4 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you, 5 Commissioner Paton. 6 It's been moved and seconded that we approve 7 the minutes from our October 23rd meeting. I will call 8 the roll. 9 Commissioner Werther. 10 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Aye. 11 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Paton. 12 COMMISSIONER PATON: Aye. 13 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Crump. 14 COMMISSIONER CRUMP: Aye. 15 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Chair votes aye. The 16 minutes are approved. 17 COMMISSIONER TITLA: Chairman, this is 18 Commissioner Titla. I vote aye also. 19 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you, 20 Commissioner Titla. The record will show that we have 21 all five Members of the Commission present. 22 Item III, discussion and possible action on 23 the Executive Director's Report. 24 Tom. 25 MR. COLLINS: Thank you, Commissioners.
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1 P R O C E E D I N G 2 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Good morning. I'm Mark 3 Kimble. 4 Agenda Item I is the call to order. It is 5 10:00 a.m. on November 20th, 2025. I call this meeting 6 of the Citizens Clean Elections Commission to order. 7 With that, we will take attendance. 8 Commissioners, please identify yourselves for the 9 record. 10 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Christina Werther. 11 COMMISSIONER PATON: Galen Paton. 12 COMMISSIONER CRUMP: Sam Crump. 13 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you very much. I'm 14 Mark Kimble. We have a quorum. 15 Item II, discussion and possible action on 16 the minutes for October 23rd. 17 Commissioners, you have the minutes from our 18 October 23rd meeting in your packet. Is there any 19 discussion? 20 (No response.) 21 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Hearing none, is there a 22 motion to approve the minutes? 23 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: I move to approve the 24 minutes for October 23rd, 2025. 25 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you,	1 Happy Thanksgiving early. I hope you've made your 2 travel plans solid. 3 I wanted to highlight, you know, Gina was 4 appointed to the National Voter Registration Day 5 Steering Committee. I don't know -- you all probably 6 know this from being -- from now, but we have been 7 actively involved with the National Voter Registration 8 Day holiday for, I think, 10 years or close now, and 9 the holiday has existed for 13 years. And the -- 10 having that day focused on voter registration in 11 September has resulted in more than 6 million voter 12 registrations. 13 And on the board -- on the Steering 14 Committee, rather, with Gina will be the Kentucky and 15 Minnesota Secretary of State, two Election Assistance 16 Commission members, and folks involved in civics and 17 other issues around the country, so that's very 18 exciting. And, you know, Gina and Avery and Alec have 19 worked to, you know, be on the ground for the National 20 Voter Registration Day programming, you know, for a 21 long time now, so that, I thought, was a really cool 22 thing. 23 We will have our second town -- issue town 24 hall in partnership with Telemundo. That is going to 25 be recorded on December 1. If you're interested in

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1 attending, please let us know. We have 10 seats 2 available to us, we believe. 3 And then we had -- since we last met, we had 4 the local elections for November -- November 4th, 5 excuse me, and we were able to provide, I think, a lot 6 of background and information to some of the local 7 television stations, which was, I think, a good -- a 8 good thing for us. 9 And then finally, I just -- I did want to 10 post, so you have them, the October voter registration 11 totals. 12 As you can see, we've kept up a pretty active 13 outreach agenda. And the Strategic Partnerships 14 meeting that we all went to was an interesting, good 15 opportunity to be in touch with members of different 16 tribal communities and counties. We met in Maricopa -- 17 or, just outside of Maricopa. And Avery was featured 18 at Mi Familia Vota's leadership training as a speaker. 19 And we're continuing to work on getting ready for next 20 year. And Gina right now is coming to us from the 21 Mechanics of Democracy Lab and AI Elections Boot Camp, 22 so -- 23 And then meanwhile, administratively, Mike 24 has been fielding calls from and getting candidates set 25 up who are -- who are getting ready to run clean. And	1 Once you get past the -- in my view, and Mike 2 can speak to this too, once you get past the seed money 3 caps, which are pretty complicated, right, like how 4 much money you can take -- how much money you yourself 5 can give, how much money your family can contribute, 6 there's some -- and then how much overall seed money 7 you can take, that's probably, I think, the most 8 complicated part of the underlying money piece. 9 And then the next step is getting people to 10 understand that because all of the money is in one 11 account, even though these categories have to be met, 12 that doesn't mean you're constantly accounting for 13 that, right. There's no segregation of the dollars. 14 It's a matter of you making sure that there's enough 15 money in your account to cover each one of the 16 categories that you're obligated to cover. Those are 17 the two most complicated things about it from an 18 administrative perspective. 19 As far as sort of the admonitions things that 20 we're working on, working into it, you know, that's 21 something that we, you know, I think as -- especially 22 after today hopefully, with the rule we have up, you 23 know, that's something that we've talked about, you 24 know, hitting more. 25 But our goal with this workshop is to do two
Page 7	Page 9
1 that's been a pretty steady, I think, pretty consistent 2 level of inquiry and folks are starting to get signed 3 up for the workshops. 4 I think that that -- I think that really is 5 sort of the things that I wanted to highlight for 6 the -- for the report. But if you all have any 7 questions for me -- 8 COMMISSIONER PATON: I have a question. 9 MR. COLLINS: Sure. 10 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Paton. 11 COMMISSIONER PATON: The workshops that you 12 have for these people that are doing Clean Elections, 13 how -- how long are they? How many days? 14 MR. COLLINS: Well, they're not days. 15 COMMISSIONER PATON: Oh. 16 MR. COLLINS: I mean, the -- I think we try 17 to get them in and out in, depending on how many 18 questions they have, in around an hour. 19 The reality is that the main points that it 20 hits are really the main points that most people have 21 no problem with once they understand, which is what 22 kind of money are you allowed to take, what kind of 23 paperwork do you need to file, when do you need to file 24 it, and then understanding, you know, reporting 25 deadlines and all that kind of stuff.	1 things. It's, first of all, to demystify, rather than 2 mystify. In other words, it's to try to say this is 3 less complicated than you think, not more complicated 4 than you think. Because a lot of people come in with 5 the idea that it's very complicated. And then, second 6 of all, really to make sure that they understand that 7 we will answer all their questions. In other words, to 8 develop a relationship where, if they're in contact 9 with Mike -- 10 And I will tell you this anecdotally, and I 11 may have said this last month, but I was out in 12 Goodyear in, I think, September, and people -- a couple 13 people who had run clean before, I mean, the first 14 thing that they, you know, would come up to me to 15 say -- I mean, this is not -- is to say how easy it is 16 to get ahold of Mike, how Mike answers all the 17 questions, how -- and that's -- you know, that's the 18 vast majority of our -- of our folks. 19 So that's really the purpose of the workshop. 20 So it's not, you know -- if we can get that 21 relationship going -- now, in some cases, as we've 22 seen, that doesn't happen, and that's -- and that -- 23 but we haven't oriented the workshops around the 24 outliers. We've really oriented around trying to make 25 sure that people understand that, you know, we're there

Page 10 1 for -- to answer their questions on an ongoing basis so 2 that they don't run into trouble. 3 COMMISSIONER PATON: So it -- so it's 4 multiple workshops, but they only have to go to one? 5 MR. COLLINS: They could go to as many as 6 they want to as they have questions. I mean, but the 7 idea -- the philosophy we've had for this has been -- 8 you know, we're a government agency, right. The first 9 instinct people have when they deal with the government 10 is, it's going to be negative, it's going to be opaque, 11 and it's going to be evasive. So the first thing we do 12 is try to knock down those barriers. 13 The next thing we do is we have this program 14 that, especially in the two areas I'm talking about, 15 seems very complex, right, because there are these 16 specific caps you have to work around. And until they 17 click, they just -- I mean, they just are -- they feel 18 very complicated. So getting that done, getting them 19 to understand, you know, what -- you know, the \$5 20 process, what they need, and then -- and then having 21 that relationship continue. So I'm not sure -- 22 Have we ever had people come back twice? I 23 mean, I'm sure we -- yeah, we do have people come back 24 on an ongoing basis to develop that. 25 So I think this year we've already said that	Page 12 1 official voter education organization -- this is 2 greatly going to complicate our job. So that's what I 3 hope we'll discuss today. 4 Tom and Gina have some brief thoughts on 5 this; and then if you have questions, we can address 6 those. 7 Bill Richards, who is our counsel, is 8 available if we need to go into executive session, but 9 I think the majority of this discussion should be in 10 open session. 11 Tom, do you want to start? 12 MR. COLLINS: Yes. Mr. Chairman, thank you. 13 I have a PowerPoint that tries to summarize, I think, 14 the upshot of what the memo I provided -- we provided 15 does. And then Gina, you know, I hope will be able to 16 talk a little bit about some of the vote -- the aspects 17 of the memo that get into voter education. 18 Just so you know, Gina and I this morning, 19 you know, presented a very similar set of -- a very 20 similar presentation to the County Recorders, so -- and 21 I think that was -- I mean, we think that went well. 22 And we had -- I think almost every County Recorder's 23 office was represented on that call. So, you know, and 24 that is -- that is something we were invited to do in 25 part because of, you know, the County Recorders'
Page 11 1 we were going to emphasize the need to get your filings 2 in on time, you know, because that's been our big issue 3 the last year, but that's sort of how we've been doing 4 it. 5 COMMISSIONER PATON: Okay. Thank you. 6 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you, 7 Commissioner Paton. 8 Are there any other questions or discussion 9 from the Commission? 10 (No response.) 11 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you, Tom. 12 Moving on to Item IV, discussion and possible 13 action on the Secretary of State's October 16th 14 decision regarding the No Labels Party name change. 15 Commissioners, you will recall last month we 16 had some questions about this decision as part of the 17 Executive Director's Report. Based on that discussion, 18 staff has gone out and researched the decision and 19 starting to examine the voter education implications of 20 the decision. 21 And let me just say personally, as a 22 registered independent, I'm very concerned about this 23 decision by the Secretary of State's Office to allow 24 the No Labels Party to change its name to the Arizona 25 Independent Party. I think our role as the State's	Page 13 1 concerns they've expressed to us. 2 So I think the -- I wanted to sort of talk 3 real quick just to ground us in the timeline here. If 4 we could -- I think we can go to the next slide, Cathy. 5 Sorry. I think that's the next slide. Maybe not. 6 Yeah. 7 So this is -- this is, the best we can tell, 8 the timeline here. October 8th, No Labels submitted 9 this request. The next week the Secretary approved it. 10 And then at least the first notice we can find of this 11 being contemplated and approved is this October 17th 12 story in Axios. Since that time, you know, obviously 13 many of you expressed concern at the last meeting about 14 this. There were Counties, some parties expressed 15 concerns over this. And then -- 16 And this has been coupled with the idea, 17 which is a little hard to understand if it's a policy 18 statement or something that's part implementation or 19 a -- just sort of an urging, but the Secretary's Office 20 seems to would like agencies to just stop using the 21 word independent to describe unaffiliated voters 22 altogether, which, in the words of the Secretary of 23 State, has to do with because that -- that sort of 24 essentially belongs to the party now. 25 And so, you know, this is -- this -- all

Page 14 1 these things taken together kind of create the issue, 2 you know, that we're talking about. December 1 is when 3 this is supposed to start to happen; although, there 4 may be implementation already happening on the Motor 5 Vehicle Division website, Service Arizona. We're not 6 actually clear on what's going on there exactly. 7 I guess we can go to the next one. 8 You know, just to boil down the legal aspect 9 of the memo the best I could, and that -- you know, my 10 analysis anyways, right, is -- and I couldn't fit this 11 on one slide with the font working out. And I guess 12 I'm just not good enough at PowerPoint yet. So 13 basically this is a question of like -- in my view, 14 it's between regular and irregular election 15 administration decisions, right. 16 Typically you've got some affirmative 17 statutory authority. Typically you don't take on 18 statutory silence as a basis for a new power. 19 Typically you've got some notice. Typically you've got 20 some effort at alignment with election officials. 21 Typically you avoid late cycle changes that affect 22 voter registration systems. Typically you try to 23 balance the First Amendment interests with the state 24 interests, rights of voters, parties, and other, right. 25 You're trying to be predictable, you're trying to be	Page 16 1 the party is involved in a quintessential state -- 2 state action. Elections are state action, period. 3 There's not -- you know, you can't get around that by 4 delegating, you can't get around that by -- by, you 5 know -- so parties have First Amendment rights 6 absolutely, but they aren't absolute rights. 7 And then again, you know, there's a 8 unilateral benefit to one party, which is sort of odd. 9 So that's really -- you know, boiling all the 10 words I wrote down to it is -- the principles, I think, 11 that you can extract from them, this is an irregular 12 decision. 13 The next -- I guess we can go to the next 14 slide. 15 So we anticipate some legislative action on 16 this, some judicial action. There are pros and cons to 17 both. I tried to sort of outline them. You know, I 18 think that the big -- you know, I think you can imagine 19 the pros. Some kind of statutory clarity, as Gina will 20 talk later. You know, this is -- this is, right now, 21 an ongoing issue for this party in particular and maybe 22 an ongoing issue statutorily, but, you know, the 23 other -- but there are problems with -- you've got to 24 try to make -- if you want to undo this decision, 25 you've got to try to make it retroactive, you've got to
Page 15 1 transparent, you're trying to be consistent, right. I 2 mean, these are pretty universally, I think, 3 acknowledged principles. 4 So, you know, to boil what I've -- what I've 5 written down, if we go to the next one, here we've got 6 an action taken in the face of statutory silence that's 7 treated as creating authority. We have no notice of 8 the pending decision. It's unilateral. The 9 legislative structure are not considered in any record 10 we've seen. It's late. I mean, for purposes of voter 11 registration -- granted there may be a push to register 12 more voters over the first quarter of, you know, of 13 2026 leading up to the primary. But nevertheless, 14 we're, you know, something like three quarters of the 15 way through signature gathering. 16 And then the way the memo, that I believe you 17 all had a copy of, frames this is as a near-absolute 18 First Amendment right on the part of the party, which 19 is inconsistent with the position the State had taken 20 up until literally July, when the Ninth Circuit said, 21 no, in fact, where there's a legitimate interest in 22 voter confusion, in administration of elections, all 23 that stuff, the question is what the burden is on the 24 party in comparison to that, not just the party's sort 25 of unilateral right to do -- to do anything, because	Page 17 1 try to -- and you're implicitly, in a sense, validating 2 the irregular administrative decisions to do that. So, 3 you know, there's pros and cons. 4 And if we go to the next slide. 5 Judicial, similarly, you know, if we could 6 get -- if someone were to file something that got an 7 injunction that would, you know, allow a pause, a 8 reassessment at a minimum, maybe avoid wasted 9 resources, but obviously the results there are never 10 certain and there is a possibility of deference to the 11 Secretary of State's Office, assuming there's someone 12 with, you know, proper standing to bring the action. 13 So, you know -- you know, so if we could move 14 to the next slide then. 15 You know, we kind of think you've got to -- 16 you know, in terms of looking at this not necessarily 17 just from the Commission perspective, but how this 18 issue ought to be addressed if you're -- if you're, you 19 know, of the belief -- that memo makes pretty clear 20 it's staff's belief that this is a bad decision. You 21 know, you've kind of got to look at both of the ways 22 you can -- can address it if it's going to be 23 addressed, you know. 24 You know, it -- you know, we don't -- we 25 don't and haven't typically had a lot to say about this

Page 18 1 level of administrative decision. But I think, as 2 Chairman Kimble said, because this, you know, directly 3 impacts voter education efforts, we have already heard 4 from County Recorders about their concerns because 5 there's not -- I mean, I'm not aware of, at this point, 6 like any public document on the Secretary's website 7 that says, X is going to happen on Y date. These -- 8 you know, these things are all going to happen on this 9 date. Like, you know -- like the map, the way forward, 10 right, and how that's -- how that's going to work, I 11 don't know that that's been made available. If it is, 12 I don't -- I don't -- I don't have it. 13 And I'm not necessarily saying I should have 14 it. But if you're going to go from on date -- on today 15 to December 1 where some number of voters who are 16 current members of the No Labels Party, so the 40,000 17 folks or whatever, are going to be American Independent 18 Party people, and then once the MVD website changes, 19 right, that's where something -- I can't remember the 20 exact statistic anymore, but -- was it 90? It's a very 21 large percentage of people register there. I mean, 22 that's a -- that's -- once that goes online, I mean, 23 that's instantaneously going to, you know, bring about 24 this -- you know, this confusion. 25 And we know from the California experience	Page 20 1 So I think that, you know, all other debate 2 aside, I think that's a pretty -- that's a pretty big 3 stake that we have in this decision and making sure 4 that everybody gets it right, so... 5 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you, Tom. 6 Gina, do you want to weigh in on this now? 7 MS. ROBERTS: Yes. Mr. Chairman, 8 Commissioners, thank you. I don't have slides, but I 9 will just jump in and speak to the voter education 10 components of this. 11 I want to start by providing a little bit of 12 background on the voter registration process. And so I 13 know in the ED Report Tom shared with you the current 14 voter registration statistics, and I just wanted to 15 highlight that the No Labels Party has less than 16 1 percent of registered voters, of our electorate. And 17 then we have this other category that is referred to as 18 "other," as you'll see in the ED Report, and that is 19 the second highest bloc, coming in at 34.37 percent. 20 So the other names on there, Republican, 21 Democratic, Libertarian, No Labels, and Green, those 22 are what we call recognized parties. They have gone 23 through a process to obtain recognition at the state 24 level to appear on the statewide ballot. So they have 25 that precious ballot real estate.
Page 19 1 that, you know, we cited in the memo, you know, that a 2 similar situation 10 years ago, something on the order 3 of 73 percent of folks believed they were registered in 4 the -- believed they were not a party, they were an 5 independent, and nevertheless ended up in a party 6 called the American Independent Party. 7 So I think that's -- that's sort of the 8 policy landscape as we see it. I'm happy to answer 9 questions about that from -- from you, obviously. And 10 then Gina, I think, has some -- I think has given some 11 real serious thought to the voter education strategy 12 around this and support. 13 The one other thing I would note, you know, 14 is that, you know, whatever anybody thinks about our 15 voter education authority, the Clean Elections 16 Commission Voter Education Guide is the only thing that 17 comes from the State that goes to every single voter in 18 the state ahead of the primary. So, you know -- so 19 even if you say, well, you don't -- this isn't 20 mandatory, that's not mandatory, that's optional, you 21 don't have to deal with all of that, the fact is that 22 the last word that anybody is going to hear from the 23 State of Arizona about this issue and how to address it 24 as a voter is going to be in the primary election Voter 25 Education Guide.	Page 21 1 Any -- when a voter registers to vote, if 2 they do not select one of those recognized parties, 3 they are lumped into this category called "other." 4 That could be an independent voter, someone who is 5 unaffiliated with a party; it could also be a voter who 6 considers themselves a member of a party that does not 7 have statewide recognition, such as the Constitution 8 Party that you might see active in other states. 9 So a voter who, again, is not registered with 10 one of those recognized parties, they are in this 11 "other" category, and that's what we often refer to as 12 independent voters, and that makes up a very large bloc 13 of our electorate. We've seen in Arizona history where 14 it's been the highest voting bloc in Arizona. 15 So when we are considering what this impact 16 will be in terms of the name change, first -- and Tom 17 sort of alluded to this -- I want to stress that this 18 is not a simple fix. It is not a one and done. It is 19 ongoing voter education. This is something that will 20 continue to cause voter confusion several election 21 cycles from today, because we have a 30- -- three 22 decades, 30 years of history in Arizona using the term 23 independent and what that stands for. We've trained 24 voter -- or, not we've trained. But voter behavior has 25 been produced because of that terminology and what it

Page 22 1 means and how they interact with the voting process. 2 So as Tom had mentioned too, trying to stay 3 away from the term independent, when we've had it 4 engrained in Arizona voter -- in their behavior, it's 5 just really not feasible. And to say that it belongs 6 to a recognized party now, again, it causes -- it's 7 going to cause mass confusion. 8 So the way that we are viewing this from a 9 strategic standpoint in terms of how do we educate 10 Arizona voters across the state and future voters, it 11 really comes down to this is not so much an awareness 12 campaign. We don't look at it as a, you know, stop 13 what you're doing, state of Arizona, look at this 14 change. One, that just wouldn't be an effective use of 15 dollars. And two, it really highlights a particular 16 party, it brings, you know, emphasis to this, and we're 17 not promoting a party. 18 Really we need to look at this as procedural 19 voter education, identifying each of the touch points 20 that the voter will interact with through the voting 21 process. First and foremost is going to be that voter 22 registration process. As Tom had mentioned, the 23 majority of voters do utilize the online system, the 24 MVD system. So when you're going through that system 25 you get a dropdown, and in the dropdown there are	Page 24 1 an independent ballot. An independent ballot does not 2 exist in the primary, where you have all party 3 candidates on there. But now we would be telling 4 voters, well, there's the Arizona Independent 5 Party ballot, and that might cause confusion about what 6 they expect to see on that ballot. Do they expect to 7 see just AIP candidates, or do they expect to see what 8 has commonly been referred to as an independent ballot, 9 again, that doesn't exist, but are they expecting to 10 see all party candidates on there. 11 This could cause confusion and delays at 12 polling places. We would have to train poll workers 13 how to interact with this. Is there any recourse for 14 the voter if they, you know, said, you know, that's 15 really -- that's not how I registered to vote. That's 16 not what I meant. When voters are filling out a paper 17 form, they're -- the Counties right now and the 18 Secretary of State's Office and looking at the Election 19 Procedures Manual, they're working through clarifying 20 language about what voter intent means. When they 21 write something on the form, did they truly mean, oh, I 22 want to be unaffiliated, that type of independent, or 23 do I want to be recognized AIP party. So we'll see, 24 again, touch points there that we need to provide 25 procedural voter education on for our voters.
Page 23 1 fields that you can select. Effective December 1st, 2 from our understanding, is that dropdown will reflect 3 these new changes. However, there's really no source 4 for voters to go to to understand what those dropdowns 5 mean and the path it now sets them on going forward. 6 Once a voter gets registered, then really the 7 next point of impact that we're seeing here could be, 8 you know, who are they eligible to sign petitions for 9 if they're supporting a candidate. You know, are they 10 truly an independent voter, are they truly unaffiliated 11 and they can sign anybody's petition, or are they part 12 of a recognized party now under the No Labels AIP party 13 and can only sign those candidates. So we'll see a 14 touch point there. 15 And then we'll also see a touch point -- and 16 this is where we're going to see a lot of stress and 17 pain is in the primary election. So, again, we've had 18 30 years of our open primary system, where an 19 unaffiliated voter, an independent voter, can make a 20 party ballot selection. And so that's really important 21 there, it is a party ballot selection, because in 22 primaries the ballots are created by a recognized 23 party. 24 So we've had 30 -- a 30-year history now of 25 telling independent voters, there is no such thing as	Page 25 1 And then going back to candidates, we'll also 2 see education needs there. Because does a candidate 3 understand, hey, if I want to run for office, do I 4 go -- what we call the statute, the 16-341 process, 5 which is the process for unaffiliated candidates, 6 independent candidates, to qualify for the general 7 election ballot. They're not on the primary ballot. 8 Or does the candidate decide, hey, I want to run under 9 this AIP banner now, but I'm now in a primary and could 10 potentially be primarying other AIP candidates if we 11 run for the same -- same office and I have to win that 12 and advance to the general election. What does that 13 mean for the clean candidates. Do they understand, 14 well, which path you're going down, you know, 15 determines the funding you're eligible for. So there's 16 going to be voter education on that front too. 17 So, again, we really look at this as it's not 18 a one and done. It's going to be an ongoing voter 19 education issue. We will see lots of confusion from 20 voters. 21 The other thing that I want to point out is 22 the media. Again, we've had our open primary system 23 since 1998. We have a significant amount of 24 independent voters who are not participating in the 25 primary election. A lot of that comes down to -- they

Page 26 1 often say, I didn't realize that I could or I didn't 2 realize the process, especially if I'm a mail-in voter, 3 that I have to actively tell my Recorder which 4 party ballot that I want. Oh, I don't get a 5 single ballot that has all the, you know, candidate 6 names on there? I'm an independent. I don't want to 7 associate with a party. 8 So when the media is covering elections, we 9 have to make sure that they are educated as well on 10 this nomenclature, on the terminology, and what it 11 means and the different pathways for each voters. 12 So there's -- there's a lot that is impacted 13 by this decision, and we are currently right now 14 communicating with our election colleagues, with the 15 County Recorders. As Tom mentioned, this change is 16 going into effect December 1st. Our immediate goal 17 would be, for those voters who are going to be updating 18 or new registrants, once this change goes into effect, 19 that they have some clarity on what their choices mean. 20 So we are looking at right now kind of 21 documenting what those pathways are, ideally getting 22 something up on our website as soon as possible, and 23 then developing educational assets to help explain that 24 voter registration touch point. So, again, if you 25 choose, you know, to register to vote as a Republican, Page 27 1 here is the pathway it sets you on for the primary. If 2 you choose to register as an independent unaffiliated 3 other voter, this is the pathway that you are sent on. 4 And then if you choose to register to vote with the 5 Arizona Independent Party, this is the pathway it sets 6 you on for the primary. 7 We are hoping to collaborate with our County 8 Recorders and develop -- or, work with them in 9 potentially work -- work groups, meetings to 10 collaboratively create these educational tools and 11 resources for voters. And I think, you know, we've 12 seen a lot of asks from our election colleagues here, 13 they are looking for this support. So as part of our 14 efforts to provide voter education to the entire state, 15 it really is critical that they get that first step of 16 voter registration correct, that it's what they truly 17 want, and that they understand the pathway it sets them 18 on when they are interacting with a primary election. 19 So that's, again, sort of our strategic 20 viewpoint on how to tackle this issue, which will, 21 again, be ongoing. But with that, I'm happy to answer 22 any questions that the Commission may have. 23 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you, Gina. 24 If I could summarize what Gina said in one 25 word, it's confusion. And I'd like to just give a	Page 28 1 little elaboration on that as an independent. Both as 2 a Member of this Commission and also I work as a poll 3 worker in every election for, I don't know, more than 4 10 years, and independent voters are already confused. 5 When they show up, particularly in a primary, as you -- 6 as you mentioned, Gina, they don't know if they can 7 vote. And most of the time, in the vast majority of 8 time, they don't vote, despite our best efforts to 9 educate independent voters that they can vote. Then 10 they get in there and they're asked, which party do you 11 want and do you want a ballot for, and that further 12 confuses them. 13 And so there's already a lot of confusion for 14 independent voters, and this is just going to multiply 15 it -- I can't even say how badly. It's going to just 16 make it confusion times 10 if this -- if this proceeds. 17 Do any Member of the Commission wish to ask 18 Tom or Gina any questions? 19 COMMISSIONER CRUMP: Mr. Chairman. 20 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Crump. 21 COMMISSIONER CRUMP: Yeah, thank you. I do 22 have what I think is an important, at least for me, an 23 important threshold question before we get into the 24 merits on this argument. And that is, I want to 25 understand the Commission's options/authority on this Page 29 1 question. What -- you know, let's say we determine, 2 yeah, this is terrible, we need to do something about 3 it. What is it that we're empowered to do? 4 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Tom, do you want to address 5 that? 6 MR. COLLINS: Sure. Mr. Chair, 7 Commissioner Crump, I can sketch that out. I mean, and 8 Bill may have some thoughts on that, and how we want to 9 handle how we answer that and where we answer that is 10 something I'll just defer to him on. 11 I would just say this. Looking at this just 12 as a matter of the Commission's, to the extent we have 13 a bully pulpit, I think that -- I think that we do have 14 that by virtue of -- legitimately by virtue of both our 15 express role in providing the Voter Education Guide for 16 the primary and in terms of our overall authority to 17 educate the public on participation in elections. So, 18 you know, and I think that that comes up in multiple 19 touch points, whether it's our debates, whether it's 20 the candidate statement pamphlet, those -- those 21 things, right. 22 So at every point that we have to utilize the 23 term Arizona Independent Party, which is a lot, or at 24 every point where we have to explain to a voter what 25 their rights are doing, which is a lot of points,
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Page 30 1 right, that's just -- it runs throughout our program. 2 So I think that in that sense to say -- you would have 3 to cast -- you would have to take -- from a sort of 4 authority with which to speak from, I think you would 5 have to carve quite a -- quite a narrow path to say 6 that the Commission would be speaking out of turn or 7 that this meeting is out of turn or anything like that. 8 I think that would be a pretty -- a pretty preposterous 9 kind of position to take. Although, when we've spoken 10 on other things, people do take that view. 11 The -- on the -- on the legal front I think 12 that, you know -- you know, there are a lot of -- you 13 know, there's sort of a highly -- how to put this. As 14 we've -- as we've already experienced in other 15 litigation we're involved in, there is -- there is -- 16 there is a -- whether or not somebody has the authority 17 to go in court is a question that's always an open 18 question, I think it's safe to say. And, you know -- 19 And so I guess I would -- I would leave it at 20 that from my perspective. And then, you know, Bill, to 21 what extent you want -- you feel comfortable here or -- 22 Chairman, you know, at what point if you want to -- if 23 you want to talk about that. 24 It really -- Mr. Chairman, Commissioner 25 Crump, it really depends on -- do you want like an	Page 32 1 the table a variety of different options that would be 2 available to the Commission, everything from, you know, 3 public statements to direct contact and communication 4 with the Secretary of State's Office and to include 5 litigation. And I'm happy to address some of those 6 issues more specifically, but I think it should be best 7 done in executive session. 8 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Okay. Thank you. 9 If I could summarize, we basically have two 10 broad issues here. Number one, it doesn't appear that 11 there was any clear process carried out by the 12 Secretary of State's Office to approve this change and 13 should we do something about that. And number two, 14 Gina's side of it, what are we going to do going 15 forward. So those are -- and I think the first part of 16 it was some -- is something we're going to have to 17 discuss in executive session, but there are other 18 things we may want to discuss here if any other Members 19 of the Commission want to discuss it. 20 Commissioner Paton. 21 COMMISSIONER PATON: Yes. I would -- have 22 there been any discussions, Tom, with the Secretary of 23 State's Office? I mean, do they -- I mean, yes, no, 24 or... 25 MR. COLLINS: If I was to characterize the
Page 31 1 answer to the ultimate question of does the Commission 2 have standing to go into court on its own? Is that 3 the -- is that the question? 4 COMMISSIONER CRUMP: Yeah. Commissioner and 5 Tom, yeah. I mean, I guess, especially because we're 6 in a time crunch if we're trying to do something about 7 this election, is it the Commission that's going to be 8 going out seeking a preliminary injunction and so forth 9 to deal with this? 10 MR. COLLINS: Well, Mr. Chairman, as a 11 preface to, you know, whatever comes next, I mean, I 12 will say that, you know, I'm -- I'm -- I'm aware 13 there's a lot of discussion in the legal community 14 about various legal actions, but -- yeah. But on that 15 specific question, I mean, that's -- I mean, that's 16 really a -- I would defer to the Chairman and Bill 17 about how you want to handle that in terms of where 18 the -- where to answer that question. 19 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Mr. Richards, is there 20 anything you'd like to add on this? 21 MR. RICHARDS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I 22 think the specific discussion about legal options in 23 terms of judicial options, litigation, probably is best 24 addressed in executive session. 25 I will say, though, that I think there is on	Page 33 1 discussions we've had, we've been permitted to 2 participate in with the Secretary's Office, you know, 3 I'm not under the impression that the Secretary is 4 likely to change their mind based on just being asked 5 to. All the things that we've talked about here in 6 terms of the confusion, the impact on the Counties, 7 the -- you know, these are all things the Secretary's 8 Office is well aware of, they've heard it from -- 9 they've heard it from the Counties, they're hearing it 10 from the Counties. You know, so -- you know, it's -- 11 To some extent, the Secretary of State's 12 Office position is along the lines of we don't have the 13 authority to do anything but grant this request. 14 That's -- that's effectively what their memo says, and 15 that's also what their subsequent statements to the -- 16 particularly in that Arizona Central piece that I sent 17 along seems to say. I mean, so that's a -- that's not 18 a -- that's not a -- and at the same time, they're 19 pressing forward with the changes that they feel like 20 they need to make. 21 So, you know, I'm not -- in other words, 22 while I think there would be value in a direct 23 communication on behalf of the Commission that says, by 24 the way, you know, we really think this is a bad idea 25 and we think it's a bad idea for all these different

Page 34 1 reasons and, you know, that was in the form of some 2 kind of letter from the Commission, that is a 3 meaningful thing to do because it creates a record 4 that's maybe more formal than what they otherwise have 5 that says that these are, in fact, concerns that are 6 grounded in law and are, you know -- and reflect, I 7 think, a broad consensus among other election 8 officials. 9 COMMISSIONER PATON: So we could make a 10 plea -- 11 MR. COLLINS: Right. 12 COMMISSIONER PATON: -- a petition to them -- 13 MR. COLLINS: Right. 14 COMMISSIONER PATON: -- written? 15 MR. COLLINS: Yeah. 16 COMMISSIONER PATON: And -- 17 MR. COLLINS: That would -- yeah. 18 COMMISSIONER PATON: Do you think that's 19 worth the time or -- 20 MR. COLLINS: Well, I think it's -- I 21 certainly think it's worth the time, with the caveat 22 that its likelihood of changing the outcome here is, I 23 would say, around zero on its own. I mean, they know 24 what people feel. They're well aware of what's going 25 on. They're not -- they're a sophisticated political	Page 35 1 and legal and administrative agency, you know. You 2 know, they're -- 3 So value to do it for record purposes or 4 for -- yes, for lots of reasons. Value to do it to 5 achieve the end we're talking about, not so much, but 6 that doesn't make it valueless. 7 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Let me follow up by asking 8 a naive question. Has anyone talked to Paul Johnson of 9 the former No Labels Party saying, we understand you 10 probably did this to raise the registration of your 11 party, but there's a lot of unforeseen impacts of this, 12 would you reconsider, or is that pointless? 13 MR. COLLINS: I'll be honest, Mr. Chairman. 14 It never occurred to me that that would be of any 15 value. 16 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Any other comments or 17 questions from the Commission? 18 COMMISSIONER PATON: I would -- I would just 19 say that, you know, it just seems like they want to -- 20 I mean, it seems obvious to me they want to co-opt or, 21 I don't know, like trick or whatever the 1.5 million 22 people that are described in this list as other, who 23 want to be -- who don't buy into the two major parties 24 and -- for whatever reasons, there's a whole gambit of 25 those reasons. And, you know, they're -- the other	Page 36 1 group here is only about 57,000 people less than the 2 Republican party. I mean, that's -- it dwarfs, you 3 know, the Democratic party. And I think that it seems 4 like it's a deliberate attempt to confuse people, to 5 co-opt them to join their party, because they only have 6 42,000 people. 7 And I think that having the No Labels name 8 was a good attempt at starting a new -- a new deal. 9 And I just think that this is -- my wife is an 10 independent, and she -- like the Chairman says, she's 11 already kind of confused at times as to what she can do 12 and primaries and so on, and she's got three degrees. 13 I mean, so this is just heaping on the 14 confusion, and I think we should at least make an 15 attempt to publicize that fact. I don't know how much 16 power we have, but -- maybe we should go into executive 17 session. 18 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Werther, did 19 you have something you wanted to say? 20 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Yeah, Mr. Chairman. 21 And this is mostly on the voter education piece. It's 22 really more of a comment. But I am concerned, deeply 23 concerned, because we are already in the midst of 24 preparing for 2026, and so this is very late. I know 25 to maybe a layperson it might not seem like that. You	Page 37 1 know, it looks like we still have, you know, until next 2 August. But candidate filing starts in early March. 3 And so this is already, I think, going to really 4 complicate things for candidates and voters. 5 And I think I'm also concerned that, whether 6 litigation is brought forward or whether there's 7 legislation that's brought forward, how that's going to 8 impact this at a very -- you know, I mean, we're only 9 going to get later into the -- into the election cycle. 10 And so I think whatever we can to start supporting, you 11 know, the voter education efforts to at least get this 12 information out there so that people understand that 13 something has happened, you know, and then they know 14 where to come back to for the most updated information 15 I think is really important. 16 And I also would be in favor of any type of 17 letter. And I also recognize that it likely will not 18 change the outcome, but I do think it would be 19 important to put on the record the concerns that we've 20 all raised here for both candidates and voters, 21 especially in this next election cycle. 22 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you. 23 Any more comments from Members of the 24 Commission? 25 COMMISSIONER CRUMP: Yeah, Mr. Chairman.
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Page 38 1 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Yes, Mr. Crump. 2 COMMISSIONER CRUMP: Thank you. I would like 3 to point out a few things on this -- before I was just 4 asking that authority question -- but my comments as to 5 the merits of this. I completely agree with the voter 6 confusion issues. I think this creates a ton of 7 administrative work. And, you know, to that end, it 8 seems like if all a party has to do, an existing party, 9 to change their name is to submit a letter, what stops 10 them from just playing games and doing that every 11 election, right, and imagine all of the administrative 12 work that that creates. 13 I would also like to point out that the -- I 14 don't think that the statute is silent on this, which 15 the Secretary of State seems to have alleged. I think 16 the statute is clear, and it says that there's one way 17 to name your political party, that's in 16-801, and 18 that's the gathering of signatures and so forth. And 19 in fact, that's bolstered by other parts of the 20 statute. 16-901 says that it is -- if a committee -- 21 I'm sorry -- that it's a committee -- the requirements 22 of 801 makes you a committee. And 905(G), a political 23 party can register only as stated in 16-801. So I 24 think the statute has been made clear. And if the 25 Legislature wanted to have a way to simply amend your	Page 40 1 question is this. I think that, from an organizational 2 perspective, for that party to organize in Arizona they 3 would -- they would -- they would have to go through 4 the petition process. I'm not aware of any other way 5 they could do that simply by being a -- having a 6 national organization. And in fact, my understanding 7 for all -- I can understand that's what happened here. 8 There is a -- some national No Labels Party, and that 9 national No Labels Party is what sponsored or paid for 10 the organization here. 11 If the word independent were banned as a -- 12 as a party or some other ban were put in place that, 13 you know, said you can't have a confusing name or 14 whatever you want to -- whatever you want to say -- 15 which I'm not sure you actually need that ban. I'm not 16 sure that's not implicit in the -- in a rational 17 reading of the statutory scheme, right. I mean, but 18 put that aside for a second. I think the burden would 19 be on them to show -- 20 Well, the first question would be, is that a 21 significant burden on them such that it would be 22 subject to strict scrutiny, in which case they would 23 probably win. That's the first step. But if it's not 24 subject to strict scrutiny, then the analysis proceeds 25 to look at the burden on them versus the state's
Page 39 1 name as a party, they could have done that. 2 So I also want to make the Commission aware 3 that just recently -- well, at some time in the past, 4 the New York Legislature passed a ban on using the term 5 "independent" in a political party name. But just in 6 August of this year, a candidate challenged that, and 7 the Federal Second -- Second Circuit Court of Appeals 8 upheld the law and said it's not a violation of his 9 First and Fourth Amendments. So I think that's very 10 useful to us. 11 I am -- I am interested, I guess, to know 12 what staff might say. Are there any particular 13 problems regarding a federal party -- I don't know how 14 that works when you've got somebody registered as a 15 federal -- a national party, and if they have 16 independent in their name and then they want to be that 17 party in Arizona. So, you know, there's the 18 national -- Libertarian National Party, for example, 19 and then there's the Libertarian Party of 20 Massachusetts, so -- but if a national party had 21 independent in its name and we somehow banned the use 22 of independent, how does -- how does that affect them 23 on the state level? 24 MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, 25 Commissioner Crump, the way I would address that	Page 41 1 interest, and that is a -- you know, that can be 2 unpredictable certainly, but that's how the analysis 3 would proceed. 4 So if an absolute ban on a particular word 5 was considered to be a severe burden, then that 6 would -- that would -- I mean, even though you apply 7 strict scrutiny, it would effectively end the analysis 8 under the -- under the First Amendment test. And if 9 it -- if it's not a severe burden, then you get into 10 this more balancing test, that state's -- a state's 11 interest, and it sounds like -- I have not read the 12 Second Circuit case you mentioned, but it sounds like 13 that's what -- the analysis they undertook there with 14 respect to that -- that issue. 15 You know, I didn't have -- I have not done a 16 full rundown of every database to determine what has 17 happened. I do know, from the No Labels Party's own 18 memo, that people have changed their name to 19 Independent Party in other states. The memo itself, 20 which is -- the entire record here, administrative 21 record, as far as I can tell, is the letter from Paul 22 Johnson to the Secretary and the Secretary's letter to 23 Paul Johnson back. There is no other record. And 24 tracking down the circumstances of those name changes 25 was not something I was able to do easily, and the --

Page 42 1 and the letter doesn't tell you what the process was, 2 what the other existing law was, what -- the timing of 3 it, all that other kind of stuff. 4 I mean, you know, at a minimum, you know, 5 the -- it seems to me that the Secretary of State had 6 discretion, even no matter what the circumstances, to 7 say not now, right. He didn't have the discretion to 8 say not at all, but he definitely had the discretion to 9 say not now, assuming this is, you know, a 10 discretionary decision. Now, you know, there's reasons 11 why you wouldn't want to see it -- you'd want to -- you 12 know, there's ways to look at this that goes well 13 beyond the -- outside of his -- whatever his discretion 14 is, but, you know, clearly he wouldn't abuse his 15 discretion by saying we're not going to do this this 16 election cycle, come back in November of 2026. 17 COMMISSIONER CRUMP: Okay. Thank you. And 18 also, Mr. Chairman and Tom, on a separate issue, 19 whatever this is called, your continuing status as a 20 party -- so when you first get on the ballot you are 21 there as sort of a -- kind of in a probationary status 22 the first couple of election cycles, I guess, and you 23 have to have certain registration and/or votes in order 24 for you to be a continuing party. Am I summarizing 25 that correctly?	Page 44 1 we don't know if that would have resulted in the same 2 outcome with respect to the petition. 3 And here, to the extent there is a petition 4 process, that is public. That itself has -- is a 5 legislative determination that there's going to be 6 notice, right, there's going to be notice to the 7 public, by virtue of this petitioning process, the -- 8 using a different name would have necessarily changed, 9 A, who might have signed, it would have necessarily 10 changed the nature of the information provided to the 11 broader public and other interested parties, which is 12 the purpose of the petition in the first place, and so 13 that -- 14 That aspect of what the Ninth Circuit said in 15 July I think is salient here and to your point, which 16 is, you know, if the petition process means anything, 17 then it -- then a court ought to consider the 18 possibility that a change after the fact that would 19 have impacted the petition process changes the entire 20 notice process leading up to the formation of the 21 party. And I -- you know, and you can quibble about, 22 you know, that as a -- you know, you can argue about 23 the scope of that concern, right, but you can't just -- 24 but you have to argue about it. You can't just say, 25 that's not a concern here.
Page 43 1 MR. COLLINS: Yes. 2 COMMISSIONER CRUMP: Okay. And so I think 3 also another point in favor of those opposed to this 4 name change is that I think you've earned -- my point 5 is, I think you've earned that right by using the name 6 that was on those petitions, that was on the ballot to 7 earn that continuing party status, and that by -- if 8 you want to -- if you're going to change your name, 9 you've got to start the process over, because that 10 wasn't the name of the party that earned that 11 continuing status. Does that make sense? 12 MR. COLLINS: So Mr. Chairman, 13 Commissioner Crump, you know, there's a line in the 14 Ninth Circuit case from July -- there's a footnote in 15 it that talks about how -- you know, had the No Labels 16 Party -- that was a circumstance where the No Labels 17 Party wanted to say no one other than president can run 18 on the No Labels line in Arizona. And the State's 19 position at that time was, no, you've signed up for the 20 full, you know, thing, and we're going to have a -- and 21 you ought to have a primary. 22 The Ninth Circuit says -- among other things 23 it said, you know, by the way, had you said in your 24 petition, we are a party that will be organized solely 25 for the purpose of the presidential election, you know,	Page 45 1 COMMISSIONER CRUMP: Right. Thank you. 2 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Any other comments or 3 questions from Members of the Commission? 4 (No response.) 5 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Is there any interest in 6 discussing this further in executive session? 7 Commissioner Werther, you seem ready to talk. 8 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: So I am interested, so 9 I'll just go ahead and make a motion and we'll see 10 where it goes. So I'll just move to go into e-session 11 for public -- or, I'm sorry -- for discussion and 12 consultation with our attorneys to consider this 13 matter. 14 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you. 15 Is there a second? 16 COMMISSIONER PATON: I'll second. 17 COMMISSIONER CRUMP: Second. 18 Go ahead. 19 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Seconded by 20 Commissioner Paton. 21 I will call the roll on the motion to go into 22 executive session. 23 Commissioner Werther. 24 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Aye. 25 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Paton.

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1 COMMISSIONER PATON: Aye. 2 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Crump. 3 COMMISSIONER CRUMP: Aye. 4 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Titla. 5 COMMISSIONER TITLA: Aye. 6 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Chair votes aye. 7 We are going into executive session. 8 (The following section of the meeting is in 9 executive session and bound under separate cover.) 10 * * * * * 11 (End of executive session. Public meeting 12 resumes at 11:43 a.m.) 13 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Good morning again. We're 14 back in regular session. 15 Is there a motion any Member of the 16 Commission wishes to make? 17 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Yes, Mr. Chairman. 18 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Werther. 19 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: I move to direct staff 20 to prepare a letter for the Chair's signature 21 requesting that the Secretary of State reverse the 22 decision relating to the Arizona Independent Party, and 23 approve the engagement of counsel to work with staff to 24 develop legal options should the Secretary's Office 25 choose to reject the Commission's request.	1 need for timely filing of reports. 2 The first of these amendments says that where 3 a candidate qualifies for funding, because this does 4 not happen -- excuse me. Let me rephrase that. The 5 first of these amendments says that where a candidate 6 qualifies for funding, because this does not happen on 7 the same timeline as reports, they will have to 8 reaffirm their compliance. The second rule says, if a 9 candidate fails to file a campaign finance report 10 within five days of the due date, the staff may 11 initiate repayment. 12 This will ensure that candidates know that 13 filing timely reports, as they agreed to, is an 14 important part of the accountability in the program. 15 We will make this effective immediately pending review 16 by the Governor's Regulatory Review Commission. 17 Any questions for Tom about this? 18 (No response.) 19 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Hearing none, do we have a 20 motion to approve R2-20-106 and 706 as amended? 21 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Mr. Chairman, I move 22 to approve the Rule R2-20-106 and R2-20-706. 23 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: As amended. 24 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: As amended. 25 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you,
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1 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Is there a second? 2 COMMISSIONER PATON: I'll second. 3 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you. It's been 4 moved and seconded by Commissioner Paton -- moved 5 by Commissioner Werther and seconded by 6 Commissioner Paton. I will call the roll. 7 Commissioner Crump. 8 COMMISSIONER CRUMP: Aye. 9 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Titla. 10 COMMISSIONER TITLA: Aye. 11 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Werther. 12 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Aye. 13 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Paton. 14 COMMISSIONER PATON: Aye. 15 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Chair votes aye. The 16 motion is approved 5-to-nothing. Thank you. 17 We're going to delay Item V to our next 18 meeting. 19 So we'll move into Item VI, discussion and 20 possible action on amendment of Rule R2-20-106, related 21 to candidate verifications before issuance of clean 22 funding, and adoption of R2-20-706, relating to 23 repayment proceedings in the event of unfiled campaign 24 finance reports. As you will recall, we opened a 25 rulemaking docket on these rules to help reinforce the	1 Commissioner Werther. 2 Is there a second? 3 COMMISSIONER PATON: I'll second. 4 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you, 5 Commissioner Paton. 6 It's been moved and seconded that we approve 7 R2-20-106 and R2-20-706 as amended. I will call the 8 roll. 9 Commissioner Crump. 10 COMMISSIONER CRUMP: Aye. 11 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Titla. 12 COMMISSIONER TITLA: Aye. 13 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Werther. 14 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Aye. 15 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Paton. 16 COMMISSIONER PATON: Aye. 17 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Chair votes aye. The 18 motion is approved 5-to-nothing. 19 Item VII, public comment. This is the time 20 for consideration of comments and suggestions from the 21 public. Action taken as a result of public comment 22 will be limited to directing staff to study the matter, 23 rescheduling it for further consideration, or 24 responding to criticism. Please limit your comments to 25 no more than two minutes.

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1 Does any member of the public wish to make 2 comments at this time, anyone on Zoom wish to make 3 comment? There's no one present in the room. No one 4 on Zoom wish to make a comment? 5 (No response.) 6 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you. The public may 7 also submit comments by e-mail at 8 ccec@azcleanelections.gov. 9 Item VIII, adjournment. At this time, I 10 would entertain a motion to adjourn. 11 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: I move to adjourn. 12 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you, 13 Commissioner Werther. 14 Is there a second? 15 COMMISSIONER PATON: Second. 16 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you, 17 Commissioner Paton. 18 It's been moved and seconded that we adjourn. 19 I will call the roll. 20 Commissioner Crump. 21 COMMISSIONER CRUMP: Aye. 22 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Titla. 23 COMMISSIONER TITLA: Aye. 24 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Werther. 25 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Aye.	1 STATE OF ARIZONA)) ss. 2 COUNTY OF MARICOPA) 3 4 BE IT KNOWN that the foregoing proceedings 5 were taken by me; that I was then and there a Certified 6 Reporter of the State of Arizona; that the proceedings 7 were taken down by me in shorthand and thereafter 8 transcribed into typewriting under my direction; that 9 the foregoing pages are a full, true, and accurate 10 transcript of all proceedings had and adduced upon the 11 taking of said proceedings, all to the best of my skill 12 and ability. 13 14 I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am in no way related 15 to nor employed by any of the parties hereto nor am I 16 in any way interested in the outcome hereof. 17 18 DATED at Tempe, Arizona, this 24th day of 19 November, 2025. 20 21  22 23 Kathryn A. Blackwelder, RPR 24 Certified Reporter #50666 25
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1 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Paton. 2 COMMISSIONER PATON: Aye. 3 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Chair votes aye. We are 4 adjourned. Thank you. 5 (The meeting concluded at 11:48 a.m.) 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	

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