



**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
AND POSSIBLE EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE
STATE OF ARIZONA
CITIZENS CLEAN ELECTIONS COMMISSION**

Location: Citizens Clean Elections Commission

1110 W. Washington, Suite 250

Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Date: Thursday, February 29, 2024

Time: 9:30 a. m.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the Commissioners of the Citizens Clean Elections Commission and the general public that the Citizens Clean Elections Commission will hold a regular meeting, which is open to the public on February 29, 2024. This meeting will be held at 9:30 a.m. **This meeting will be held in person and virtually. The meeting location will be open by 9:15 a.m. at the latest.** Instructions on how the public may participate in this meeting are below. For additional information, please call (602) 364-3477 or contact Commission staff at ccec@azcleanelections.gov.

The meeting may be available for live streaming online at <https://www.youtube.com/c/AZCCEC/live>. You can also visit <https://www.azcleanelections.gov/clean-elections-commission-meetings>. Members of the Citizens Clean Elections Commission will attend in person, by telephone, video, or internet conferencing.

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Meeting ID: 869 2141 4123

Please note that members of the public that choose to use the Zoom video link must keep their microphone muted for the duration of the meeting. If a member of the public wishes to speak, they may use the Zoom raise hand feature and once called on, unmute themselves on Zoom once the meeting is open for public comment. Members of the public may participate via Zoom by computer, tablet or telephone (dial in only option is available but you will not be able to use the Zoom raise hand feature, meeting administrator will assist phone attendees). Please keep yourself muted unless you are prompted to speak. The Commission allows time for public comment on any item on the agenda. Council members may not discuss items that are not specifically identified on the agenda. Therefore, pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.01(H), action taken as a result of public comment will be limited to directing Council staff to study the matter, responding to any criticism, or scheduling the matter for further consideration and decision at a later date.

The Commission may vote to go into executive session, which will not be open to the public, for the purpose of obtaining legal advice on any item listed on the agenda, pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03 (A)(3). The Commission reserves the right at its discretion to address the agenda matters in an order different than outlined below.

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- I. Call to Order.
- II. Discussion and Possible Action on Meeting Minutes for January 25, 2024.
- III. Discussion and Possible Action on Executive Director’s Report, Enforcement and Regulatory Updates and Legislative Update.
- IV. Discussion and Possible Action on 2022-23 Annual Report.
- V. Discussion and Possible Action on HB2785, Laws 2024, Chapter 1, effective February 9, 2024.

This item will include a presentation by staff about provisions of this recent enactment including the election calendar, as well as voter education.
- VI. Public Comment.

This is the time for consideration of comments and suggestions from the public. Action taken as a result of public comment will be limited to directing staff to study the matter or rescheduling the matter for further consideration and decision at a later date or responding to criticism
- VII. Adjournment.

This agenda is subject to change up to 24 hours prior to the meeting. A copy of the agenda background material provided to the Commission (with the exception of material relating to possible executive sessions) is available for public inspection at the Commission’s office, 1110 W Washington St, #250, Phoenix, AZ 85007.

Dated this 27th day of February, 2024
Citizens Clean Elections Commission
Thomas M. Collins, Executive Director

Any person with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting the Commission at (602) 364-3477. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange accommodations.

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THE STATE OF ARIZONA
CITIZENS CLEAN ELECTIONS COMMISSION

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC MEETING

Phoenix, Arizona
January 25, 2024
9:30 a.m.

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



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<p>1 PUBLIC MEETING BEFORE THE CITIZENS CLEAN 2 ELECTIONS COMMISSION convened at 9:30 a.m. on 3 January 25, 2024, at the State of Arizona, Clean 4 Elections Commission, 1110 West Washington, Conference 5 Room, Phoenix, Arizona, in the presence of the 6 following Board Members: 7 8 Mr. Mark Kimble, Chairman 9 Mr. Galen Paton 10 Ms. Amy Chan 11 Mr. Steve Titla 12 OTHERS PRESENT: 13 Thomas M. Collins, Executive Director 14 Paula Thomas, Executive Officer 15 Mike Becker, Policy Director 16 Gina Roberts, Voter Education Director 17 Avery Xola, Voter Education Manager 18 Kyle Cummings, Assistant Attorney General 19 Mary O'Grady, Osborn Maledon 20 Jonathan Berkon, Elias Law Group 21 Meredith Parnell, Elias Law Group 22 Jessica Painter, Meeting Planner 23 Brent Ruffner, Member of the Public 24 25</p>	<p>1 Commissioner Paton. 2 I will call the roll. Commissioner Chan. 3 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Aye. 4 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Paton. 5 COMMISSIONER PATON: Aye. 6 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Chair votes aye. 7 The minutes are approved 3-to-nothing. 8 Item III, discussion and possible action on 9 the Executive Director's Report. Tom. 10 MR. COLLINS: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, 11 Commissioners. We wanted to highlight that we have two 12 elections coming up in March, and we'll highlight these 13 again throughout both today and next month. There are 14 local elections, including in Tempe and Litchfield 15 Park, on March 12th. And then the presidential 16 preference election will be held on March 19th, and the 17 voter registration deadline for that is February 20th. 18 This is -- if you get asked, this is the party 19 presidential preference election really, it's -- so 20 it's -- so PPE should really be party, party, party. 21 That's my -- that's my solution to the communication 22 problem. 23 But as we -- as you all know, one of the big 24 things that comes up is the fact that the PPE -- you 25 have to be a member of the Democratic, Republican, or</p>
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<p>1 P R O C E E D I N G 2 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Good morning. Excuse me. 3 Agenda Item I is the call to order. It's 9:30 a.m. on 4 January 25th, 2024. I call this meeting of the 5 Citizens Clean Elections Commission to order. 6 With that, we'll take attendance. 7 Commissioners, please identify yourselves for the 8 record. 9 COMMISSIONER PATON: This is Galen Paton. 10 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Amy Chan. 11 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: And Mark Kimble. We do 12 have a quorum. Three of the five of us are here. 13 Item II, discussion and possible action on 14 minutes for the December 14th, 2023 meeting. 15 Commissioners, you have the minutes for our December 16 meeting in the packet. Is there any discussion? 17 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Mr. Chairman. 18 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Chan. 19 COMMISSIONER CHAN: I move that we approve 20 the minutes as written. 21 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you, 22 Commissioner Chan. 23 Is there a second? 24 COMMISSIONER PATON: I'll second it. 25 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you,</p>	<p>1 other party that has -- that's on the ballot for that. 2 You can't vote as an independent, as you can in the 3 state primary. 4 Looks like -- looks like Commissioner Titla 5 is here. 6 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Right. Thank you, Tom. 7 Let the record show that Commissioner Titla 8 has joined us too. 9 Thank you, Tom. 10 MR. COLLINS: Thank you. I just want to 11 highlight, you know, that we've started up a full range 12 of different outreach activities that Avery has been -- 13 been working on and that Gina attended the Joint 14 Election Official Liaison Conference, which was, I 15 think, a worthy effort, a worthy travel. She got a 16 chance to talk to our elected representatives in 17 Congress about Clean Elections. And I'm sure if you 18 have more questions about that experience and -- you 19 know, I think she'd be happy to talk to you about it. 20 We are -- and we're working with the 21 Secretary's Office and the Governor's Office on 22 implementing the website changes -- or, the website 23 plans that were recommended in the Governor's 24 Bipartisan Election Task Force report. 25 We have -- we've had 13 candidate workshops</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 6</p> <p>1 for clean candidates, and so far we've had 36 2 candidates attend. 3 The Secretary of State's Office Beacon system 4 now has a filing in place for folks who need to make 5 filings under the Voters' Right to Know Act. 6 And I think that's -- that's the main things 7 there that I wanted to mention. I do think, you know, 8 this is sort of FYI, but I want to, you know, mention, 9 if you haven't read it, you can read all of the 10 correspondence among the Treasurer, the Governor, and 11 the Attorney General's Office around the Attorney 12 General opinion request that's pending about the 13 appointment process. And as I mentioned there, the 14 Attorney General's Office has told the press that they 15 are anticipating having an opinion out on February 1st. 16 So, you know -- so that -- you know, there 17 are a number of analytical questions in that material, 18 but the -- but the principal point in front of the AG, 19 in my view and for what it's worth, is that, you 20 know -- is that we have alternating -- the statute sets 21 up a system of alternating appointments between party 22 and between office. The way that I look at this, as a 23 big picture question, is, is it a -- does the pick -- 24 if there's a change in -- changeover, like there's 25 been, that's both in office and in party, does the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 8</p> <p>1 increase confidence of voters by providing information 2 on elections and candidates. Our democracy asks a lot 3 of voters, and as Clean Elections it is our role to 4 help collect -- connect voters to the tools and the 5 information they need to vote informed. We defend 6 democracy by doing democracy, not as an abstract 7 principle or aspiration, but in practical steps to 8 improve access and availability of trusted information. 9 To say voters will be busy this year is 10 beyond understatement. Beginning with the presidential 11 preference election in March, voters will have little 12 or no break. There are state primary and general 13 elections where all 90 seats of the Legislature will be 14 up for grabs. Three seats on the Corporation 15 Commission will be up as well. On the federal level, 16 we will see not only the presidential election, but an 17 election for the U.S. Senate. This is the fifth 18 consecutive U.S. Senate election since 2016, when 19 Senator McCain was last elected, which has to be some 20 sort of a record. 21 Gina Roberts, our Voter Education Director, 22 will be presenting an overview of what we accomplished 23 in 2023 and an ambitious agenda to connect voters with 24 information about candidates and the election process. 25 Gina.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 7</p> <p>1 picking, if you will, start with the office or the 2 party, in which -- you know, which would resolve who 3 sort of picks first. There's a number of other 4 questions in there, but I think that's the big picture 5 question. 6 You know, we have a lot, obviously, to get to 7 with our Voter Education Plan today. 8 You can also see the legislative bills that 9 we're tracking. I think that that, you know, so far, 10 you know -- you know, there are -- there have been some 11 bills introduced that are -- that are -- you know, we 12 kind of kept our eye on, but nothing that we've seen 13 that we need to, you know, weigh in on or ask you to 14 weigh in on. 15 So I think that's -- I think that's it from 16 me, Chairman. 17 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you, Tom. 18 Are there -- any discussion or questions from 19 Members of the Commission? 20 (No response.) 21 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Hearing none, we will move 22 on to Item IV, discussion and possible action on 23 Clean Elections' 2024 Voter Education Plan. 24 Each year the Commission has adopted a Voter 25 Education Plan designed to promote participation and</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 9</p> <p>1 MS. ROBERTS: Good morning, Commissioners. 2 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Good morning. 3 MS. ROBERTS: I've got a PowerPoint here to 4 pull up that we'll be sharing, and I believe the folks 5 on Zoom should be able to see it as well too. 6 I will jump right in. Next slide, please. 7 So I wanted to start off by showcasing our 8 current voter registration statistics. There we go. 9 And so we -- we have some new parties that have 10 statewide recognition. So right now the current lay of 11 the land is we have the Democratic party, the Green 12 party, the Libertarian party, the No Labels party, and 13 the Republican party. 14 So those are the state-recognized parties in 15 Arizona, and you can see the breakdown of the number of 16 registered voters they have. Now, for any voter who is 17 not registered as one of those recognized parties, they 18 are grouped together and considered our other category, 19 which is essentially our independent voters, which is a 20 significant bloc, a significant chunk of voters you'll 21 see. 22 So across the state we have about 4.1 million 23 registered voters. So those are voters that we need to 24 connect with to educate them on the elections, but we 25 also need to connect with our voter -- or, our citizens</p>

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1 who are not yet registered, so we have quite a bit of
2 folks to reach across the state.
3 So how are we going to be looking at the next
4 year?
5 We can go ahead and do the next slide,
6 please.
7 And, Mr. Chairman, you prefaced some of this
8 already. We have three statewide elections next year,
9 and I think it's important to note that the rules
10 change for each election. And so we have to educate
11 voters on what those rules are so they know who can
12 participate, when, and how.
13 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Mr. Chairman, Gina, you
14 said next year.
15 MS. ROBERTS: This year.
16 COMMISSIONER CHAN: It is this year. I mean,
17 we're in it. I just wanted to make sure that it was
18 clear for the record. I know that's what we're talking
19 about, but I just had to say something because it is
20 right now. Thank you. Sorry.
21 MS. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman,
22 Commissioner Chan, thank you for that. Yes, I have not
23 quite -- time has lost all meaning since COVID, so...
24 This year we have three statewide elections,
25 and that's also including -- we do have two local

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1 elections as well. We have March and May local
2 elections, so lots of opportunities for voters to get
3 civically engaged. As I mentioned, the rules change
4 for each election.
5 As we've heard from Tom earlier, we have the
6 March 19th presidential preference election. This is
7 an important communication method for those over
8 1 million independent voters that we have, because they
9 cannot participate staying as an independent voter.
10 Only the Democratic party and the Republican party have
11 opted into participating in the presidential preference
12 election. So that means anybody else who is currently
13 not a Republican or a Democrat, if they want to vote in
14 it, they actually do have to change their affiliation
15 on their voter registration form.
16 There is quite often confusion about this
17 because, as we jump into the next election, the rules
18 have changed again, and now independent voters can
19 participate without having to adjust their voter
20 registration records. So in our August 6 primary
21 election, all voters are eligible to participate.
22 Independents, I have here they can -- they can vote by
23 selecting either a Republican or a Democratic ballot.
24 That's pending, subject to what we see of what happens
25 with the No Labels party, there's some litigation going

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1 on with that right now, and also if the Green party
2 decides to open up their primary. So we do have an
3 open primary provision in Arizona that allows
4 independent voters to select that party's ballot to
5 vote. And historically the Libertarian party has held
6 a closed primary.
7 The other potential change here is, and I
8 think Tom has shared this, that currently the -- our
9 leadership is looking at potentially changing the date
10 of the primary election, so with that would change all
11 of the other deadlines, such as registering to vote.
12 So we have a lot of work to do in educating voters
13 about what the rules are, both with those key dates,
14 the deadlines, if the date changes of the primary, but
15 also who and how they can participate.
16 Then we get to our November 5th general
17 election -- we can still stay on that previous
18 screen -- our November 5th general election, which is
19 going to be our presidential election. Here all voters
20 can vote and everybody gets the same ballot. So we
21 have the same ballot with all of the nominees from the
22 previous primaries, and of course our presidential
23 electors too. So here is where we are actually
24 electing candidates to office.
25 So with just those three alone, and of course

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1 our two local elections, the March and May, there's a
2 lot of information for voters to consume, to
3 understand, to know how to navigate as we progress into
4 this year with these elections. So we have our work
5 cut out for us.
6 We can go to the next slide.
7 With that, I wanted to share some background
8 information. This chart that you see here is from
9 Adimpart. Adimpart released their projections of
10 political spending across the country for '23 and '24,
11 2023 and 2024. Across the country we're looking at
12 about, I believe it's \$10 billion in political
13 spending. Arizona alone is right there at 821 million.
14 So what that means is that it's not just Clean
15 Elections messaging that's coming to voters. Voters
16 are going to be inundated with ads, TV ads, radio ads,
17 print ads, those mailers in their households. They are
18 going to have nonstop election information coming to
19 them.
20 So considering this, knowing that there's
21 other entities out there that have political messaging
22 that are going to be coming to voters, we have to
23 figure out a way -- how are we able to get the official
24 nonpartisan messaging of Clean Elections connected to
25 voters using the resources that we have available to

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1 us. So that's just something for consideration, to
2 know that obviously there's going to be much more
3 messaging that is trying to reach voters.
4 And this is also especially important
5 because, in this day and age of misinformation,
6 disinformation, malinformation, we have to not only get
7 the message to voters, but make sure that voters know
8 it's coming from a trusted source. So that's the other
9 challenge that we have.
10 We can jump to the next slide, please.
11 So how do we prepare for this? How do we --
12 how do we decide what our 2024 Voter Education Plan
13 will be? We make these decisions rooted in research.
14 So in 2023 we conducted focus groups, we put an online
15 survey out, we talked directly to voters to have a
16 better understanding of what their voting experience is
17 like, what information they need, you know, how they
18 feel about -- are they able to get the information they
19 need and know where to go.
20 So we looked at the voting experience
21 specifically, which is great, the research is
22 indicating that voters -- you know, they feel pretty
23 confident in knowing about the election process, such
24 as where to go vote, how to get your ballot, things
25 like that. They do note that they need a little bit

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1 more help when it comes to understanding the candidate
2 positions, which is where Clean Elections comes in with
3 our candidate statement pamphlet and our debates.
4 And then we get into how are they feeling
5 about elections and debates, what is the sentiment
6 regarding those. So when voters look at the election
7 season and the debates, they do have a negative
8 sentiment towards it. I think just oftentimes, maybe
9 perhaps when you look at the messaging, it can be
10 negative that's coming out there, attack ads. They
11 feel that there's oftentimes hostility and polarization
12 during the election season. And then they see that
13 sometimes in debates as well too, where maybe -- their
14 feeling isn't based so much on --
15 Voters are looking for substance in debates,
16 so maybe not just the one liners or attacks in debates,
17 but they're looking for that substantive, informative
18 information. And again, that's where -- that's where
19 we come in and how our debate process will be, which
20 I'll talk about in a few slides.
21 And then we get into voter education, where
22 are voters going to get their info that they need. And
23 this, again, comes back to that trusted source. We
24 know voters are going to Google. Google is not a
25 source. Google is a search engine. So we are often

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1 asking voters, okay, well, where did Google lead you
2 to, those types of things. And so we know that voters
3 are having a hard time in identifying sources that they
4 can believe, that are credible, that are trusted.
5 So when we talk about our Voter Education
6 Plan, we not only have to get the messaging out, but we
7 have to make sure that we're doing branding, that
8 people understand who Clean Elections is, that we are
9 nonpartisan, that we are the state's official voter
10 education agency, that everything that we do is
11 intended to promote that participation in the political
12 process, but not influence. So, again, that's a
13 challenge for us, it's an objective for us, and not
14 just communicating with voters about the information
15 they need, but also they understand the source of where
16 it's coming from.
17 We can go to the next slide, please.
18 So how do we do that? What are we
19 communicating? As I mentioned, yes, we need to focus
20 on branding, but, again, we're going to be getting into
21 that general election education, how do you get
22 your ballot, where is my voting location, how do I
23 register to vote, what are those key dates and
24 deadlines.
25 We're also going to be messaging on our Voter

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1 Education Guide. The Voter Education Guide is, and
2 I'll talk about this a little bit more too, but the
3 Voter Guide is consistently ranked as one of the top
4 trusted sources for voters. They know it. They come
5 to expect it in their mailbox, which is fantastic. So
6 we'll be putting messaging out there, hey, check your
7 mailbox, this is going to be delivered, this is what
8 you can get, this is how you can use it.
9 We'll also be messaging on our debates,
10 here's our debate schedule, this is how you can submit
11 a question, you know, here is who the candidates are,
12 all those good things.
13 And then, of course, we have our youth
14 outreach. So we do look at this demographic. Our 18-
15 to 24-year-olds are historically one of the
16 demographics with the lowest voting turnout. And we
17 know that, you know, not -- messaging isn't one size
18 fits all. We have to have different tactics when it
19 comes to reaching our youth voters and our future
20 voters.
21 And then, of course, independent voters. As
22 I mentioned in some of those first slides, the rules
23 change across each election, and that's particularly
24 true for our independent voters. So we have a specific
25 campaign dedicated to the education that independent

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1 voters need so that they can participate or understand
2 how to get involved.
3 And then we have general civic -- civic
4 engagement and civic participate -- participation
5 messaging as well. Because we know that if somebody is
6 inclined to be civically engaged, you know, whether
7 that's attending a council meeting or, you know, school
8 board meeting, these are also going to be likely voters
9 as well too. So it promotes that health of the
10 democracy, encourages that civic engagement, which will
11 also likely include voting.
12 And then how do we do this? So as I
13 mentioned, all of those political ads are going to be
14 coming out. During our research, knowing there's a
15 little bit of hostility out there with the overall
16 sentiment, with our -- with our partners we decided,
17 okay, we've got to capture people's attention. How do
18 we do that with our resources, in the limited space
19 that we have, whether it's, you know, a TV ad or a
20 radio, how do we capture their attention and then get
21 them to come to Clean Elections?
22 So we've -- in the past we've had very
23 straightforward messaging, looks very official,
24 government, you know, very direct. We've, you know,
25 tried different approaches in the past. This year we

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1 decided this approach, which I will let you take from
2 when we watch this video clip. We feel that this is
3 probably our best -- our best shot at capturing voters'
4 attention and getting them to -- driving them to Clean
5 Elections.
6 So we should have that -- if you go to the
7 next slide, it should pull up that video. There we go.
8 Just go ahead and hit the play button. Is there volume
9 too?
10 So this is going to be our -- one of our TV
11 commercials that we will be running. It's a 30-second
12 spot, and we'll get this set up so we can get it
13 played.
14 Well, it looks like we're missing audio here.
15 So you know what? I will actually just play it on my
16 end, with my audio, to hopefully give you an idea.
17 MR. COLLINS: I'm sorry. Just...
18 MS. PAINTER: I'm trying to share it, but
19 then it's catching the feedback --
20 MR. COLLINS: Right. Yeah.
21 MS. PAINTER: -- from everyone in the room.
22 MR. COLLINS: Right.
23 MS. PAINTER: So I don't know if that will
24 work. I don't --
25 MS. ROBERTS: All right. That's okay. So

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1 essentially what this video does, the strategy behind
2 this is to showcase frustration in doing those common
3 everyday activities. And so we have this person here
4 who is in their vehicle and -- early morning, they're
5 getting ready to go to work, and they're having
6 difficulty opening up a blister package. So those are
7 the packagings that come in that they're difficult to
8 either cut open with scissors or, you know, you can't
9 access it. And it just showcases her frustration.
10 And so it's a comedic approach. It ends up
11 being pretty funny and, you know, it talks about, you
12 know, life doesn't -- sometimes life is complicated,
13 but the voting process doesn't have to be, and we drive
14 them to Clean Elections. So we can make sure that we
15 share this with you all so you can watch it on a
16 different computer at a later time to get the full
17 experience of it.
18 But, again, the thought was, let's capture
19 their attention, we'll do that creatively, and then
20 we'll resonate with them, we'll have something that's
21 relatable, and then we'll connect them to Clean
22 Elections. So that's one -- one example of how we
23 intend to do that.
24 We can go to the next slide.
25 COMMISSIONER PATON: And you're going to show

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1 that on TV or --
2 MS. ROBERTS: Yes, that is correct. So we
3 will be -- right. So here is how we're going to reach
4 the voters. This is our media plan. We will have our
5 messaging on television, we'll be on radio, we'll be on
6 Netflix ads, things like that, so over the top.
7 Out of home, billboards. Billboards are very
8 impactful, especially when we look at areas that maybe
9 Internet is not necessarily -- broadband isn't, you
10 know, widespread or accessible. So in our rural areas
11 out of home works well.
12 Digital, so you'll be getting those ads that
13 pop up when you're on the Internet. Print ads, so
14 we'll be in the local papers. And then, of course,
15 social media too.
16 So basically every tactic that we have
17 available to us, we are going to utilize to connect
18 with voters throughout the year. So we have created
19 these assets to use in all of these different platforms
20 to connect with voters.
21 We can do the next slide.
22 This is -- so if you just go through a couple
23 clicks, this is some -- these are a few more examples
24 of what that creative looks like. So these would be
25 billboards, these would be digital messaging. So this

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1 is what we have prepared to release for this year. So
2 debates, watch, learn, decide, you saw just very -- for
3 one of those billboards it was a very specific message,
4 presidential preference election, March 19th. And
5 print ads, election information at your fingertips, you
6 know, go to azcleaselections.gov, and we talk about
7 what's available there.

8 Okay. So we are driving -- in all of this
9 messaging, we're driving people to our website. Our
10 website is our crown jewel. The website is continually
11 advancing with the traffic that we receive from voters.

12 So just to give you a quick snapshot, you can
13 see the growth from 2020. So in 2020, which was a
14 presidential election year, we had 2.9 million page
15 views. We see that -- and, of course, in our odd years
16 that drops because we're not in a statewide election
17 cycle. 2022, in our midterms, we had 5.4 million
18 events. That's pretty significant.

19 In those past few election cycles we have
20 partners across the state, whether it's the counties or
21 the Secretary of State's Office or we see our -- like
22 the League of Women Voters, we even saw Cosmopolitan
23 and Rolling Stone, we are seeing these groups reference
24 the Clean Elections website, link to the Clean
25 Elections website from their website, which is

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1 fantastic, because we know that we are providing a
2 resource to voters that has the information that they
3 need, but also that it's presented in a way that they
4 can understand, that it's easily accessible and
5 digestible, and that's really important.

6 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Mr. Chairman, Gina.
7 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Chan.
8 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Can I ask what the
9 distinction is, in 2022 we started calling them events
10 instead of page views?

11 MS. ROBERTS: Yes. Mr. Chairman,
12 Commissioner Chan, thank you. Google analytics, which
13 is how we track this information, they changed. So
14 page views are essentially how many times the page is
15 pulled up and somebody looks at it. What we are
16 tracking now are the events, which also showcase
17 engagement. So it's how many times somebody not only
18 views your page, but is engaging with it, so maybe
19 that's clicking, you know, on the link to register to
20 vote, things like that. So it showcases us how people
21 are interacting with the page too.

22 We have a world more of data available to us,
23 you know, such as what are the top pages that people
24 are looking at, which is fantastic, because we see a
25 lot of folks that are coming to look at election

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1 security, they're looking at early voting, how early
2 voting works, our detail pages for all of the
3 elections. So the more -- we track this and we look at
4 it every month, and that helps us better understand how
5 people are engaging with the site, what information
6 they're looking for, and how we could better present
7 this information.

8 The other thing that I'd like to call out too
9 with our website that is very fantastic is, considering
10 everything that we just talked about, with the paid
11 media, how we're connecting voters and driving them
12 back to our website, the top driver to get people to
13 azcleaselections.gov is organic search. That means
14 somebody is pulling up their web browser and they're
15 going to Google and in the Google search bar they're
16 typing in AZ Clean Elections, they're typing in Clean
17 Elections, and that's how they're getting to our site.
18 So whether that's, you know, a recollection from seeing
19 our ad, from seeing our messaging, or just their
20 awareness of Clean Elections as the voter education --
21 voter education agency, they're going and they're
22 looking -- they're actively looking for us, which is
23 phenomenal. That's what we want.

24 So that is what we are driving people to. We
25 know that our website is successful and we know that

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1 it's meeting the needs of voters.

2 So we can go to the next slide, please.
3 So we want to continue to make sure that our
4 site is evolving, that it is continuing to meet the
5 needs of voters as we look towards the future.

6 So in 2023 we invested in research in the
7 user experience. So what that means is we pulled
8 together voters from across the state and we had them
9 sign onto a Zoom meeting and we gave them tasks, and we
10 recorded this. So we would say, okay, you know, go to
11 azcleaselections.gov. Now that you're there, find your
12 voting location or tell me what the requirements are to
13 register to vote.

14 And we would track their movements and we
15 would see how many clicks did it take them to get
16 there, did they get confused, where did they stumble,
17 where did they pause. We did this to see, is the
18 information on our website easy to attain, you know, is
19 it easy to get to.

20 And so our goal is ultimately to improve that
21 user experience. We want to make it so people can go
22 to the website and they can find exactly what they're
23 looking for quickly, because we know that time is
24 precious, and we want to make sure that our information
25 is not redundant, that we can consolidate it, we can

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1 simplify it, and we can also look at how we name things
2 too, nomenclature is very important, and how we
3 position and present that information. So that was our
4 goal, so that leads us to a redesign and restructuring
5 of our website.

6 We can go to the next slide, please.

7 So before I give you a preview of what that
8 redesign looks like, the other note that's important
9 from 2023 on our website is the Governor's Office,
10 Governor Hobbs, she had created a Bipartisan Election
11 Task Force to get together and look at issues
12 presenting voters and elections.

13 One of the takeaways from the report that
14 came through, and I believe Tom has updated the
15 Commission about this in previous meetings, is the
16 Clean Elections website was identified and included in
17 the recommendations for a -- to create and establish
18 and further expand a comprehensive website for voter
19 information.

20 So the Task Force, in their summary, they
21 reported that election officials, I think we're -- I
22 can read it too, if that's helpful. Election Officials
23 report that voters are frequently frustrated by the
24 inability to easily access election information
25 when ballots contain races on the federal, state,

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1 county, and local levels. I won't go through all of
2 that. But ultimately, there's a need to have a
3 centralized online location for voters to access their
4 information.

5 They acknowledge that Clean Elections already
6 has a website that does this with election and voter
7 information, and their proposal is to further expand
8 the Clean Elections website, to really make it and,
9 again, reinforce the website as a one-stop shop for all
10 of election information. The Task Force acknowledged
11 that it's the most efficient pathway forward because we
12 are already doing this work and it's within our
13 mandate.

14 So knowing that we have the success of the
15 traffic to our website and then the acknowledgment of
16 the Governor's Task Force in the Clean Elections
17 website and then the research that we've done --

18 We'll go to the next slide, please.

19 -- that takes us to here is a sneak peek of
20 what we -- our redesign looks like. It's very similar
21 to what we currently have. And again, you know, we
22 worked with our partners on this design, and the goal
23 is to, again, provide that information so it's, you
24 know, easily accessible quickly and digestible.

25 And so if you go ahead and click on those

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1 buttons. Yep.

2 There's just little things here that we could
3 do. This is -- again, this is just a very sneak peek.
4 We can change our messaging. You can see at the top,
5 if you hover over voting. So we really spent a lot of
6 time -- Alec has worked blood, sweat, and tears on
7 this -- where we looked at the pages that we have, the
8 information that we have, our site map, and we adjusted
9 it, we restructured it, based off of that research that
10 we've done. So we know really a person is going on
11 this place in our site where they expect to find this
12 information instead of where we have it over here. So
13 we used all of that research to restructure the pages
14 of our site to make it more efficient.

15 And then if you scroll down to, please, on
16 the site. The design, again, very simple, but very
17 straightforward. You know, there's, again, some very
18 quick information about the voter dashboard, pulling
19 that information.

20 And then scroll down. And then you can just
21 even click on the little candidate -- there you go.
22 Just little pieces of functionality there too.

23 So the big takeaway from this redesign is
24 that it's modular. Our website and our messaging
25 changes depending on the time of year. So if we are in

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1 2021, August of 2021, we're now focusing on the start
2 of the qualifying period, so we're focused on
3 candidates, right, and voters on how they can support
4 candidates. So the modularity of this system allows us
5 to adjust our messaging and adjust the website
6 depending on what season we're in.

7 When we get into, okay, it's an upcoming
8 election, voter registration deadline, we can again
9 change those top headers, the messaging, and the
10 information that we have down here in these blocks. So
11 is it register to vote or is it, you know, sign an
12 E-Equal petition. So we have created this in a way
13 that, from a management standpoint and from a webmaster
14 standpoint, it's very easy to adjust. So, again, that
15 helps us keep it relevant and timely and informative
16 for the voter, depending on what they may be looking
17 for during that particular season.

18 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Gina, if I could -- I'm not
19 sure I understand this. So if I go on there, I put in
20 my address in Tucson, so it would say you are in this
21 city council district, this board of supervisors
22 district, this school district. And then would it go
23 beyond that and say these are the candidates that are
24 running and information about the candidates and their
25 stance on the issues? How far down does it go?

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1 MS. ROBERTS: Sure. Mr. Chairman,
2 Commissioners, excellent question. Currently our
3 website does that, yes. You go in, you add in your
4 address or you use a pin drop or you enter in your
5 legislative district or county or your GPS coordinates,
6 all of that is available to pull this information.
7 Once we know your location, we then identify your
8 districts. And currently, we can identify our federal
9 districts, state and legislative, county, county board
10 of supervisors, and some cities, depending on the data
11 that we have right now.
12 And then with that we will pull up, okay,
13 yes, there's an election in your area. Here is what's
14 on the ballot. Is it candidates, is it, you know,
15 Tucson City Council. Here is the candidates. Here is
16 their biography. Here is their social media links,
17 yes. Here is their photo. Is it propositions. Here
18 is a link to the publicity pamphlet. Here is all the
19 props on your ballot. Here is, you know, the arguments
20 for and against. We currently do all that.
21 With the Governor's proposal and what we've
22 been working on with the Secretary of State's Office is
23 the ability to access additional information so we can
24 drill down further, so we can go all the way down to
25 special fire district. This is, you know, the district

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1 that you rely -- and this is your precinct number, this
2 is -- all of that information that's contained in the
3 voter registration database, we don't have that. So
4 the ability to securely access that information allows
5 us to then present more information to voters so it
6 really reflects what their ballot will be. That way
7 they have that one location to go to and match it up to
8 their ballot and get all of the information we provide,
9 whether it's candidates or ballot measures, it's there
10 and accessible for them. So we do that to some extent;
11 the partnership and the recommendation from the
12 Governor's Task Force will allow us to expand that
13 further.
14 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Okay. Thank you.
15 COMMISSIONER PATON: That's really good.
16 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Yeah.
17 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Mr. Chairman, can I just
18 add?
19 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Chan.
20 COMMISSIONER CHAN: You know, I'm going to
21 let you continue, but I just have to say, even as
22 somebody who I feel like I understand elections and I'm
23 very aware of when voting is taking place and I
24 participate in every election, I use the voter
25 dashboard every election for myself just to remind

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1 myself of key dates, despite getting mailings from the
2 Recorder and Elections Office. So I personally am a
3 user of the website and can, you know, agree that it's
4 very useful to voters.
5 So I think, you know, the people who don't
6 participate probably could get better use out of it,
7 but I really think anybody can, anybody who needs a
8 quick question answered. I think I even looked for
9 drop boxes during the last election, and that was on
10 the Clean Elections website, which was fantastic. So
11 thank you and kudos.
12 MS. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman,
13 Commissioner Chan, Commissioners, thank you. Yes, and
14 that is often the feedback that we get just from --
15 from our partners too.
16 I have to really commend Alec for his work,
17 because it takes a lot of work to get this information
18 because of all the different sources. He's got to go
19 to the counties. The counties have to be willing to
20 give it to him timely. And if there's a change -- if
21 there's a change, we have to know about that
22 immediately too to make sure we're constantly providing
23 that accurate information.
24 And he's established such a great rapport
25 with the counties that the counties support our

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1 website, the counties are linking to our website.
2 Because we have to remember, at the individual county
3 level, they may not have the same type of technological
4 resources that we do and the ability to update things.
5 Sometimes they may have to go out of their office, to
6 the county IT staff, to do these changes. So to have
7 that buy-in and support from our county partners, it
8 really makes this possible, and again, I think Alec has
9 done such a great job in facilitating that relationship
10 with them.
11 We can go to the next slide.
12 Oh, and we plan to launch this in February.
13 We are working through it on our test sites, proofing,
14 proofing, proofing, and we're excited to launch it for
15 voters.
16 So the next that we have is our Voter
17 Education Guide. As I mentioned previously, the
18 research that we've done identifies the Voter Guide as
19 the top source of trusted information for voters. They
20 expect to see it in their mailbox, they know what it
21 is, and they use it, and so we, again, want to continue
22 to make sure it is valuable in meeting the needs of
23 voters.
24 So for 2024, for the first time, we are going
25 to begin not only printing our mandate of the 200-word

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 34</p> <p>1 statement for the candidates, but we are also going to 2 be printing their biographies, which we already collect 3 and we've already been showcasing on the website, but 4 now we're going to have the ability to print it as well 5 too to further provide that information at voters' 6 fingertips when they get it in their mailbox.</p> <p>7 We are also very -- I'm very excited about 8 this. We're going to include an I Voted sticker in the 9 Voter Guide as well too. We know from, historically, 10 all of our research, the I Voted sticker is social 11 currency. People love that. It is something tangible 12 that they can get, it's an excitement, it adds more 13 value to the Guide. And so we're excited to be able to 14 add an I Voted sticker as well. So great things for 15 voters in the Voter Guide as we head into the primary 16 and general election.</p> <p>17 We've also created a digital Voter Guide too 18 for the presidential preference election. So we may 19 not be able to, you know, print it and send it out, but 20 we will have digital Voter Guides too for those other 21 elections as well that are outside of the statewide 22 primary and general election because, again, we know 23 that people look to it and trust it.</p> <p>24 Our next slide, please.</p> <p>25 Our debates. So this is very exciting. So</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 36</p> <p>1 Again, the purpose of that is to identify what voters 2 say are important issues to them so that we can use 3 that data, that information to shape the discussion of 4 the debates. Because going back to what we know about 5 debates, we know that the sentiment is we don't want to 6 see, you know, again, those attacks and there's a 7 little bit of negative sentiment around debates. We 8 want to make sure that it is an informative, 9 substantive discussion and that it's directly 10 addressing the issues voters have identified that are 11 important to them.</p> <p>12 Now, who are we going to be working with this 13 year? That's very exciting because Tom, Paula, and I 14 have been working with the State Procurement Office to 15 look at our options for a vendor to help us execute 16 these debates. We put out a task order and we received 17 responses to that from folks, and we are very excited 18 that we identified our partners on who we're going to 19 be going forward with for 2024.</p> <p>20 So we will be working with our partner, 21 Riester, who we currently work with, for our Voter 22 Education Plans. They responded to that solicitation. 23 And they are working in partnership with the Arizona 24 Media Association. So previously we had the Arizona 25 Broadcasters Association and the Arizona Newspapers</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 35</p> <p>1 our debates, as we look forward to our primary and 2 general election debates -- as the Commission may 3 recall, in 2023 we put together a debate -- a debate 4 work group. This work group was composed of 5 stakeholders in the debate process, whether that was 6 the political parties, media, candidates, campaign 7 managers. We had a great group of folks get together 8 and go through the Clean Elections debate process, and 9 they developed a report for us with recommendations.</p> <p>10 We are going to continue to do our televised 11 debates. So we have our Legislative debates that we do 12 through Zoom, and then we have our statewide debates, 13 which are going to be televised, and for this year that 14 would be Corporation Commissioner, but as you know, 15 we've expanded that to do U.S. Senate debates in the 16 past, and we want to continue to provide this resource 17 for voters, so we're also going to be doing 18 Congressional debates, which we've supported in the 19 past as well too. So we're increasing our televised 20 debates that we will be producing, and we will continue 21 to do our issue research.</p> <p>22 In December I believe the Commissioner -- the 23 Commission received a presentation from Noble 24 Predictive Insights on some issue research that we have 25 done. We will do two more of those surveys this year.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 37</p> <p>1 Association. They combined forces and they are now the 2 Arizona Media Association.</p> <p>3 And we had a very successful partnership with 4 them in executing our U.S. Senate debates last year -- 5 last year, no -- 2022, two years ago. And when we did 6 that, we received -- or, we were able to put the U.S. 7 Senate debate out into more households than we have 8 ever done before with our debate process, and that was 9 through a partnership with broadcast stations across 10 the state who we were able to partner with, collaborate 11 with, and get the buy-in to stream this -- to simulcast 12 this event. And, again, we received great feedback on 13 it. The numbers came back really high, again, of how 14 many households we were able to reach, and so it really 15 set the bar for us on how we can continue to execute 16 our statewide debates.</p> <p>17 So through this new partnership with Riester 18 and the AMA, we now have the ability to work with our 19 media partners across the state to broadcast our 20 debates for U.S. Senate, Congress, and Corporation 21 Commissioner. So we will be producing them, we'll be 22 producing them in house. And, again, having this 23 ability to partner with the AMA will -- again, as I 24 mentioned, it's very difficult -- well, it's 25 challenging, knowing how many -- what the political ad</p>

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1 spend will be, the communication, and the messaging
2 that's constantly going -- that the voters are going to
3 be inundated with. So to have this level of support
4 and partnership and collaboration with the TV stations,
5 the newspaper stations, their online websites, their
6 streaming, radio, have all of that buy-in on the Clean
7 Elections debates, it's going to help us be very
8 successful in providing this resource for voters. So
9 we're very excited about that.

10 COMMISSIONER PATON: I have a comment.
11 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Paton.
12 COMMISSIONER PATON: So I think the bigger
13 this gets, the -- I think the greater participation
14 from these people that are supposed to be debating.
15 Because it really aggravates me that some people don't
16 want to debate. I think just the public, you know,
17 like question marks of why don't you want to debate,
18 that kind of thing, would force them to debate even if
19 they don't want to.

20 But like before, I think, when I first was on
21 the Commission, you know, you'd have -- we've had
22 debates where nobody would -- some of those people
23 wouldn't come. And now I think it's -- now that we
24 store those videos and the bigger presentations that we
25 have where more people are picking it up, then I think

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1 we'll have more participation.
2 MS. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman,
3 Commissioner Paton, Commissioners, absolutely. When we
4 are communicating with candidates to secure
5 participation, this is absolutely information we share
6 in our invitation with them so they understand the
7 reach. Because we know that campaign time is valuable
8 and we know that candidates, you know, need to make
9 their decisions about where they're participating and
10 what events they attend, and so we make sure that it is
11 very clear that this is an event you will not want to
12 miss because of the reach. You are reaching your
13 constituencies here. There's no better opportunity to
14 do it than the Clean Elections debates here. So we
15 absolutely make sure that we share that information as
16 we're trying to secure their participation, and we feel
17 it was very helpful when we did that in the U.S. Senate
18 debate.

19 Additionally, so it's not just the televised
20 live event. What we know too from our research, it's
21 also what do we do with that event itself. We record
22 it, but how can we make it also continue to have value
23 for voters. And that's, again, where we work with our
24 moderators and our media partners. Can we produce, you
25 know, smaller clips of it. Can we do a highlight reel.

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1 Can we get some of these media partners to do coverage
2 on it and say, okay, these are the key takeaways, and
3 then drive people to the full debate. So we have a lot
4 of opportunity here to work with our journalists across
5 the state to really take this information and make it
6 presentable to voters and -- because if they're not
7 able to tune into the full broadcast, maybe they can
8 get those highlight reels and then, you know, maybe it
9 will drive them to watch the whole debate and maybe
10 it'll drive them to go to the candidate profile on the
11 dashboard. But it will help us create additional
12 assets to hopefully further increase engagement from
13 voters.

14 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Gina, you mentioned
15 moderators. How are they going to be chosen?
16 MS. ROBERTS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Great
17 question. So moderators -- Clean Elections will still
18 retain approval over our moderators, but this will be
19 done in consultation with our partners. So let's say,
20 for example, we have a Congressional debate that's, you
21 know, southern Arizona. We're going to make sure that
22 we have a moderator who maybe is, you know, somebody
23 who's on a TV station in that local area or a local
24 journalist, somebody who has that knowledge of that
25 area that can speak to the issues.

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1 So through our partners with the AMA, we will
2 identify potential moderators, and then we'll come to
3 an agreement on, okay, is this the person we're going
4 to go forward with. So it's not going to be a single
5 moderator for all of our televised debates. It will be
6 tailored to the region, tailored to that particular
7 debate, and, again, it will be -- and perhaps it's two.
8 Perhaps for our U.S. Senate debate perhaps we decide,
9 okay, we're going to have multiple moderators conduct
10 this. So that's something that we feel that we have
11 more options to select a moderator who really has the
12 skill set for that particular debate, that particular
13 region.

14 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you.
15 MS. ROBERTS: Next slide, please.
16 And I'm sorry, I don't know how I am on time,
17 but our next slide is for county partnerships. So our
18 counties are obviously a very important partner for
19 Clean Elections. We're so excited to work with them.
20 We've been working with them. As I mentioned, we have
21 fantastic relationships with our county election
22 officials, and these are just some examples of how we
23 partner with them.

24 In that middle, the who can vote in the
25 presidential preference election, we created this palm

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1 card for Pinal County. We're printing these and
2 sending them to them. So the poll workers on election
3 day, on March 19th, will have these in their toolkit.
4 So if an independent voter arrives and doesn't
5 understand, why can't I vote, the poll worker can give
6 them this information.
7 And we did something similar for them in the
8 2022 general election as well. The poll workers loved
9 it. The voters loved it because it gave them something
10 tangible to walk away from that they felt better --
11 okay, how can I follow up and confirm my ballot was
12 counted, or, as an independent voter, well, I'm an
13 independent, what happens if I vote a provisional. We
14 explain all of that on this palm card. So it's a great
15 resource for both the poll workers and the voters who
16 are on the ground on election day.
17 On the right you can see some signage that we
18 worked with Coconino County on that we're really happy
19 about. So if you look at the sandwich board on the
20 left, that was the previous sign that they used for
21 voter ID, very heavy text. And then we worked with
22 them to redesign it, because we know design is
23 important in elections and for voters. So we created
24 the design on the right, and it's receiving -- we're so
25 happy about this because it's receiving great feedback.

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1 The County loves it. Other counties have seen this and
2 are now asking for version -- versions of it. So that
3 signage, developed by Clean Elections in partnerships
4 with our County, will also be in polling places and
5 voting locations throughout Coconino County, Yuma
6 County is interested, we're going to be sharing that
7 with all of our 15 counties too.
8 So things like this where we can step in and
9 help our counties better communicate with voters about
10 what the rules are are opportunities for us. And we
11 do --
12 I don't know if we have audio. Jessica, if
13 we could play the audio clip.
14 MS. PAINTER: Let me see if it will work.
15 MS. ROBERTS: That's okay if it doesn't.
16 So we also are working with our counties to
17 create radio reads for Native American outreach. So
18 this particular ad is for the voter registration
19 deadline for the presidential preference election that
20 is -- that is --
21 Are we -- okay. Sounds like we're good.
22 So that will be playing on K1N1N, which will
23 reach our Navajo voters that are in Apache, Coconino,
24 and Navajo County, and it's spoken in the Navajo
25 language in Diné. So we will have partnerships like

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1 that throughout the year as well too, so it's very
2 exciting.
3 We can do the next screen.
4 And then we'll continue to do our grassroots
5 outreach. A lot of this is under Avery's purview here.
6 But we're very excited to develop toolkits that we
7 could share with all of our partners, whether it's
8 county or whether it's, you know, local non-partisan
9 grassroots organizations or even local parties, any --
10 whether it's, you know, high school students who are
11 looking to do Get Out The Vote. We've created a
12 toolkit where we provide these assets that they can use
13 to help with voter education, so maybe that's, you
14 know, a Zoom background, maybe it's a social media
15 post, content calendars, checklists. We even have
16 things for digital birthday cards, congratulations, you
17 turned 18, you can post that on somebody's timeline and
18 encourage them to get registered to vote. So we have
19 things like that in our toolkit.
20 We'll also continue to work with our
21 community-based organizations, which is fantastic.
22 We'll continue to make those partnerships and go out to
23 their events and speak on Clean Elections, we'll table
24 these events, such as attending Celebrate Mesa. So all
25 of these community events that we have the opportunity

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1 to attend, we'll do that and make sure we have the
2 boots on the ground.
3 And then our partnerships as well that we
4 will continue, such as with the Arizona Commission for
5 the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, where we will produce
6 election information in American Sign Language. We'll
7 work with the Disability Rights of Arizona, they were
8 formerly the Arizona Center for Disability Law, we'll
9 continue to work with them and support and sponsor
10 conferences, such as the African American Conference on
11 Disabilities.
12 So all of the opportunities that we have to
13 go out into the community directly, where they can see
14 our faces, they can see Clean Elections as a part of
15 their community, that will help us build that trust
16 with them and that recognition and also to disseminate
17 that election information. We'll continue to do our
18 grassroots outreach.
19 Next slide, please.
20 COMMISSIONER PATON: I have another comment.
21 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Yes, Commissioner Paton.
22 COMMISSIONER PATON: So I don't know if I've
23 said this before, maybe, but I was thinking is there
24 some way that we could -- and maybe this could be for
25 the future, not this election -- involve like Arizona

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<p>1 government teachers to maybe help them with their 2 curriculum or maybe we could have a curriculum that 3 they can help use to teach their classes on this kind 4 of stuff. 5 MS. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, 6 Commissioner Paton, that was an excellent segue into 7 this slide. Thank you for that question. 8 COMMISSIONER PATON: Okay. 9 MS. ROBERTS: Perfect timing. 10 COMMISSIONER PATON: Well, good. 11 MS. ROBERTS: Perfect timing, sir. 12 So for our youth -- 13 COMMISSIONER PATON: We set this up, right. 14 MS. ROBERTS: You did. You really did. 15 For our youth voter education we have created 16 an updated curriculum that our government teachers can 17 use in the classroom that meets state standards, 18 because we know classroom time is precious, we know 19 resources are limited for our teachers. So we have 20 this curriculum that they can download from our 21 website. When we go to tabling events, such as Teacher 22 Association conferences, we put them on a thumb drive 23 that they can just access. It has all of the 24 information on there for a full curriculum that is 25 about voting, but also how government works, so really</p>	<p>1 Commissioner Paton, yes, we look at the list. We've 2 pulled lists from all of the schools where we identify 3 the principals and then we get information for who are 4 the government teachers, and so we have done mass 5 e-mails to them. So we absolutely look at that. 6 And I think one of the important and 7 successful tools that we've utilized to make this 8 connection is to go to those events, to work with the 9 Department of Education, to work with the civics 10 associations and our partners in civic education to 11 identify these events where we can go to in person and 12 table the events and then explain what this is. We 13 have one-page flyers for it. As I said, we come with 14 thumb drives that we already have the curriculum 15 preloaded and we just give them a kit, here you go. 16 And so that has been really successful for us too. 17 We've also run paid media on it. We've ran 18 ads that say, attention, educators, come take a look at 19 this resource for you. So we're continuing to look at 20 how we can let educators know about it so that we can 21 make this a useful tool for them. 22 And, you know, that's also to say that we 23 will go into classrooms too. We also tell teachers, 24 we're happy to come visit you. We could do mock 25 elections with your students, you know, what's your</p>
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<p>1 fitting into that government curriculum. And again, it 2 meets the state standards, so the teachers know they 3 can use this in the classroom. And we have lesson 4 plans in there, we, you know, have assignments for the 5 students. It's really engaging. 6 And so we've been working to push this out to 7 the -- our teachers, our home school parents, our 8 private schools, our charter schools. So we've been 9 working really hard to push this out. We have just 10 updated it with new laws and new information, and so 11 we're going to continue to look for those opportunities 12 to connect with our educators across the state, which I 13 am happy to say, I think, through Avery's work on this, 14 we're seeing an increase in communication with 15 teachers. So they're starting to work with us, to come 16 to us to look for this information. And the feedback 17 that we've gotten from teachers on it has been amazing. 18 They're like, this is fantastic, you know, I don't have 19 to -- 20 COMMISSIONER PATON: Sure. 21 MS. ROBERTS: -- develop this myself. 22 COMMISSIONER PATON: I have a question then. 23 So how are you -- I mean, are you identifying who 24 teaches Arizona government in each school district? 25 MS. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman,</p>	<p>1 favorite cookie, those types of things. We support 2 them. We get a lot of teachers that reach out to us 3 who want Voter Education Guides. They love to use 4 those in the classroom too to showcase those. So we 5 will continue to expand our reach to educators across 6 the state. 7 COMMISSIONER PATON: So what's the 8 participation, do you think, percent-wise? 9 MS. ROBERTS: So we first launched the 10 curriculum about 2020, I think is when we first started 11 to do it. And I would say that when we are at those 12 tabling events, I think -- and, Avery, feel free to 13 chime in here -- I think our table is probably one of 14 the most popular tables that educators come to. We 15 still have a lot of work to do. It's not something 16 that's widely known, so -- 17 COMMISSIONER PATON: Is the -- are those 18 thumb drives -- I don't know much about technology. 19 Those -- are they expensive? 20 MS. ROBERTS: No. Mr. Chairman, 21 Commissioner, no. 22 COMMISSIONER PATON: I would just say, I 23 mean, I taught school for a long time, and you get all 24 kinds of stuff, but every teacher goes to their mailbox 25 every day. And I would just say, send -- send, you</p>

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1 know, a thumb drive for like maybe four teachers to
2 each school, high school or middle school, whatever the
3 case may be, and send it to them with your brand on it
4 and whatever and the copy of the curriculum and a thumb
5 drive or whatever, just send it to them. And I can't
6 imagine a teacher that teaches that would not see that
7 in their box and jump up and down.
8 MS. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman,
9 Commissioner Paton, that's a great idea. We could
10 absolutely do that.
11 COMMISSIONER PATON: Yeah.
12 MS. ROBERTS: We can send them a kit. We can
13 definitely send them a kit, it has the one-pager that
14 explains it, there's the thumb drive, absolutely. So
15 we'll look into that. Thank you.
16 So that takes care of that first one, our
17 updated curriculum. We also have our 26th Amendment
18 project that will -- I believe at the last meeting we
19 shared a video with you, I have another video here too,
20 so it's a series that we created in partnership with
21 ASU and the Cronkite -- their media center there. So,
22 again, this was focused on educating students about the
23 26th Amendment, which lowered the voting age from 21 to
24 18, all in the hopes of trying to encourage that
25 participation and connect with them.

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1 We'll continue to have our National Voter
2 Education Day -- oh, I wrote National Voter Education
3 Day -- I meant National Voter Registration Day, and
4 we'll go out to our college campuses to do voter
5 registration there.
6 We'll continue our partnerships with schools
7 and colleges. Avery has developed great relationships
8 with them across the state. You know, again, we're
9 happy to travel, whether that's going to NAU, U of A,
10 and our community colleges. We're happy to work with
11 our educators there as well too and be on the ground.
12 And then I'm very excited to introduce to you
13 Captain Activate. So we'll go to the next slide,
14 please.
15 Captain Activate -- and we can just hit one
16 of the animations there. This is -- this is -- how do
17 I describe this? This is the baby, the brain child of
18 our very talented staff here. So Clean Elections has
19 developed a comic book. So, again, as part of our
20 youth voter education outreach, again, going into those
21 classrooms, seeing our students, seeing our fourth
22 graders, our fifth graders, talking to them, hosting
23 those mock elections, how do we get -- how do we
24 connect with them and get them excited about being
25 civically engaged and becoming our future voters?

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1 Because we know research has long shown that to create
2 that future voter we have to have that civic education
3 and start with them early on.
4 We can click another slide, please.
5 So here is our comic book, created, written
6 by our very own Mr. Avery Xola, who is a published
7 comic book author.
8 We can slide -- there we go.
9 So we are going to print. We are in print
10 with these.
11 Another one, please.
12 But this is the story of Captain Activate,
13 who is following -- he's the hero. Our villain is
14 Dr. Apathy. And he is coming to --
15 COMMISSIONER PATON: Dr. Apathy?
16 MS. ROBERTS: He is -- Dr. Apathy is
17 attempting to make the people here apathetic so that he
18 can make all the decisions for their community and they
19 have no say in it. And so here we have Captain
20 Activate who comes and recruits our future voters to
21 help them get activated and be civically engaged and to
22 combat Dr. Apathy.
23 So this is a comic book story. Again, the
24 goal here is this will be part of our toolkit for voter
25 education and outreach. We will work with our teachers

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1 to have this in classrooms, in libraries, even local
2 comic book shops. And this is an opportunity for us to
3 create, you know, those fun little things that help us
4 also connect and be memorable with voters, whether it's
5 a sticker of Dr. -- you know, of Captain Activate and
6 Dr. Apathy, things like that that we can leave that the
7 teachers can use in the classroom with their students.
8 But we're very excited about this. It's a great story.
9 And so when we have printing done, we'll make sure we
10 have copies -- signed copies for all of you.
11 We are also developing -- as we know, some of
12 our counties have mascots. We've seen mascots. Clean
13 Elections has had a five-dollar bill in the past. We
14 have -- we are in development of a full-size suit for
15 Captain Activate as well that can go into the
16 classrooms. You know, who's wearing it, we will see,
17 but --
18 COMMISSIONER PATON: Paula.
19 MS. THOMAS: No, I retired with Captain
20 Activate -- Captain Bill.
21 MS. ROBERTS: The five-dollar bill?
22 MS. THOMAS: Yeah.
23 MS. ROBERTS: So this is our -- another
24 thing, just another opportunity that we have to -- that
25 is creative, innovative, and is meeting voters where we

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1 are. This is really what it comes back down to, we
2 know we have to meet voters where we are, so what is
3 going to make, you know, a fifth grader care about
4 elections and voting. So my children signed off on
5 this.

6 So we can go to the next slide.

7 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Did Avery draw all that?

8 MS. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners --
9 Avery, do you want to touch on the development and your
10 role in this?

11 MR. XOLA: Chairman, Commissioners, good
12 morning. No, I didn't draw it. I'm a terrible artist,
13 but I do like to write, and I came up with it, just a
14 brain child, from reading comic books as a child and
15 all the cool PSA comic books that we got and there were
16 memorable characters and things like that. So I
17 thought that Clean Elections could use something like
18 that to connect with a younger audience.

19 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Very impressive.

20 MR. XOLA: Thank you.

21 MS. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners,
22 while Avery didn't do the actual drawing, he did
23 absolutely provide feedback that shaped what those
24 images look like. So it is -- it is his creation, so
25 he's being too modest for all the work that he put in

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1 on that.

2 Next, we'll jump into our Native American --
3 this is our last side -- our Native American voter
4 outreach. As I shared before, we have audio of how we
5 are going to be running ads in Native language. We are
6 likely going to be sponsoring, once again, the Navajo
7 Voters Coalition Conference, which will be held this
8 summer. That has been a very successful conference in
9 the past of getting our tribes together and Navajo
10 voters together as well too about upcoming elections,
11 key dates, things that they need to know. It usually
12 has great attendance. This is a great opportunity for
13 Clean Elections to be there and educate voters.

14 We will continue to translate our voter
15 education materials into Native language. In 2022 we
16 were able to do Navajo, Apache, and Hopi. So we will
17 continue to identify what languages are needed through
18 work with our counties and provide that resource to
19 voters. We will also continue looking at ways that we
20 can partner with the Intertribal Council of Arizona to
21 reach tribal voters across the state. Again, we are
22 potentially talking about having partnerships with some
23 of our Legislative debates that are in tribal
24 communities and how we could work with them. So lots
25 of opportunities here to make sure that we are meeting

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1 all the voters across the four corners of the state.
2 Next slide.

3 And so with that, that is our comprehensive
4 plan for 2024. It does not show every detail, but it
5 gives you the high-level overview of what we'll be
6 working on. And so with that, I'm happy to answer any
7 questions.

8 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you. Very
9 impressive, very innovative, very comprehensive.

10 Any questions or comments from Members of the
11 Commission?

12 COMMISSIONER PATON: Yes. I would --

13 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Paton.

14 COMMISSIONER PATON: I would just like to say
15 that in the past six, seven years I've been here, I
16 mean, we've come light years and all of that. It's
17 really impressive. And that was really what I wanted
18 to do is show -- give people information instead of --
19 because, you know, we all meet people now, they'll find
20 out like we're on this position and they'll say, well,
21 what is that, what does that do, and all that kind of
22 stuff. And the voter education has just mushroomed and
23 it really gives a lot of value to what we do, so thank
24 you.

25 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you.

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1 MS. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, may I --
2 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Yes, Gina.

3 MS. ROBERTS: -- just offer one thing too?
4 So as we developed these Voter Education
5 Plans over the years, I know we have Commissioners who
6 have sat here, you know, over the years and for a
7 while, and your feedback -- I think each Commissioner
8 has a legacy when it comes to voter education.

9 Chairman -- or, Commissioner Paton, your
10 legacy has absolutely been in our debates and our youth
11 education outreach. That has expanded. We did the
12 first U.S. Senate debate at your direction.

13 And, you know, Chairman Kimble, absolutely
14 with independent voters you've had such a significant
15 impact in how we communicate and educate voters and
16 place a priority on that messaging, and then, of
17 course, with our debate work group.

18 And then Commissioner Chan, I mean, you have
19 been so supportive of our social media outreach and our
20 technology, and so I think that's been your legacy
21 there too in how we expand the website and our voter
22 dashboard.

23 And Commissioner Titla has long been a
24 champion for voter education and outreach for our
25 Native American voters and our tribes, and so it's been

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1 great to see his support there.
2 And then our Commissioner Meyer has been
3 wonderful too with us being on the ground and doing --
4 especially going into the classrooms too. He's been in
5 classrooms with us before with doing voter education
6 and outreach.
7 So I think all of you have left a legacy and
8 an impact in how these develop -- these plans have
9 developed over the years, so absolutely appreciate your
10 guidance and insight as we create these Voter Education
11 Plans.
12 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you.
13 Any more comments from the Commission?
14 (No response.)
15 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Is there a motion to
16 approve the Voter Education Plan that Gina has
17 outlined?
18 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Mr. Chairman, I move that
19 we approve the Voter Education Plan as outlined.
20 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you,
21 Commissioner Chan.
22 Is there a second?
23 COMMISSIONER PATON: I'll second.
24 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you,
25 Commissioner Paton.

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1 I'll call the roll on the motion to approve
2 the Voter Education Plan. Commissioner Chan.
3 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Aye.
4 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Paton.
5 COMMISSIONER PATON: Aye.
6 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Titla. Are
7 you there, Commissioner Titla? You appear to be.
8 (No response.)
9 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Okay. Well, if you can
10 chime in, Commissioner Titla, fine; otherwise, the
11 Chair votes aye, and as of now the Voter Education Plan
12 is approved 3-to-nothing.
13 Thank you very much, Gina.
14 MS. ROBERTS: Thank you.
15 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Item V, discussion and
16 possible action on advisory opinion requests.
17 Commissioners, we have two advisory opinion requests
18 filed by the Elias Law Group.
19 Request number one asks whether several
20 planned actions by a political organization constitute
21 campaign media spending under the Voters' Right to Know
22 Act.
23 In the second the request asks whether
24 several methods for disclosing original monies satisfy
25 donors' obligations under the Voters' Right to Know

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1 Act. It also asks whether donors who do not engage in
2 campaign media spending must provide opt-out notices to
3 their own donors.
4 Tom will provide a summary of the proposed
5 responses and then we'll take questions and consider a
6 motion on them one at a time. Tom.
7 MR. COLLINS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And I
8 wanted to just point out that John Berkon from Elias is
9 on the line. In the event that he wants to make
10 comment, I just want to make sure we have an eye on
11 that.
12 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you.
13 MR. COLLINS: So, you know, the purpose of
14 these -- this advisory opinion process, as you all
15 know, is to try to provide, as best we can, some
16 firm -- firmer guidance to folks who have questions
17 about how activities or transactions or what have you
18 will work under the Act.
19 In this particular case, you know, we -- we,
20 you know -- I will say that one thing that's universal
21 across both is we tried to -- we did, in drafting
22 these, take the transactions themselves that were laid
23 out in the facts that were provided by the requester
24 and we -- you'll see there's a question presented by
25 them and then there's a footnote that the question

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1 presented as we phrased it is slightly different.
2 The reason we did that is because we wanted
3 to make sure that, in answering the question, that the
4 requestor and anybody else who reads this understands
5 the framing that we think the Voter Right to Know Act
6 provides and to make sure that -- that a person who
7 picks this up would understand how we, as staff, in
8 initially evaluating this situation, would sort of
9 march through the issues in the event of some -- you
10 know, some other -- of anything really, whether it's
11 the advisory opinion or some kind of other situation,
12 right.
13 So we wanted to make sure that -- that when
14 we address these questions that we're -- that we're
15 doing it in a way that is transparent about how we
16 would break down that back pattern under the Act while,
17 you know, obviously, from my point of view, keeping the
18 essence or the meaning ultimately of the -- of the
19 questions presented.
20 So on request number one, which is via the
21 Elias Law Group from the Democratic Legislative
22 Campaign Committee, which is a national political
23 organization, the questions -- the letter outlines
24 several projects, actions that the DLCC would --
25 intends to undertake, you know, including making

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1 monetary contributions to the Arizona Democratic
2 Party -- excuse me -- to their -- just general
3 donations, expending funds to hire consultants to
4 provide research, polling, and data analytics services
5 related to Legislative elections to be used for the
6 DLCC's own internal planning, and then to make in-kind
7 contributions for polling, data analytics work product
8 to other persons engaged in campaign media spending.
9 So in breaking down those questions, we --
10 and then as you see -- you know, I just want to
11 highlight this question presented issue. You know, the
12 question presented, as put together -- as presented in
13 the letters, does making a monetary contribution to a
14 political party or spending money -- or spending money
15 for projects for internal use constitute campaign media
16 spending by a person if that person is not engaged in,
17 you know, other activities set forth in the definition
18 of campaign media spending. If so, please specify
19 which of the two projects, the monetary contributions
20 or the internal projects, constitutes campaign media
21 spending.
22 So our way of approaching that question was
23 first to say, well, if we got this question -- we got
24 this question, but if we had this question in the
25 context of a -- of an enforcement, for example, which

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1 is what we're trying to avoid here, right, we would
2 break those in two pieces. In other words, we would
3 look at the transactions -- at least we think that the
4 Voters' Right to Know Act says you would look at the
5 transactions themselves, because you have to analyze
6 those transactions within the definition of campaign
7 media spending and then the ultimate thresholds that
8 flow from -- the spending thresholds that go -- you
9 know, that put you into categories where you may have a
10 reporting obligation.
11 So that's -- so that's how we sort of, you
12 know, rephrased, maybe reframed a little, but I think
13 we tried to capture the -- we tried to capture those
14 the way we thought that they would -- they would -- we
15 think the analysis should go from a Commission
16 perspective.
17 So, you know -- so the first -- you know, the
18 first -- so the first question really, as we understood
19 it, was, you know, donations to the ADP. You know,
20 obviously we do not see a donation of money as campaign
21 media spending. You know, the party itself might be
22 subject to the Voter Right to Know Act, but -- and may
23 have, you know, obligations there, but that's -- but
24 the -- you know, that's not.
25 The next question was this question of

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1 internal research, polling, and data analytics for
2 internal use only. So why does -- why do those terms
3 matter? Those terms are the terms included in the
4 definition of campaign media spending that -- it's in
5 Section -- it's in the draft at Page 4, research,
6 design, production, polling, data analytics, social
7 media list acquisition, or any other activity conducted
8 in preparation for or in conjunction with the
9 activities -- other activities, including public
10 communications, that expressly advocate and et cetera.
11 So -- so, you know, our -- from our sense of
12 that -- or, our answer to that question -- or, the
13 proposed answer that we provided for you,
14 Commissioners, is that, you know, the Act does not
15 purport to reach into the internal activities of an
16 organization. And frankly, it's a well -- it's an
17 important question because, you know, we've talked
18 before in this -- in our meetings about concerns that
19 we don't -- that we've heard, but we don't -- we didn't
20 think were well taken, about, you know, whether the
21 Voters' Right to Know Act allows invasion into the
22 internal conduct of a -- of an organization. This is
23 especially a concern we've heard from folks affiliated
24 with 501(c)(3)s and 501(c)(4)s. But nevertheless, this
25 gave us the opportunity to make it clear in the draft

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1 that it does not purport -- the Act does not purport to
2 get it -- to weigh in on internal -- internal planning
3 purposes.
4 You know, we note in the -- in the -- in the
5 draft that, you know, because the DLCC, by virtue of
6 its organization and what it represents in the -- in
7 the advisory opinion request, is -- so without getting
8 too deeply in summary into what it means to be a 527
9 for tax purposes, the AOR, I think, summarizes this
10 itself, you know, that a 527 is a political
11 organization. The purpose of the Democratic
12 Legislative Campaign Committee is to effectuate the
13 election of Democrats to Legislative seats, right, so
14 it seems the name of the committee and the activities,
15 you know, pretty -- pretty align.
16 So, you know, one thing we wanted to make
17 clear was, you know, we wanted to say that -- to a
18 person that you want to police that line a bit,
19 especially when you're in a context where, you know, by
20 virtue of the way your organization or an organization
21 is put together, you know, may mean that, that might be
22 harder, right, it might be more -- there might be
23 more -- you know, that might be -- harder is probably
24 not the right word. It would just be something that a
25 527, because it's essentially a political organization,

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1 it's acting usually for the election of somebody, you
2 know, that you want to -- if it's for internal, it's
3 internal, but, you know, obviously when your -- when
4 your main purpose is actually acting in elections, as
5 opposed to your main purpose is public welfare, and
6 therefore, advocacy on a particular issue with, you
7 know, your additional campaign spending, you might have
8 a different context there. And I think that, you know,
9 527s might want to be aware of that -- or, I shouldn't
10 say might. We believed that it was important to note
11 that.

12 The other thing, again, is we looked at
13 this -- you know, the last question, we want -- we
14 understood the Committee to want to confirm that an
15 in-kind donation to another organization that -- and
16 this is -- the question presented by the -- by the
17 Committee is, does making an in-kind contribution of
18 research, polling, data analytics to another person
19 constitute campaign media spending if the recipient of
20 the in-kind contribution engages in campaign media
21 spending.

22 And I think there that that's a good question
23 because -- and we wanted to provide an answer that
24 showed how the statute operated there. The statute, as
25 the AOR notes, does -- you know, talks about the

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1 covered person. Remember, the covered person, or the
2 person filing, just to go back to sort of the overall
3 structure of the Act, you know, has to deal with like
4 acceptance of in-kind contributions. But, on the other
5 hand, the campaign -- the definition of campaign media
6 spending sort of says, well, but the spending itself
7 might. So that's there. And what the statute does, we
8 think, to address that is define in-kind
9 contributions for -- in-kind contributions for -- that
10 go to campaign media spending as -- an organization
11 that goes into campaign media spending as -- as
12 traceable money.

13 So what that does is, in campaign finance
14 law, you know, for the last, what now, 40, 50 years
15 almost there has been this dichotomy between what's a
16 contribution and what's an expenditure. Prop 211,
17 because it's not purely within the framework of
18 political committee activity, such as is laid out in
19 our laws and in the Federal Election Campaign Act,
20 doesn't really use the terms, per se, but it does
21 resolve that question in a similar way. So the
22 donation of in-kind -- the in-kind contribution, the
23 donation of in-kind services, you know, could be
24 traceable -- traceable monies. That's how they resolve
25 that -- this question.

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1 This issue of contribution versus
2 expenditure, it's one of these -- it's a legacy of --
3 just to really go back to Buckley v. Valeo and the
4 ability to -- the government's ability to regulate in
5 that area turns often on whether or not something is a
6 contribution, that is, where I give something of value
7 to another person for them to take some action, versus
8 when I make an expenditure on my own, those have --
9 those are regulated differently.

10 So that's kind of a summary of what we think
11 provides -- you know, we think provides an answer that
12 should, in our view, as staff, you know, provide --
13 elucidate, you know, some of this -- some of these
14 issues for -- for the DLCC and we hope, you know,
15 provides an answer that they can structure their
16 actions around. And so that is what we did.

17 If you all have questions about that, then
18 obviously -- I mean, you know, if John has a comment,
19 obviously, so...

20 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Okay. Are there -- any
21 discussion on the proposed response number one?
22 (No response.)
23 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Mr. Berkon, did you have
24 any comments?
25 MR. BERKON: I did not. I agree with the

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1 draft and Mr. Collins' remarks just now.

2 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Okay. I had a little
3 trouble hearing you. I heard, I did not, and that was
4 about it.

5 MR. BERKON: Yeah, I did not. I agree with
6 the draft and with Mr. Collins' remarks that he just
7 made just now.

8 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Okay. Thank you.
9 MR. BERKON: Thank you.

10 MR. COLLINS: We're working on the sound
11 right now.

12 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Okay. You do not have any
13 questions and you agree with Mr. Collins' analysis?
14 MR. BERKON: Exactly. Exactly.

15 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you.
16 Any comments from Members of the Commission
17 on this proposed response?
18 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Mr. Chairman.
19 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Chan.
20 COMMISSIONER CHAN: I just want to say that I
21 think -- I'm really happy to hear from Mr. Berkon, I
22 hope I'm pronouncing your name correctly, and --
23 because that was my main concern. When I read the
24 draft advisory opinion, I think it's well crafted, it
25 -- and frankly, it's a challenge to implement an

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1 entirely new law, and particularly one that, you know,
2 has traceable monies, it makes it a little more complex
3 than perhaps what traditional campaign finance law
4 contemplated or contemplates.
5 And so I'm really gratified to hear that
6 Mr. Berkon doesn't take issue with the draft advisory
7 opinion, because I -- that was my main concern was, you
8 know, reading something and thinking it makes sense to
9 you as a Commissioner is one thing, but I -- I have
10 appreciated in the rule making process and will
11 appreciate in this process hearing from folks that are
12 representing members of the regulated community. So
13 thank you, Mr. Berkon, for being here today and giving
14 us your thoughts on that.
15 MR. BERKON: Thank you very much for having
16 me.
17 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Any other discussion on
18 proposed response number one?
19 (No response.)
20 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: If not, do I have a motion
21 to approve Advisory Opinion 24-01?
22 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Mr. Chairman.
23 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Chan.
24 COMMISSIONER CHAN: I move that we approve
25 Advisory Opinion 2024-01.

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1 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Is there a second?
2 COMMISSIONER PATON: I'll second it.
3 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Okay. We have a motion and
4 a second to approve Advisory Opinion 24-01. I will
5 call the roll. Commissioner Chan.
6 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Aye.
7 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Paton.
8 COMMISSIONER PATON: Aye.
9 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Titla.
10 MS. THOMAS: Chairman, he's having --
11 COMMISSIONER TITLA: Aye.
12 MS. THOMAS: Oh, there he goes.
13 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you,
14 Commissioner Titla.
15 Chair votes aye. The Advisory Opinion 24-01
16 is approved 4-to-zero.
17 Now we turn to request number two. Any
18 discussion, Tom?
19 MR. COLLINS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,
20 Commissioners. So the second question is from, through
21 the Elias Law Group, the Democratic -- the DLCC again
22 and the PAC for America's Future. And their question
23 had to do with the application of accounting methods to
24 a particular donor's response to requests for
25 information from covered persons.

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1 And what they -- as a background matter, what
2 the request lays out is essentially how, you know,
3 these two organizations, you know, have a certain --
4 you know, have a certain amount of money, and they have
5 that money, you know, in a variety of different counts
6 because, you know, any organization that's operating at
7 sort of a federal level is going to be dealing with a
8 variety of different state law issues in terms of
9 contributors that are allowed in some states and not
10 allowed in other states, monies that can be used for
11 some purposes in some states and not used in other
12 states. So in order to facilitate that internally,
13 they've organized their finances in a manner to ensure
14 they're compliant across jurisdictions.
15 What that means in Arizona is that --
16 however, is when we're -- when we're drawing down this
17 original monies information, you know, and you're
18 running an organization and you're asked for -- so the
19 transaction -- you've got to remember, the covered
20 person is going to ask the donor, you know, for a set
21 of information, where did you get the money and how --
22 and basically where did you get the money and where did
23 they get the money is basically the big question.
24 So, you know -- so they laid out three
25 different methods, upshot of which are -- you know, one

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1 of them is a sort of a first in, last out methodology,
2 one is to say -- you know, one without that, and
3 then -- and then essentially, you know, basically how
4 to walk through how that disclosure would happen.
5 The AOR notes and our opinion acknowledges
6 that as staff we've taken the position that we didn't
7 need to have a specific rule on accounting. In other
8 words, the statute talks about recordkeeping and
9 authorizes us expressly to make rules about records.
10 In that -- in the rule making process our
11 recommendation was not to get into accounting as such,
12 because we are of the view that -- I mean, not to sound
13 overly cautious about regulation, but we didn't want
14 things to turn into a -- the thing we would not want in
15 enforcement, if it was avoidable -- well, it may be
16 unavoidable anyways -- is a battle of experts on
17 accounting about whether or not an accounting method
18 was reasonable and appropriately applied if the
19 recordkeeping was sufficient for anybody who looked at
20 the transactions to understand there was -- there was
21 an effort -- a good faith effort here to make the
22 disclosures required by law.
23 So, that said, you know, we tried to -- in
24 addressing these questions we said, you know, on their
25 face, there's nothing obviously that stands out in

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1 these methods as problematic under the Act. And we
2 outline there -- and one of the things we relied on,
3 you know, was testimony we received here at the
4 Commission from the Campaign Legal Center Action Fund
5 about how, in their view, the donor who was receiving
6 that 16-972(D) request, you know, will have some
7 flexibility in determining, you know, how to best
8 distribute, you know, allocate, if you will, who
9 donated what money, right.

10 So the issue -- essentially the issue is, you
11 know, at the end of the day, notwithstanding one's
12 accounts and how one is setting up accounts, the money
13 is fungible. So you're -- so you're -- essentially
14 you're tagging who you -- who is responsible for that
15 donation out of a set of -- you know, if you have a
16 hundred thousand dollars and you have to tag -- and
17 this is literally the example that the -- that is in
18 the draft and that, you know, the CLC Action Fund
19 talked about, David Coulter talked about is you've got
20 a hundred thousand dollars, you're distributing -- you
21 know, the donor will get the first opportunity to sort
22 of identify, you know, who the correct source of
23 fund -- you know, who they think the right -- the right
24 source of fund there.

25 So it provides a modicum of flexibility

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1 there, the idea being -- and the reason why we thought
2 it was important to mention that testimony is because
3 even though, you know, folks who were involved in
4 drafting the Act may not have an evidentiary role in
5 describing -- you know, in determining what the purpose
6 of the Act is or in talking about what their intentions
7 were, in this case it really provides a good gloss on
8 why the statute itself doesn't really drill down on
9 that, right. The statute sort of, you know, sort of
10 leaves this there.

11 Now, understanding that the root of the
12 question is, you know, well, we want to make sure that
13 our accounting system works, we tried to reframe that
14 in terms of records. And then -- and then what we did,
15 which we think -- we hope is helpful, and the reason
16 why we thought -- you know, was to say, okay, well, if
17 you were asked, well, what's -- what's going to make
18 something reasonable as a recordkeeping matter,
19 essentially what we tried to stress was that, you know,
20 there are some indicia of reasonableness that are
21 pretty common sensical for -- we think for anybody
22 who's running any business, right. You ought to have
23 your books kept. You ought to -- if you have financial
24 policies, you ought to have financial policies on how
25 folks get signed off on. You ought not sort of switch

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1 accounting methods based on the person asking. And
2 then you ought not result -- and the AOR, I think,
3 quite helpfully acknowledges, you ought not result in,
4 you know, double counting somewhere or somewhere else
5 or ending up with somebody who, you know, is sort of --

6 You know, if the theory of this works, and I
7 think Coulter's comment outlines this, if the theory of
8 this works and you had a hundred thousand dollars that
9 was all going to get distributed, eventually all
10 people's donations would get disclosed in one way or
11 another. So that's -- so that's -- and that may not
12 happen in the sense that someone may not eventually
13 distribute all that money, but we want -- we want to
14 see something that's reasonable, that's what the rule
15 we passed asks for, and that reasonableness is to be
16 determined, in part, by, you know -- you know, is it
17 objectively reasonable. You know, what can we -- what
18 can you point at in response to a question, if you got
19 it, as a -- as a spender or a donor, to say, here is
20 what I did. I did this, this, this, and this, and
21 these are the ways -- and this is how it works and --
22 you know, so that -- so that's what we tried to do
23 there.

24 So in that sense, you know, with the -- so
25 basically what the -- the bottom line of the draft AO

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1 is to say, yes, these methods are fine, and, you know,
2 in implementing we would recommend that you, you know,
3 again, take some attention to -- the kind of attention
4 to compliance that would be -- that you probably -- you
5 know, I think that most folks are undertaking anyways,
6 because you have to -- at the end of the day you have
7 other compliance obligations that are already putting
8 that obligation on you, whether it's the Internal
9 Revenue Service, your own fiduciary duties as a, you
10 know, manager of a fund, et cetera, et cetera.

11 So that's what we did there, and I think
12 that's probably enough of a summary. And I think we
13 slightly rephrased those questions as well, but I'm not
14 sure that we -- I'm not sure that we did it and I'm not
15 sure it was quite as maybe dramatic looking as the
16 other one might have looked to some folks.

17 The other question, obviously, is, must
18 donors who are not covered persons, you know, provide
19 notice of their own donors -- to their own donors under
20 the Act. So you recall there's this opt-out -- opt-out
21 opportunity, and the statute says covered persons must
22 provide an opt-out opportunity to their -- to donors.
23 So the context here essentially is, if you have a donor
24 who has subdonors, is it on the donor to provide that
25 opt-out notice. And the statute does not, in our view,

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1 put that onus -- put an onus on the donor to provide an
2 opt-out notice to their own donors.
3 I mean, obviously -- and I don't think we say
4 this in the AOR, so I risk editorializing here. You
5 know, relationships -- I mean, because we don't need to
6 tell folks this. Obviously, organizations'
7 relationships with their own donors are their
8 relationships. So, you know, that's -- you know, there
9 are reasons why a person will want to have
10 conversations with their donors about the potential for
11 disclosure, even if that, you know, donor itself is not
12 the person who may provide the notice directly, but
13 they may -- but they could, they could, and the rules
14 contemplate that they could as well.
15 So, anyways, so I think that's about as much
16 of a summary as I probably should offer there, unless
17 there are further questions.
18 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Okay. Is there any
19 questions or discussion on proposed response
20 number two? Mr. Berkon, do you have any comments?
21 MR. BERKON: Yeah, I think just on the
22 second -- that was very helpful, Mr. Collins. On the
23 second piece of it, as I understand the answer there,
24 you know, covered person sends notice to our client's
25 donor entity. Those -- that donor entity has the

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1 option, obviously, of trying to get consent from their
2 own underlying donors, but is not required to. But
3 obviously our client would have to consent to the use
4 of the client funds for the covered person to utilize
5 those funds, but it's really only the consent between
6 the covered person and the immediate donor that is
7 required and satisfies the, you know, opt-in or the
8 21-day opt-out requirement.
9 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Mr. Collins, do you want to
10 respond to that?
11 MR. COLLINS: I'm not sure we've gone that
12 far in this answer. I think that -- in other words,
13 there's -- in what you said there's the donor question,
14 which is what's the donor's obligation, which is what
15 we focused on. We did not discuss the covered -- the
16 total -- the totality of what the covered person's --
17 and I'm not saying one way or the other. I'm just
18 saying we did not, in this opinion, seek to address the
19 covered person's obligation.
20 MR. BERKON: Right. Okay. Just the donor's
21 obligation.
22 MR. COLLINS: Yeah.
23 MR. BERKON: That is a better way of
24 reframing my question.
25 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Okay. Thank you,

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1 Mr. Berkon.
2 Any other comments on proposed response
3 number two?
4 (No response.)
5 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: If not, do I have a motion
6 to approve Advisory Opinion 24-02?
7 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Mr. Chairman, I move that
8 we approve Advisory Opinion 24-02.
9 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you,
10 Commissioner Chan.
11 Is there a second?
12 COMMISSIONER PATON: I'll second.
13 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: It's been moved and
14 seconded that we approve Advisory Opinion 24-02. I'll
15 call the roll. Commissioner Chan.
16 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Aye.
17 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Paton.
18 COMMISSIONER PATON: Aye.
19 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Titla.
20 COMMISSIONER TITLA: Aye.
21 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you,
22 Commissioner Titla.
23 Chair votes aye. The proposed response --
24 the proposed Advisory Opinion 24-02 is approved
25 4-to-nothing.

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1 Thank you for your attendance, Mr. Berkon.
2 We appreciate it.
3 MR. BERKON: Thank you very much. I
4 appreciate it. Thank you for having me.
5 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Item VI, public comment.
6 This is the time for consideration of comments and
7 suggestions from the public. Action taken as a result
8 of public comment will be limited to directing staff to
9 study the matter or rescheduling the matter for further
10 consideration and decision at a later date or
11 responding to criticism. Please limit your comment to
12 no more than two minutes.
13 Does any member of the public wish to make
14 comments at this time, anyone on Zoom? There's no one
15 here in the audience. Anyone on Zoom want to make a
16 comment? It doesn't appear like there's anyone there.
17 (No response.)
18 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Okay. Thank you. The
19 public may also send comments to the Commission by
20 e-mail at ccec@azcleelections.gov.
21 At this time I will entertain a motion to
22 adjourn.
23 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Mr. Chairman, I move that
24 we adjourn.
25 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Is there a second?

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1 COMMISSIONER PATON: I will second.
2 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: It's been moved and
3 seconded that we adjourn. I will call the roll.
4 Commissioner Chan.
5 COMMISSIONER CHAN: Aye.
6 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Paton.
7 COMMISSIONER PATON: Aye.
8 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Titla.
9 Commissioner --
10 COMMISSIONER TITLA: Aye.
11 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you,
12 Commissioner Titla.
13 Chair votes aye. We are adjourned. Thank
14 you very much.
15 (The meeting adjourned at 11:07 a.m.)
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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 28th day of
19 January, 2024.
20
21
22 
23 Kathryn A. Blackwelder, RPR
Certified Reporter #50666
24
25

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21:18 22:1,14 28:25
35:13,25 36:13 37:4,5
44:1

years 22:15 37:5 56:15,
16 57:5,6 58:9 67:14

younger 54:18

youth 17:13,19 46:12,
15 51:20 57:10

Yuma 43:5

Z

Zoom 9:5 25:9 35:12
44:14 81:14,15

**CITIZENS CLEAN ELECTIONS COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT
February 29, 2024**

Announcements:

- The March local elections will be held on March 12, 2024.
 - Tempe and Litchfield Park are holding ballot by mail elections.
 - Voter Registration Deadline: February 12
 - Ballots mailed: February 14
 - Voters who live in Tempe or Litchfield Park and are registered with the Democratic or Republican parties will receive TWO ballots.
- The Presidential Preference Election (PPE) will be held on March 19, 2024.
 - Voter Registration Deadline: February 20.
 - Early Voting Begins: February 21
 - Only registered Democrats and Republicans can vote. Independents cannot vote as the PPE is not a primary subject to the open primary provision.
- Voter's Right to Know Act rules are available in the Arizona Administrative Register:
 - R2-20-801 to R2-20-808, https://apps.azsos.gov/public_services/register/2023/45/contents.pdf.
 - R2-20-809 to R2-20-813, apps.azsos.gov/public_services/register/2023/48/contents.pdf.

Voter Education and Outreach:

- Avery held a workshop about civic leaders for the African American Affairs 22nd Annual Legislative Conference Youth Day event.
- Avery was the Keynote speaker for the Flinn Scholars Life Hack Day event.
- Avery was a panelist for ASU's Pastor Center for Politics & Public Service's event on Diversifying Political Engagement: The Black Communities' Perspective A link to a recording of the event is available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rWRTdOTUYyQ>.
- Avery presented to students at Maricopa Community College's Civic Action Hour
- Avery presented to youth at the Ladmo Branch Boys and Girls Club about Civic Leadership.
- Avery set up an information table every Monday for the last 4 weeks at Grand Canyon University to inform students about the PPE.
- Avery had a discussion with May Tiwamangkala from AANHPI for Equity to discuss upcoming events, resources, and potential collaboration civic engagement for 2024.
- Avery met with an Eagle Scout to discuss voter registration drives.
- Avery continues his collaborations with the Arizona African American Legislative Council, the Mesa Community College Civic Action Council and serves on the AZSOS Engagement Advisory Board committees.
- Gina and Avery attended the Arizona Disability Voter Coalition to present and answer questions about upcoming elections.

- Gina hosted a Global Ties AZ delegation and presented on Clean Elections.
- Gina participated in a panel discussion on primary elections at the Strengthening Democracy & Civic Life event hosted by Arizona Town Hall, Flinn Foundation, and Vitalyst Health System.
- Gina and Tom met with the Carter Center to discuss voter education events.
- CCEC staff met with the counties to discuss voter education on the primary election date change.
- Gina and Avery attended the Arizona Civics Coalition Meeting and will offer programming/tabling at the Arizona Civics Night at the Museum event for educators and civics organizations.
- The Clean Elections Comic Book has finished printing and staff is working on a launch plan.

Administration:

- 18 Candidate Workshops have been held, with more to be scheduled through the end of the year. Workshops are held virtually on Tuesdays from 1-2pm. 48 candidates have attended the workshops.
- Filing for the Voter's Right to Know Act is available via the Secretary of State's Beacon system. As of last week, no reports have been filed.
- The Commission received a request for an Advisory Opinion last week. It is attached for your reference and available on the Commission's website azcleelections.gov/rule-making.

Legal:

Commission

- Center for Arizona Policy v. Arizona Secretary of State, CV2022-016564, Superior Court for Maricopa County.
 - An oral argument on Plaintiffs' second Motion for Preliminary Injunction was held January 31. We await a ruling from the court. The same Plaintiffs sought a broader injunction last year that was denied.
- Americans for Prosperity v. Meyer, No. 2:23-cv-00470-ROS (D. Ariz.)
 - Suit challenging Prop. 211 on First Amendment grounds.
 - Commission, the VRKA Committee, and the Attorney General Office's have filed motions to dismiss.
- Toma v. Fontes, CV2023-011834, Superior Court for Maricopa County.
 - The Court turned down both Plaintiffs' Motion for Preliminary Injunction and Defendant's Motions to Dismiss. A notice of appeal and opening brief from the Plaintiffs have been filed. The State Defendant-Intervenors filed a response brief last week.
- The Power of Fives, LLC v. Clean Elections, CV2021-015826, Superior Court for Maricopa County & Clean Elections v. The Power of Fives, LLC et al. CV2022-053917, Superior Court for Arizona. No new developments.

Others

- Richer v. Lake, CV2023-009417, Superior Court for Maricopa. Suit by Stephen Richer for libel over statements by Kari Lake.
- Arizona Free Enterprise Club v. Fontes, SI300CV202300202 (Yavapai County). Lawsuit challenges process Maricopa and many other counties use to verify signatures on vote by mail affidavit envelopes.
- Arizona Free Enterprise Club v. Fontes (Yavapai County). Lawsuit challenging the use of what the Complaint refers to as “unstaffed” drop boxes for the return of mail ballots to the county recorder pursuant to the Elections Procedures manual. Case number unavailable at this time.
- The No Labels Party of Arizona v. Fontes, 2:23-cv-02172 (D. Ariz.) The Court granted Plaintiff’s motion for an injunction seeking to block the Secretary of State from accepting filings to run for office as a No Labels Party candidate for offices other than President and Vice President. The State is appealing.
- Challenges to the recently approved Elections Procedures Manual. There are three challenges filed against aspects of EPM. Some lawsuits challenge particular procedures adopted in the manual, a set of rules for election procedures that, like other administrative rules, carry the force of law. Please let Tom know if you would like further information on these cases.

Appointments:

- Attorney General Kris Mayes issued an opinion about the procedures for appointing Commissioners to the Citizens Clean Elections Commission January 26, 2024. <https://www.azag.gov/sites/default/files/2024-01/124-002.pdf>.

Enforcement:

- MUR 21-01, TPOF, pending.

2024 Regulatory Agenda:

The Commission may conduct a rulemaking even if the rulemaking is not included on the annual regulatory agenda. The following information is provided under A.R.S. § 41-1021.02:

- Notice of Docket Opening: **None.**
- Notice of Proposed Rulemaking: **None.**
- Federal funds for proposed rulemaking: **None**
- Review of existing rules: **None pending**
- Notice of Final Rulemaking: **None.**
- Rulemakings terminated: **None.**
- Privatization option or nontraditional regulatory approach considered: **None Applicable.**

February 23, 2024

Via Email

Arizona Citizens Clean Elections Commission
c/o Thomas Collins, Executive Director
1110 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

RE: Request for Advisory Opinion

Dear Commissioners:

Pursuant to A.A.C. R2-20-808, Opportunity Arizona through undersigned counsel seeks an advisory opinion from the Arizona Citizens Clean Elections Commission regarding its proposed activities. Opportunity Arizona has developed plans to spend money that traditionally constituted non-reportable grassroots lobbying and issue advocacy unrelated to candidate elections. It now seeks clarification as to whether these planned expenditures would qualify as Campaign Media Spending under the Voters' Right to Know Act (the "Act").

I. Background

A. Opportunity Arizona

Opportunity Arizona is an Arizona nonprofit corporation organized under Internal Revenue Code § 501(c)(4), and its mission is "to build issue majorities and political power for policies that improve the lives of hardworking Arizonans." To those ends, Opportunity Arizona engages in some political campaign intervention during elections, but it also engages in significant lobbying and issue advocacy work unrelated to particular candidates.

For example, Opportunity Arizona spends resources asking the public to call legislators about supporting or opposing certain bills when the Legislature is in session. It also places advertisements thanking specific legislators by name for their positions on bills or alerting the public that a legislator opposes an issue. Last, it at times calls for support for "legislative Democrats" or "Democrats in the Legislature" and their agenda.

To be clear, however, Opportunity Arizona’s advertisements credit and target both Democratic and Republican legislators alike. Opportunity Arizona’s advertisements are focused on promoting the organization’s mission of improving the lives of Arizonans, regardless of party affiliation. As such, it has alerted the public to positions Democratic members have taken on bills it opposes, and thanked Republicans for voting for bills it supports. During the current legislative session, Opportunity Arizona’s work will continue to call attention to timely legislative issues, encourage Arizonans to get involved in the process, and call out the work of legislators on both sides of the aisle.

B. Examples of Opportunity Arizona’s Potential Advertisements

To illustrate the activity Opportunity Arizona has engaged in previously and intends to prospectively, some examples of communications are listed below.¹ While these are examples from prior legislative sessions, they are illustrative of the work that Opportunity Arizona hopes to engage in during the coming months.

In light of the following examples, we request that the Commission provide responses to Opportunity Arizona’s Questions #1-3 below, and where appropriate, indicate whether each of the below advertisements would constitute “Campaign Media Spending” under the Act. *See* A.R.S. § 16-971(2).

1) “Thank you” Advertising

Some of Opportunity Arizona’s advertisements include messages thanking legislators for their official positions or votes on bills and, at times, ask voters to contact an official’s office to communicate that support. For example:



¹ For the purposes of this request, Opportunity Arizona assumes that all its proposed ads will be “public communications” per A.R.S. § 16-971(17).

The above ad refers to a legislator only in her capacity as a Senator and does not mention any election, let alone ask viewers to vote for her.

2) Accountability Advertising

The following are examples of Opportunity Arizona's prior "accountability" advertising, which aim to notify voters of a position that a legislator (or group of legislators) has taken that is contrary to Opportunity Arizona's values.



Paid for by Opportunity Arizona

EMAIL

JUSTINE WADSACK
to stop making
barriers to voting
for Arizonans

NEWS & POLITICS CULTURE FOOD **salon** SCIENCE & HEALTH

"Hyper-partisan attack": Arizona GOP advances voting bills inspired by conspiracy theories
GOP is targeting voting "based on the fact that they don't like election results," Democratic official says

By **AREEBA SHAH**
Staff Writer



TAX BREAKS FOR PRIVATE JET OWNERS ¹

GIVEAWAYS FOR BIG BUSINESS ²

RIGGING THE SYSTEM FOR THE ELITE ³

WHAT IS THE REPUBLICAN-LED LEGISLATURE THINKING?

Arizona families are struggling. It's time the Republican-led legislature stopped serving special interests and started serving us.

JOIN US TO LEARN WHAT YOUR REPRESENTATIVES ARE DOING AT THE STATE CAPITOL

SCAN THE QR CODE TO LEARN MORE

GET THE FACTS

¹ House Bill 2646, 2/25/22
² House Bill 2622, 3/23/22
³ AZ Measure 11/10/2021

OPPORTUNITY ARIZONA
PAID FOR BY
ARIZONA
OPPORTUNITY

The first ad, which ran during a prior legislative session, refers to a sitting legislator and prompts her constituents to email her in opposition to several voting bills that she sponsored and/or voted for during the legislative session. While the identified lawmaker was, at the time, running for reelection, the ad does not mention the legislator in the context of an election.²

The second ad refers to the “Republican-led Legislature” without referring to any individual legislator by name. It also does not mention the “Republican-led Legislature” in the context of an election, but instead references three specific legislative actions the group collectively took during that session.

3) Patch Calls

Opportunity Arizona also directly calls individuals with scripts that ask the individual to contact their legislator’s office and give their opinion on a legislative issue. The following is an example script from a prior call campaign, similar to what Opportunity Arizona plans to do this session:

[Q1] **MAGA extremists at the Arizona Capitol** are considering laws that make more barriers to early voting by mail - making it harder for everyone to vote, especially enlisted military and their families. But you can stop it RIGHT NOW. **Can I transfer you to Senator/Representative (NAME)’s office**³ right now so you can demand they pledge to protect early voting by mail?

1= Yes [GO TO PATCH STATEMENT]

2= No [GO TO CLOSING]

3= Unsure [READ] Laws are moving through the process that make more barriers to voting. Now is the time to call your State Senator/Representative to stop them. **I urge you to contact State Senator/Representative (NAME) and ask them to pledge to keep**

² At other times, an ad may identify a lawmaker and a timely issue, but not include a direct method to contact the legislator, instead (like in the second ad in Example 2 above) including a link to Opportunity Arizona’s website and an invitation to “learn what your representatives are doing at the state capitol.” Opportunity Arizona’s website includes resources for Arizonans who want to learn more or get involved in the legislative process. See *Opportunity Arizona*, <https://www.opportunityarizona.org/advocacy> (providing a calendar of legislative committee hearings and an opportunity for Arizonans to sign up to speak during the hearings).

³ The “(Name)” is to be filled in with the name of the legislator(s) in the relevant district. Constituents receive calls only about their own legislators.

voting accessible for the active-duty military and their families.
[GO TO CLOSING]

4= Supports issue but does not want to patch [GO TO CLOSING]

5= Anti issue [GO TO CLOSING]

6= Refused to say [GO TO CLOSING]

7= Does not answer political surveys [GO TO CLOSING]

[PATCH STATEMENT] Great! Here's what will happen next. In just a moment, **I'll transfer you to Senator/Representative (NAME)'s office.** Whether you reach a live person or an answering machine, tell their office your name, where you live, and that they need to protect early voting by mail and drop offs. I'll transfer you now. The next voice you hear will be someone in the office or instructions to leave a voicemail. [TRANSFER CALL]

[END CALL]

(Emphasis added.)

These calls may mention sitting legislators, some of whom will likely run for reelection at the time the call is made. They also mention factions of legislators, in this case "MAGA extremists," but may at other times mention "Legislative Democrats" or "Legislative Republicans." However, the calls refer to these groups only in their capacity as lawmakers, and do not mention any election.

4) Issue Advocacy

Last, Opportunity Arizona engages in other issue advocacy ad campaigns, such as the ad below:



The ad calls for support for specific issues or bills and identifies the recipient constituent's lawmaker so that they may contact her directly. But the ad does not identify legislators in the context of their election or defeat.

II. Questions Presented

- 1) If disseminated within six months "preceding an election involving" a sitting lawmaker who is running for reelection, do public communications like any of the examples above, that mention elected officials by name, but only in relation to their official positions or votes without referring to any election, qualify as Campaign Media Spending by constituting "[a] public

communication that promotes, supports, attacks or opposes” a candidate? *See* A.R.S. § 16-971(2)(ii).

- 2) If disseminated within 90 days “before a primary election” in which a sitting lawmaker is running for office, do public communications like any of the examples above, that mention elected officials by name, but only in relation to their official positions or votes without referring to any election, qualify as Campaign Media Spending by constituting “[a] public communication that refers to a clearly identified candidate?” *See* A.R.S. § 16-971(2)(a)(iii).
- 3) Does a public communication like Examples 2 and 3 above that refer generally to the legislative actions of a political party qualify as Campaign Media Spending by “support[ing] the election or defeat of candidates of an identified political party or the electoral prospects of an identified political party?” *See* A.R.S. § 16-971(2)(a)(vi).

III. Legal Analysis & Proposed Answers

A. None of the Example Public Communications are Campaign Media Spending under the Act.

None of the above examples of public communications qualify as Campaign Media Spending (and thus the answer to questions 1-3 above is “No”) because they only refer to public officials in their official capacity and not in any context related to elections. The Act details seven discrete types of Campaign Media Spending that trigger the Act’s disclosure obligations:

- (i) A public communication that expressly advocates for or against the nomination, or election of **a candidate**.
- (ii) A public communication that promotes, supports, attacks or opposes **a candidate** within six months preceding an election involving that candidate.
- (iii) A public communication that refers to **a clearly identified candidate** within ninety days before a primary election until the time of the general election and that is disseminated in the jurisdiction where the candidate's election is taking place.
- (iv) A public communication that promotes, supports, attacks or opposes the qualification or approval of any state or local initiative or referendum.
- (v) A public communication that promotes, supports, attacks or opposes the recall of **a public officer**.

(vi) An activity or public communication that supports the election or defeat of **candidates of an identified political party or the electoral prospects of an identified political party**, including partisan voter registration, partisan get-out-the-vote activity or other partisan campaign activity.

(vii) Research, design, production, polling, data analytics, mailing or social media list acquisition or any other activity conducted in preparation for or in conjunction with any of the activities described in items (i) through (vi) of this subdivision.

A.R.S. § 16-971(2)(a) (emphasis added).

To be clear, Opportunity Arizona understands that these categories expand disclosure obligations of election-related speech beyond the traditionally regulated “express advocacy.” But the Act should not be interpreted to disrupt the status quo so much as to also regulate issue advocacy—a distinct form of speech that Arizona law has always recognized as separate from candidate advocacy. *See Comm. for Just. & Fairness v. Ariz. Sec’y of State*, 235 Ariz. 347, 353–55 ¶¶ 22–30 (App. 2014) (analyzing the difference between issue advocacy and express advocacy).

At the outset, none of the issue-based advocacy that Opportunity Arizona intends to engage in refers to a specific election or a person in their capacity as a candidate. But unfortunately, given the definition of “candidate” under the Act, most legislators who plan to run for reelection are perpetual “candidates.”⁴ *See* A.R.S. § 16-971(3); § 16-901(7). Thus, an overly broad reading of the categories of Campaign Media Spending could result in organizations being forced to disclose lobbying and issue advocacy communications simply because they name a sitting legislator who will be up for reelection in under two years. This is not in keeping with the intent of the Act, which was presented to Arizona voters as aimed at *electoral* advertisements—in particular, “stop[ping] ‘dark money,’ [and] the practice of laundering political contributions.” Ariz. Sec’y of State, 2022 General Election Publicity Pamphlet, Proposition 211 § 2,

⁴ Given the brevity of a two-year term, most candidates who have successfully won state legislative office leave their candidate committee open to fundraise for their next election, which is always just around the corner. Thus, per the definition in the Act, they are nearly always “candidates” because they may “receive[] contributions or make[] expenditures” from that committee while simultaneously sitting as a legislator. A.R.S. § 16-901(7).

https://apps.azsos.gov/election/BallotMeasures/2022/azsos_2022_publicity_pamphlet_standard_english_web_version.pdf.⁵

The Act should recognize the difference between electoral and issue advocacy, regardless of whether the issue advocacy occurs within one of the designated Campaign Media Spending time periods of six months or 90 days before a primary election. Even if an elected official is running for reelection, merely referring to the individual should not automatically convert the public communication to one that “refers to a clearly identified candidate” for Campaign Media Spending purposes. A.R.S. § 16-971(2)(a)(iii). And it certainly should not mean that issue-based messaging “promotes, supports, attacks or opposes a candidate.” *Id.* § 16-971(2)(a)(ii). To interpret the Act to the contrary would create an untenable proposition for organizations that wish to use donor funds not for electoral advocacy, but to hold current elected officials accountable for their official acts that affect the lives of everyday Arizonans.

Lobbying and legislative accountability efforts are regulated separately from electoral advocacy efforts because a legal difference exists between the two. *See, e.g., FEC v. Wis. Right to Life, Inc.*, 551 U.S. 449, 480 (2007) (“There is a vast difference between lobbying and debating public issues on the one hand, and political campaigns for election to public office on the other.” (quoting *Austin v. Mich. Chamber of Com.*, 494 U.S. 652, 678 (1990) (Stevens, J., concurring))). Namely, “the interests held to justify restricting corporate campaign speech or its functional equivalent do not justify restricting issue advocacy.” 551 U.S. at 457. For this reason, speakers’ First Amendment rights to hold public officials to account and to advocate for better public policy via grassroots lobbying communications and accountability ads should remain unfringed. These communications that invoke the name of an individual in their public-official role touch on different speech interests than those that invoke their name as a candidate. And “discussion of issues cannot be suppressed simply because the issues may also be pertinent in an election.” *Id.* at 474.⁶

⁵ Notably, the Act was also intended to “promote rights guaranteed by the First Amendment . . . to promote self-government and ensure responsive officeholders.” Ariz. Sec’y of State, 2022 General Election Publicity Pamphlet, Proposition 211 § 2, https://apps.azsos.gov/election/BallotMeasures/2022/azsos_2022_publicity_pamphlet_standard_english_web_version.pdf. The best way to exercise traditionally protected First Amendment rights and keep officeholders responsive to voters’ priorities is to engage in lobbying and issue advocacy.

⁶ Opportunity Arizona recognizes that its speech under the Act is not “suppressed” to the point of total censorship, as was the case in *Wisconsin Right to Life*. But the Act’s reporting scheme requires a heavy lift from groups engaging in speech regulated by the Act (*e.g.*, sending opt-out notices and awaiting responses, obtaining transfer

Indeed, the Act’s Campaign Media Spending definition *itself* recognizes a difference between someone’s public-official capacity and their candidate capacity. “[W]hen the legislature uses different language within a statutory scheme, it does so with the intent of ascribing different meanings and consequences to that language.” *Workers for Responsible Dev. v. Tempe*, 254 Ariz. 505, 511 ¶ 21 (2023) (citation omitted). Standard principles of statutory interpretation such as this apply equally to voter-approved initiatives. See *Ariz. Citizens Clean Elections Comm’n v. Brain*, 234 Ariz. 322, 324 ¶ 11 (2014); *Sedona Grand, LLC v. City of Sedona*, 229 Ariz. 37, 40 ¶ 11 (App. 2012) (“We apply the same principles to the interpretation of a voter-approved initiative.”).

The Act purposefully differentiates between public communications referring to people in their candidate capacity (§ 16-971(2)(a)(i–iii, vi)), and ads that refer to people as “public officer[s]” (§ 16-971(2)(a)(v)). The latter is triggered only when a public communication “promotes, supports, attacks or opposes the recall of” someone in their public-officer capacity. Equating a public communication that refers to a legislator only in their legislative capacity with a public communication that refers to that same person in the express context of an election would nullify this textual difference. “A cardinal principle of statutory interpretation is to give meaning, if possible, to every word and provision so that no word or provision is rendered superfluous.” *Ariz. Chapter of the Associated Gen. Contractors of Am. v. City of Phoenix*, 247 Ariz. 45, 47 ¶ 9 (2019) (citation omitted).

This reasoning also extends to A.R.S. § 16-971(2)(a)(vi) including an activity or public communication “that supports the election or defeat of candidates of an identified political party or the electoral prospects of an identified political party.” Public communications supporting or opposing the policy positions of “Democratic” or “Republican” legislators collectively, such as Example 2 above (referring to the “Republican-led Legislature”) and Example 3 (referring to “MAGA extremists”) are not the same as supporting or opposing the Democratic or Republican Party in an election. Merely because a group of legislators of the same party support or oppose an issue that is the focus of Opportunity Arizona’s public communication does not mean the public communication “supports the election or defeat of . . . the electoral prospects of an identified political party.” *Id.* Rather, the communication would—at the very least—need to mention an election involving that party or spend funds on direct electoral activity like that named in § 16-971(2)(a)(vi) (“partisan voter registration, partisan get-out-the-vote activity or other partisan campaign activity”).

record requests, performing detailed accounting, and reporting). These obligations should not be imposed on issue-based advocacy. And without clarity on the status of its potential future public communications, Opportunity Arizona may be forestalled from engaging in this important work during the current legislative session, thus chilling its speech.

Finally, this Commission’s prior Advisory Opinion supports differentiating between electoral-related Campaign Media Spending that falls within the Act’s purview and issue advocacy that does not. Given the speech-interest differences between public communications that focus solely on issue advocacy and official action and those that are election-related, “voters who approved [the Act] would likely not expect such activity, without more, to be included” in its disclosure requirements. *Ariz. Citizens Clean Election Comm’n*, AO 2023-01 at *5. As this Commission observed in the context of signature gathering for initiatives, more express language would be required to make clear that voters intended to regulate a completely separate type of First Amendment protected activity than appears on the face of the Act.

IV. Conclusion

None of the types of public communications described above qualify as Campaign Media Spending because they do not refer to candidates or political parties in an electoral capacity—the ads only refer to public officials, or groups of affiliated public officials, in their *official* capacity. The law generally, and the Act specifically, differentiates between issue advocacy that seeks to influence official action and Campaign Media Spending that seeks to influence elections. The requirements of the Act should be applied accordingly.

Sincerely,



Roy Herrera
Jillian Andrews
Austin Marshall

2024 Legislative Bills

HB2065 - Early ballots; Friday deadline

Sponsor

Rep. Selina Bliss (R)

Summary

Repeals the expectation of having ballots tabulated at a designated polling place as criteria affecting the decision to consolidate polling places and precinct boards for the election. Repeals considering the number of early voting ballots that were tabulated at a prior election when considering ways to reduce voter wait time at the polls in primary and general elections. Defines the verbiage to be included in early voting instructions to include exceptions and a instructions on who to deliver early ballots to and the deadline for filing them. Requires early ballots sent by mail to be received by 7 p.m. on election day at the County Recorder's office or other officer in charge of elections in the political subdivision the elector is registered. Repeals the 7 p.m. the Friday before election day deadline for ballots received on site or at an early voting location. Establishes the new deadline for ballots received on site or at an early voting location to be 5 p.m. the Friday before election day. Establishes the signature comparison criteria for early ballots. Mandates that the County Recorder or other officer in charge of elections be present and open to receive mailed early ballots on election day until 7 p.m. and prohibits said officials from accepting hand delivered ballots. Mandates that ballots received in the mail be entered into the County's ballot tracking system, starting the day after the election. Repeals any notices necessary for compliance with early ballot on-site tabulation procedures and Sections 16-579.01 and .02 ARS.

HB2080 - Elections; municipal vacancies; primary

Sponsor

Rep. Laurin Hendrix (R)

Summary

Provides that if the person holding an office is appointed at the time of the primary, their term of office ends when an elected candidate takes the oath of office and that the candidate that receives a majority of votes at the primary election shall be declared elected to that office upon canvass and certification of results and on taking the oath of office.

Action Taken

Passed House Municipal Oversight & Elections 8-1

HB2145 - Candidate challenges; primary residence

Sponsor

Rep. David L. Cook (R)

Summary

Requires the assumption that the county and location of a candidate's listed residence and record of taxation is the candidate's primary residence if their nomination petition is challenged on the basis of residency.

HB2153 - Mail ballot elections; technical correction

Sponsor

Rep. Alexander Kolodin (R)

Summary

Minor change in Title 16 (Elections and Electors) related to streamlining and standardizing the bill's language. Apparent striker bus.

HB2154 - Certificate of election; technical correction

Sponsor

Rep. Alexander Kolodin (R)

Summary

Minor change in Title 16 (Elections and Electors) related to streamlining the bill's language. Apparent striker bus.

HB2336 - Early ballot collection; limitations; repeal

Sponsor

Rep. Stephanie Stahl Hamilton (D)

Summary

Removes the requirement that notification of ballot handling requirements be included in Board of Supervisors' voter and election guidance materials, specifically, verbiage that states that a person may only handle their own ballot or the ballot of "family member" (defined) or "household member" (defined) or persons they are a "caregiver" (defined.) Removes the designation of a Class 6 felony for and individual that collects voted or unvoted early ballots and the exclusion covering an election official or US mail carrier and the exclusion of elections held by special taxing districts, family or household members or caregivers.

HB2338 - Early voting; weekend hours

Sponsor

Rep. Stephanie Stahl Hamilton (D)

Summary

Requires early voting locations, including Recorder Office locations, to be open until 7:00 PM on the Saturday, Sunday, and Monday immediately preceding Election Day.

HB2339 - Campaign finance; corporate recipients; registration

Sponsor

Rep. Stephanie Stahl Hamilton (D)

Summary

Requires a corporation, limited liability company or labor union that contributes an aggregate of in excess of \$5,000 in one or more statewide races, or \$2,500 in legislative races, or \$1,000 in a “local election” (defined) in any county, city, town or other local jurisdiction, to register with the Secretary of State (SoS) and notify the appropriate filing officer within one day of making the contribution, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. Designates the SoS as the filing officer for registration and notifications for all registration and notification pertaining to the above campaign contribution thresholds. Stipulates that once registered for exceeding the limits set forth, the entity that registered does not have to do it again in a campaign cycle. Requires the SoS to develop the mechanisms for compliant filing and notifications and make that information available on its public website. Requires registrations to include the name and address of the entity filing, and the name, title, email address and telephone number of the person authorizing the contribution, and that each notification include the name and address of the entity, the amount of the contribution, the name of the candidate and race that will receive the contribution and the date of the contribution. Requires a covered contributor to file with the SoS or appropriate filing officer within five days after an initial threshold contribution a notarized, sworn statement that the person, agent of officer filing the registration and notice is authorized to make the contribution in question and until that is done, the notification is considered unverified and if it is not done in the prescribed timeframe, the notification will be deemed unverified and delinquent and the filing entity will be liable in a civil action brought by the Attorney General, county attorney or city or town attorney for up to three times the amount of the contribution. Designates that a person that makes knowingly false filings pursuant to the contributions covered in this bill is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. Stipulates that no civil or criminal enforcement action may be filed until after the filing officer issues a reasonable cause determination.

HB2340 - Campaign finance; caregiving expenditures

Sponsor

Rep. Stephanie Stahl Hamilton (D)

Summary

Permits a candidate’s committee to pay for direct care, protection and supervision of a child or another individual the candidate has direct caregiving responsibilities for, and for the cost of that care to be counted as a lawful expenditure of candidate committee monies.

HB2341 - Independent expenditures; corporations; funding disclosure

Sponsor

Rep. Stephanie Stahl Hamilton (D)

Summary

Requires an individual, corporation, limited liability company, or labor organization not required to register per state law that makes an expenditure for advertising or a fundraising solicitation to use the words “paid for by” followed by the name of the person making expenditures for the advertisement for solicitation and to state whether the expenditure was authorized by any candidate, followed by the

identity of the authorizing candidate, if any. Requires a person making an expenditure for an advertisement to include the names of the top four funding sources making the largest aggregate contribution to the person making the expenditure. Designates an out-of-state contributor or group of out-of-state contributors that are a “major funding source” (defined) and a corporation, limited liability company, or labor organization as an out of state contributor. Requires a corporation, limited liability company, or labor organization making an independent expenditure, that also accepts donations or contributions to file a campaign Finance Report pursuant the state law.

HB2350 - Voting centers; board of supervisors

Sponsor

Rep. Stephanie Stahl Hamilton (D)

Summary

Permits a County Recorder or other officer in charge of elections to use additional types of voting and determine alternative voting locations under a specific resolution of the Board of Supervisors (BOS,) including “voting centers” (defined) constituting, on election day, polling places, early voting locations, and ballot replacement locations, and early voting drop-off locations provided each is managed per state law. Requires the BOS to appoint a Voting Center Election Board for each voting center and outlines the criteria to be a member of those Boards, to serve as a reappointment to the board, and for removal from the board. Permits the BOS to appoint a person ineligible to vote to a Voting Center Election Board and provides the criteria for that person to serve. Prohibits requiring a school district or charter school to reduce its average daily membership for an absent pupil who is serving on a Voting Center Election Board, or the school district or charter school to count that pupil’s absence against any mandatory attendance policies. Allows the County Recorder or other officer in charge of elections to operate an on-site early voting location during the three-day period immediately preceding an election day provided either is able to update precinct registers and other election materials for use during that period.

HB2351 - Election procedures; registrations; campaign finance

Sponsor

Rep. Stephanie Stahl Hamilton (D)

Summary

Numerous changes to statutes relating to elections. For every person who provides proof of U.S. citizenship when applying for, renewing or replacing a driver license or nonoperating identification license, or updating the person's existing residence address or name on file with the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), ADOT is required to electronically collect and transmit voter registration information to the Secretary of State for the purpose of registering the person to vote or updating an existing voter registration record. The Secretary of State and ADOT Director, after consulting with all county recorders, are required to adopt rules to implement a secure automatic electronic voter registration system that collects and transmits voter registration information. The Secretary of State is required to evaluate implementation of a secure automatic electronic voter registration system at other agencies, including the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS). By December 31, 2022, any agency that allows a person to affirmatively register to vote or to update the person's registration through the internet must allow the person to complete the registration without a driver license or nonoperating identification license and with any proof of citizenship that is valid under Arizona law. Eliminates the requirement for a voter to live in the boundaries of an election district for 29 days prior to an election to be eligible to vote in that election. By the 2024 primary election and for each election thereafter, each county recorder is required to

designate at least one election official at each polling place, voting center or early voting location in the county to serve as a registration clerk to facilitate and enable eligible persons to register to vote on-site on election day or during early voting. A registration clerk must be present for all hours during which a polling place, voting center or early voting location is open. Every qualified voter in Arizona has the right, after registering to vote, to vote a secret ballot in all elections for which that voter is eligible to vote. By December 31, 2026, the Secretary of State, county recorders and other officers in charge of elections are required to evaluate incorporating "risk-limiting audit" (defined) protocols into ballot hand count procedures. Reduces individual and political action committee contributions limits to \$1,000 to candidates for legislative, county, municipal or district office, from \$6,250, and to \$2,500 for candidates for statewide office, from \$6,250. Much more. Due to voter protection, several sections of this legislation require the affirmative vote of at least 3/4 of the members of each house of the Legislature for passage.

HB2352 - Ballot measure amendments

Sponsor

Rep. Stephanie Stahl Hamilton (D)

Summary

Allows a political committee that intends to file an application for initiative petition or referendum petition to request the Attorney General determine whether the description is lawful and sufficient. Requires the Attorney General to approve or reject the description within 10 days after submittal, and, if rejected define the reasons for the rejection. If approved, requires that any challenge to the description be filed in the Superior Court within 10 days after the Attorney General's approval. Allows a court to enforce a subpoena against a registered circulator as provided by law and if evidence is provided that shows that circulator is ineligible to circulate petitions or engaged in fraud with respect to some or all signatures obtained, and if so, the court may order those signatures collected by that circulator as invalid. Requires the Secretary of State and the Attorney General to prominently post the approved the impartial summary of any ballot measure on their respective websites, at least thirty days before the earliest date that the official ballots and publicity pamphlet are sent to be printed, and the Secretary of State shall provide a copy of the impartial summary to the committee that filed the ballot measure.

HB2353 - Ballot measures; descriptive title; summary

Sponsor

Rep. Stephanie Stahl Hamilton (D)

Summary

Requires the Secretary of State and the Attorney General to prominently post the approved impartial summary of the official ballot on their respective websites at least 30 days before the earliest date that the official ballots and publicity pamphlet are sent to be printed. Requires the Secretary of State to provide an impartial summary of the ballot measure to the committee that filed the ballot measure.

HB2354 - Election laws; revisions; appropriation

Sponsor

Rep. Stephanie Stahl Hamilton (D)

Summary

Numerous changes to statutes relating to election law. A conviction for a felony no longer suspends the person's right to vote. The hours for on-site early voting are extended through 5:00PM on the Monday preceding the election, instead of 5:00PM on the Friday preceding the election, and emergency voting during that time period is eliminated. If a county recorder determines that a provisional ballot voter is not properly registered to vote, the county recorder is required to use the information from the provisional ballot to register the person to vote for subsequent elections. An electronic pollbook used in Arizona is required to comply with the requirements in the election instructions and procedures manual adopted by the Secretary of State. Appropriates \$100,000 from the general fund in FY2024-25 and 2025-26 to the Secretary of State to provide risk-limiting audit grants to officers in charge of elections to conduct risk-limiting audits for the 2024 general election instead of a hand count audit. The Secretary of State is required to report any findings and recommendations related to the use of risk-limiting audits to the Legislature by March 31, 2026.

HB2394 - Candidates; digital impersonation; injunctive relief

Sponsor

Rep. Alexander Kolodin (R)

Summary

A candidate or citizen of Arizona is entitled to bring an action for digital impersonation within two years after the date the person knows, or should know, that a digital impersonation of that person was published. The plaintiff must prove that a digital impersonation was published without the person's consent, and that on publication, the publisher did not take reasonable steps to inform the person whom the publication was made that the recording or image was a digital impersonation, or that reality was not obvious to anyone viewing the recording or image. The person bringing the action is entitled to obtain a preliminary judicial declaration that a recording or image is a digital impersonation within two judicial days after seeking relief, provided that person can prove by a preponderance of evidence that the person is a candidate for public office and an election is scheduled to be held for that office within 180 days of the date relief was requested, the impersonation depicts the person engaging in a sexual act or depicts unclothed breasts, buttocks or genitals of the person, or a criminal act and the person can be reasonably expected to suffer significant personal, financial or employment hardship, and their reputation be irreparably harmed, in the absence of expedited relief.

Action Taken

Passed House Municipal Oversight & Elections 9-0

Passed the House 55-4 and was sent to the Senate

HB2404 - Voter registration cards; mailing limitation

Sponsor

Rep. John Gillette (R)

Summary

Prohibits the county recorders from providing an initial or updated voter registration card to a person whose mailing address is outside the state, except for persons on active duty military services outside the state and their family members, and persons who are residents of this state and who are not served by a United States Post Office in this state.

Action Taken

Passed House Municipal Oversight & Elections 5-3

Passed the House 31-28 and was sent to the Senate

HB2405 - Voter registrations; recorder; inactive status

Sponsor

Rep. John Gillette (R)

Summary

Permits the county recorders to place a person's voter registration information in inactive status and provide the person with notice of the action, if the County Recorder believes the person provided fraudulent or incorrect voter registration information.

Action Taken

Passed House Municipal Oversight & Elections 5-4

Passed the House 31-28 and was sent to the Senate

HB2421 - Election worker communications platform; pilot

Sponsor

Rep. Laura Terech (D)

Summary

Appropriates the sum of \$200,000 from the state general fund in FY 2024 - 2025 to the secretary of state to establish a communications platform for election officials and workers. Requires the Secretary of State to collaborate with County Recorders and election officers to develop an election worker communications platform suitable for mobile application and use by election administrators and workers, including poll workers, drivers, warehouse and supply workers, voter registration workers and central count center workers. Mandates that the communications system be deployed in a pilot program involving one or more counties, jurisdictions or portions of both. Permits the Secretary of State to offer the communications platform to counties at reduced or no cost. Self repeals on Jan 1, 2026.

HB2422 - Voter registration; same day

Sponsor

Rep. Laura Terech (D)

Summary

A person who is otherwise qualified to register to vote may register during the 28 days immediately preceding an election and is eligible to vote in that election if the person has been a resident of the county and the precinct in which the person resides for at least 29 days immediately preceding the election. A person who is otherwise qualified to register to vote may register on election day by appearing at the polling place, completing a registration form, and providing proof of residence. A person registering in this manner may vote using a provisional ballot per state law. Registration under these circumstances does not qualify a person to vote in a partisan primary election.

HB2423 - Automatic voter registration.

Sponsor

Rep. Laura Terech (D)

Summary

Every person who is applying for a driver license or renewal, including a nonoperating identification license or renewal, or who is making changes to drive license information and who is otherwise qualified to register to vote must be registered to vote automatically on completion of the license application unless the applicant declines to register. A person who is not qualified to register to vote and who unknowingly registers under this provision is not guilty of false registration or false swearing. Effective January 1, 2025.

HB2441 - Electoral college; support

Sponsor

Rep. Steve Montenegro (R)

Summary

Affirms that the legislature recognizes the importance of the electoral college and provides the reasoning behind that support.

HB2464 - Presidential preference election; independent voters

Sponsor

Rep. Jennifer Pawlik (D)

Summary

Voters registered without a political party designation may vote in the presidential preference election and may select the ballot of any political party at that election.

HB2469 - Elections; signatures; public record

Sponsor

Rep. Cory McGarr (R)

Summary

Requires voting officials to compare the signature on the envelope of an early voting ballot with the signature on record and to classify both as a public record, subject to requests for disclosure. Requires that the County Recorder or Officer in Charge of elections provide access to or copies of signatures of voter registrants and early envelope ballots within 48 hours after a request and if the request is for a noncommercial purpose.

HB2472 - Election contests; procedures

Sponsor

Rep. Cory McGarr (R)

Summary

Permits challenging an election based on counting votes where the chain of custody is broken and early votes present inconsistent signatures or personal information. Requires an appeal of a final judgment from a court to be filed and heard by the Arizona Supreme Court within 10 days of the issuance of the final judgment, a response filed within 5 days of the appeal filing and a reply filed within 3 days after the date on which the response is filed. Requires the state supreme court to schedule a hearing to be held within five days after the filing date of the reply and to render a decision within five days after the hearing. Considers an organization a person for the purposes of inspecting a ballot and may rotate staff to inspect ballots on behalf of the organization or entity. Permits involved parties to inspect physical ballots, ballot images, early ballot envelopes and registration records. Permits discovery on any matter that could pertain to an election and directs the court to liberally consider discovery requests and not limit discovery where possible. Permits each participating party to depose up to 10 persons.

Action Taken

Passed House Municipal Oversight & Elections 5-4

Passed the House 31-28 and was sent to the Senate

HB2474 - New party recognition; signatures; circulators

Sponsor

Rep. Alexander Kolodin (R)

Summary

Disqualifies new party petitions collected more than 24 months before the primary election the party is seeking to be involved in and prohibits the filing officer from accepting the petition. Requires persons circulating a petition to be registered as circulators with the Secretary of State (SOS) before circulating petitions. Requires the SOS to develop a process for receiving service of process for

petition circulators and procedures for registering circulators and receiving service of process and include those procedures in the general instructions and procedures manual issued by that office. Requires petitions to be strictly construed and those petitioning for a new party inclusion to completely apply to all pertinent statutes.

Action Taken

Passed House Municipal Oversight & Elections 8-0

HB2482 - Voter registration changes; text notice

Sponsor

Rep. Barbara Parker (R)

Summary

Requires the County Recorder to notify an elector of any changes made to their registration record via a text message or email alert within 24 hours of making the change and if the elector has not subscribed to the Voter Registration Alert System, the Recorder shall notify the elector in writing within 10 days of the record change. Requires the notice to include how an elector may check their registration status, revise their registration information and notify the Recorder if no change was requested by the elector.

Action Taken

Passed House Municipality Oversight & Elections 9-0

Passed the House 57-0 and was sent to the Senate

HB2544 - Legislative intent; secrecy; mail voting

Sponsor

Rep. Rachel Jones (R)

Summary

Bans voting by mail in Arizona. Persons who are unable to go to the polls will be provided alternate means of voting that ensure secrecy in voting to the greatest extent possible. Does not apply to persons covered by the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act and Arizona citizens who are temporarily residing out of state. The Legislature is required to put in place additional measures to ensure as much secrecy as possible for these voters, including confirming that the person is an Arizona resident and registered voter, ensuring that the mailed ballot is sent to the correct address, and having a certified witness attest that the voter voted in the absence of others and that the voter did not show any other person the voted ballot before placing it in the envelope. Contains a legislative intent section.

HB2547 - Voting centers ban; precinct size

Sponsor

Rep. Rachel Jones (R)

Summary

Requires election precincts not contain more than 1,000 registered voters at the time precincts are designated. Prohibits the Board of Supervisors from using voting centers in place of designated polling places. Removes the requirement that early voting sites allow electioneering and other political activity. Prohibits the County Recorder from establishing on-site early voting locations at the recorder's office. Removes designating interfering with a voter within 72 feet of a main entrance to an on-site, early voting location a misdemeanor.

Action Taken

Passed House Municipal Oversight & Elections 5-4

Passed the House 31-24 and was sent to the Senate

HB2580 - Election officer certification training; yearly

Sponsor

Rep. Alexander Kolodin (R)

Summary

Requires that an election officer's certificate expires on December 31 in the year after the general election.

Action Taken

Passed House Municipal Oversight & Elections 5-4

Passed the House 31-28 and was sent to the Senate

HB2581 - Physical presence; resident

Sponsor

Rep. John Gillette (R)

Summary

Determines a resident to be an individual with a physical presence in the state for at least 181 days with the intent to remain in the state for tax purposes, vehicle registration and voter registration. Permits the County Assessor, Director of the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADT) to determine a person is a resident if they demonstrate an intent to remain in the state and provide evidence of in-state employment, purchase of real property, rental of residential property, purchase of real property for residential purposes, the enrollment of the individual or their children in a school district or charter school, or upon showing an active duty military service member identification for the service member or their dependents. Requires the Legislative Council to prepare proposed legislation to conform the ARS with the provisions established by this bill to be considered in the fifty-seventh legislature, first regular session.

Action Taken

Passed House Government 7-0

HB2585 - Military poll workers; party representatives**Sponsor**

Rep. John Gillette (R)

Summary

Permits a county board of supervisors to appoint an active duty military member with assignment orders to a post of duty in this state and a family member of an active duty military member with assignment orders to a post of duty in this state and who has identification as a military dependent to an election board, or as ballot challengers or a party representative, regardless of their residency or voter status.

HB2590 - Voter registration database; updates; counties**Sponsor**

Rep. Timothy M. Dunn (R)

Summary

Minor changes in Title 16 (Elections and Electors) related to the qualification and registration of electors. Apparent striker bus.

Action Taken

Passed House Municipality Oversight & Elections 6-2

Passed the House 39-18 and was sent to the Senate

HB2620 - Voting equipment; requirements; origin**Sponsor**

Rep. Steve Montenegro (R)

Summary

Beginning January 1, 2028, the Secretary of State is prohibited from certifying a vote recording and vote tabulating machine or device used for elections for federal, state or county offices unless 100% of all the machine's or device's parts and components were sourced from the United States, and 100% of all the machine's or device's manufacturing and assembly was performed in the United States. Vote recording and vote tabulating machines and devices that were acquired before January 1, 2028 would have been exempt.

HCR2001 - Voting; qualifications; methods

Sponsor

Rep. Alexander Kolodin (R)

Summary

The 2024 general election ballot is to carry the question of whether to amend the state constitution to require that anyone voting in an Arizona election be a citizen of the United States, 18 years or older and a qualified, registered voter, prohibit a person from voting for more candidates for an office than number of offices to be filled, and requires that a person's vote be the sole means of determining the outcome of an election for public office that is required by federal or state law.

HCR2027 - House of representatives; designated seats

Sponsor

Rep. Cory McGarr (R)

Summary

The 2024 general election ballot is to carry the question of whether to amend the Arizona Constitution to require the seats for the House of Representatives be designated "A" and "B" in the alphabetic order of the surnames, then first names of elected members of each district and thereafter candidates shall run for and be elected from either seat "A" or "B" in a legislative district, beginning with the Inauguration of the Members of the fifty-seventh legislature in 2025.

Action Taken

Passed House Municipal Oversight & Elections 5-3

HCR2028 - Elections; signature verification process

Sponsor

Rep. Alexander Kolodin (R)

Summary

The 2024 general election ballot is to carry the question of whether to amend ARS Title 16, Chapter 4, Article 8 pertaining to voter "signature verification" (defined). Defines the physical and electronic signature verification process an election official must follow when processing early ballots, procedures if the election official discovers inconsistencies with the signatures. Exempts certain ballot affidavits from signature verification provided certain features are present and requires that election officials use the 2020 Secretary of State Signature Verification Guide for reference when performing signature verification.

HCR2032 - Voting centers; precinct voting

Sponsor

Rep. Rachel Jones (R)

Summary

The 2024 general election ballot is to carry the question of whether to amend ARS 16 to specify that at the time election precincts are designated, an election precinct may not contain more than 1,000 registered voters, the Board of Supervisors may not authorize the use of voting centers in place of or in addition to specifically designated polling places, the County Recorder may not establish early voting locations at the Recorder's office, and an elector that appears no later than 9 p.m. on the Friday prior to an election at an early voting location established by the County Recorder may not receive a ballot or update their registration information.

Action Taken

Passed House Municipal Oversight & Elections 5-4

SB1003 - Prohibition; photo radar

Sponsor

Sen. Wendy Rogers (R)

Summary

Prohibits the use of "photo enforcement systems" (defined) by law enforcement and local authorities to enforce traffic laws. Contains a legislative intent clause.

Action Taken

Passed Senate Transportation, Technology, and Missing Children 4-3

Passed Senate 16-13 and was sent to the House

SB1008 - Voter registration events; posting

Sponsor

Sen. Jake Hoffman (R)

Summary

The Secretary of State and each County Recorder are required to post on their public websites a list of events that either office attends and provides voter registration services within 24 hours of attendance, including listing the location, event title and associated organizations in attendance

Action Taken

Passed Senate Elections 5-3

SB1060 - Federal candidates; observers; elections

Sponsor

Sen. J.D. Mesnard (R)

Summary

Limits ballot challenges to one per party if an agreed upon number cannot be reached between the Chairs of each political party represented on the ballot. Requires that representatives for each party represented may not approach an election official's table or equipment any closer than is necessary to perform their stated function. Allows each representative to observe election officials and requires each representative to provide their own materials and necessities. Prohibits any representatives from obstructing the administration of an election, election board procedures, or ballot processing. Requires representatives to present any questions regarding procedures to the Supervisor of the Early Election Board of Resolution. Requires that representatives for each party be registered voters in Arizona. Prohibits anyone on the ballot from serving in the role of ballot challenger.

Action Taken

Passed Senate Elections 5-2

Passed the Senate 16-14 and was sent to the House

SB1063 - Political signs; removal; elections

Sponsor

Sen. John Kavanagh (R)

Summary

Removes reference to a specific primary election and adds a reference to a first election and extends the period it is a misdemeanor to remove, alter, deface or cover a political sign of a winner of a primary or first election until 15 days after the general or runoff election. Adds signs that support or oppose a "question or issue" to the prohibition of cities, towns and counties removing, altering, defacing or covering a political sign and stipulates that the prohibition only applies to 45 days before any election and 15 days after an election, except for candidates that advance to a general or runoff election, provided there are no more than 45 days between those elections and a general election. Adds that the prohibition of removing, altering, defacing or covering a political sign applies to any election held by a city, state, county, school district, special taxing district or other governing entity including the state of Arizona.

Action Taken

Passed Senate Elections 8-0

Passed the Senate 23-5 and was sent to the House

SB1094 - Automatic voter registration

Sponsor

Sen. Christine Marsh (D)

Summary

Every person who is applying for a driver license or renewal, including a nonoperating identification license or renewal, or who is making changes to drive license information and who is otherwise qualified to register to vote must be registered to vote automatically on completion of the license application unless the applicant declines to register. A person who is not qualified to register to vote and who unknowingly registers under this provision is not guilty of false registration or false swearing. Effective January 1, 2025.

SB1097 - School districts; partisan elections

Sponsor

Sen. Justine Wadsack (R)

Summary

Requires all elections for a School District Governing Board member to use a partisan primary election followed by a general election and in a form that is like a countywide or statewide election. Defines how ballots should be presented by the County School Superintendent. Effective date is January 1, 2025.

Action Taken

Passed Senate Education 4-3

Passed the Senate 16-10 and was sent to the House

SB1114 - Write-in candidates; deadlines; ballots

Sponsor

Sen. Ken Bennett (R)

Summary

Changes the deadline for a write-in candidate to file nomination paperwork to the seventeenth day before an election. Modifies the ballot format to accommodate as many blank lines as there are qualified write-in candidates, plus one additional blank line for each office, up to the total number of offices to be filled. Requires that there be one blank line for write-in candidates if no write-in candidates have qualified for an office and that each blank line will have a space for an elector to put a mark.

SB1115 - Election mailings; third-party disclosures

Sponsor

Sen. Ken Bennett (R)

Summary

Requires a nongovernmental person or entity that mails or delivers by hand an official election-related document or a document that resembles an official election-related document from the county recorder, county officer in charge of elections, or the Secretary of State, including a voter registration application or an early ballot request to include the words "not from a government agency" in boldfaced, clearly legible print on the outside of the envelope.

SB1116 - Voter registrations; payment prohibited

Sponsor

Sen. Ken Bennett (R)

Summary

Prohibits a person from paying or receiving money or any other thing of value based on the number of voter registrations or voter registration forms collected, completed or submitted.

Action Taken

Passed Senate Elections 4-3

SB1126 - Election; contest; technical correction

Sponsor

Sen. Wendy Rogers (R)

Summary

Minor changes to Title 16 (Elections and Electors) related to the conduct of elections. Apparent striker bus.

SB1128 - State agencies; payments; cryptocurrency

Sponsor

Sen. Wendy Rogers (R)

Summary

State agencies are authorized to accept "cryptocurrency" (defined) as a payment method for taxes, fees, fines, civil penalties, financial obligations, and special assessments by entering into an agreement with a "cryptocurrency service provider" (defined) to provide a method to accept cryptocurrency as a payment for any amount due to that agency or the state. Requirements for the agreement are listed. Effective January 1, 2025

Action Taken

Passed Senate Finance and Commerce 4-2

Passed the Senate 16-10 and was sent to the House

SB1131 - Low voter turnout elections; repeat

Sponsor

Sen. John Kavanaugh (R)

Summary

Requires that for any non-statewide or federal election, any election that receives less than 25% of the eligible registered voters casting a ballot, the results are declared void and the election is required to be repeated on an election date with a statewide or federal office on the ballot.

Action Taken

Passed Senate Elections 5-3

SB1158 - Presidential candidates; qualification; no exclusion

Sponsor

Sen. Janae Shamp (R)

Summary

Prohibits a candidate for President from being excluded or removed from the general election ballot on the basis of a claimed violation of the 14th Amendment of the United States Constitution if the candidate is the official nominee of the National Convention of delegates of a political party that is entitled to continued representation on the ballot, a qualified independent candidate for president, or a qualified writing candidate for president.

Action Taken

Passed Senate Elections 5-2

SCR1001 - Photo radar prohibition

Sponsor

Sen. Wendy Rogers (R)

Summary

Bans local authorities and state agencies from using automated photo enforcement systems to identify excessive speed violations or failures to obey traffic control devices. More.

Action Taken

Failed in Senate Transportation, Technology, and Missing Children 3-3

SCR1011 - Voting; qualifications; methods.

Sponsor

Sen. Wendy Rogers (R)

Summary

The 2024 general election ballot is to carry the question of whether to amend the state constitution to require that anyone voting in an Arizona election be a citizen of the United States, 18 years or older and a qualified, registered voter, prohibit a person from voting for more candidates for an office than number of offices to be filled, and requires that a person's vote be the sole means of determining the outcome of an election for public office that is required by federal or state law.

Action Taken

Passed Senate Elections 5-3

SB1153 - Regulatory costs; rulemaking; legislative ratification

Sponsor

Sen. Anthony Kern (R)

Summary

Requires any proposed rule that will increase regulatory costs by more than \$500,000 within five years of implementation to be ratified through legislation. Requires the proposed rule be submitted to the Administrative Rules Oversight Committee no later than 30 days before the next regular legislative session and the Committee to submit the proposed rule to the legislature as soon as is practicable. Permits any member of the legislature to introduce the rule and exempts the rule from provisions covered under time and manner of rulemaking laws. Prohibits an agency from filing a final rule with the Secretary of State before obtaining legislative approval and if the legislature does not ratify the proposed rule in that legislative session, the agency is required to terminate the proposed rule by publishing a Notice of Termination in the register. Exempts emergency rules and the Corporation Commission. All rules that fall into this classification of rules are determined upon the effective date of this bill to be void and unenforceable without legislative ratification.

Action Taken

Passed Senate Government 5-2

Passed the Senate 16-10 and was sent to the House

HB2166 - Statewide voter registration database; costs

Sponsor

Rep. Timothy M. Dunn (R)

Summary

Replaces "county contribution" with "state contribution" to voter registration system fund and specifies that the Arizona Secretary of State manages the allocations, rather than the counties. Eliminates the requirement for an agreement between the county and Secretary for developing and administering a statewide voter database.

Action Taken

Passed House Municipality Oversight & Elections 8-0

Passed the House 58-0 and was sent to the Senate

SCR1023 - General election day; all offices

Sponsor

Sen. J.D. Mesnard (R)

Summary

The 2024 general election ballot is to carry the question of whether to amend the Arizona Constitution Article VII, Section 11, to include city, town and school district elections in general elections.

Action Taken

Passed Senate Elections 4-3

SB1375 - Ballots; categories; count; identification number

Sponsor

Sen. Shawna Bolick (R)

Summary

Requires each ballot to bear a unique identification number that allows ballots to be linked to specific voting locations. Specifies methods for numbering. Requires the officer in charge of the election to choose the method to use. Requires that a count of the physical ballots that are printed as early ballots, regular ballots, provisional ballots, federal-only ballots, and electronic ballots, including any overlap, be posted on the county's website in real time.

Action Taken

Passed Senate Elections 4-3

SCR1014 - Presidential electors; constitutional appointments

Sponsor

Sen. Anthony Kern (R)

Summary

The Legislature resolves that no voting system or component of a voting system may be used or purchased as the primary method for casting, recording, and tabulating ballots used in any election held in Arizona for federal office unless all components have been designed, manufactured, integrated, and assembled in the U.S. from trusted suppliers, the source code is made available to the public, and the ballot images and system log files from each tabulator are recorded on a secure write-once, read-many media with clear chain of custody and posted on the Secretary of State's website free of charge to the public within 24 hours after the close of the polls.

SB1429 - Candidates; electronic signatures; limit

Sponsor

Sen. Ken Bennett (R)

Summary

Permits a statewide and legislative candidate to choose up to 25% more than the full number of required nomination petition signatures or up to an amount equal to 25% more than the full number of required contribution qualification forms, or both, by use of the online signature collection system prescribed by this legislation. Permits a town or city candidate to choose to collect up to 25% more than the minimum number of required nomination petition signatures by use of the online signature collection system. Permits a candidate for United States Senator or Representative to collect up to 25% more than the full number of required nomination petition signatures by use of the online signature system. This legislation is effective upon an affirmative vote of at least three-fourths of the legislature.

Action Taken

Passed Senate Elections 6-0

SB1009 - Voting registrations; ballot requests; source

Sponsor

Sen. Jake Hoffman (R)

Summary

Prohibits the use of a signature a voter submitted on a non-official form being used as the sole evidence for signature comparisons by the County Recorder when processing a request for an early ballot or to amend a voter's registration information. Mandates that only a political party, county recorder or election official can distribute early ballot request forms to voters, removing candidates from the list of allowable distributors. Exempts elections for special taxing districts formed for the purpose of protecting or providing services to agricultural lands and crops from these changes.

SB1288 - Electronic ballot adjudication; prohibition

Sponsor

Sen. Jake Hoffman (R)

Summary

The county board of supervisors and officer in charge of elections are prohibited from using an electronic vote adjudication. A duplicate copy of a damaged or defective ballot must be made by hand in the presence of witnesses and substituted for the damaged or defective ballot.

Action Taken

Passed Senate Elections 4-3

HB2481 - Open meetings; public body; legislature

Sponsor

Rep. Barbara Parker (R)

Summary

Requires all “public bodies” (defined as no longer including the legislature) provide an opportunity for public comment in person before any final decision is made, subject to reasonable time, place and manner restrictions. Requires at least 48 hours’ notice and the official agenda to be available to the public (with a hyperlink to all relevant documents, contracts, agreements or proposals under consideration in the meeting) for any public meetings and allows a meeting to be recessed with less than 48 hours’ notice if the initial session of the meeting adheres to all state laws. Stipulates that any 48-hour requirements includes Saturdays if the public has access to the physically posted notice. Removes the ability of the legislature to provide exemptions from requirements or to be met by technological means.

Action Taken

Passed House Government 6-3

HB2787 - Voting equipment; inspection; elected officials

Sponsor

Rep. Rachel Jones (R)

Summary

Allows any elected official to inspect voting equipment while accompanied by an expert of the elected official's choice. Requires the inspection to include access to all source code and other proprietary material related to the voting equipment if requested. Allows the elected official to conduct the inspection at any time but prohibits disruption of the voting process on election day. Requires the elected official and accompanying expert to keep all information received confidential unless the elected official or the accompanying expert has a good faith belief that the voting equipment is malfunctioning or being exploited in any manner that violates any election law. [SEP]

Action Taken

Passed House Municipal Oversight & Elections 5-4

HB2876 - Elections; mailing; curing; canvassing; precincts

Sponsor

Rep. Michael Carbone (R)

Summary

Eliminates the use of voting centers, early voting locations or similar methods of voting. Requires that all voting occur through individual precinct voting locations with preprinted ballots. Limits those who may vote an early ballot to qualified electors who are students temporarily absent from the state for the purpose of attending school; required to temporarily reside outside of the state; required to travel on election day; elderly or disabled persons; and eligible electors under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act. Extends the beginning of the early ballot distribution period from no more than 27 days to no more than 34 days prior to the election and if an early ballot is requested 38 days or more prior to an election, the early ballot must not be distributed earlier than 34 days prior to

the election. Reduces the signature curing period from no later than the fifth business days after a primary, general or special election with a federal office or the third business days after any other election to the second business day following any election. Revises the period elections must be canvassed from between 6 and 20 days to between 6 and 12 days following an election. Instructs the Secretary of State to canvass all state offices 14 calendar days following a general election as opposed to the fourth Monday following a general election. Requires the legislative council staff to prepare proposed legislation conforming to the provisions of this Act for consideration in the 57th legislature, first regular session.

Action Taken

Passed House Municipal Oversight & Elections 5-4

HB2852 - Voter registrations; organizations; prohibition

Sponsor

Rep. Justin Heap (R)

Summary

Prohibits this state and any of its political subdivisions from being a member of any multistate voter registration or voter registration list maintenance organization that requires Arizona to provide certain confidential voter registration information, such as social security numbers and driver license numbers; and from joining or entering into an agreement with any organization that imposes a duty on this state, such as mailing voter registration forms to voters that are not registered to vote. Prohibits a political subdivision of Arizona from joining an organization or entering an agreement with any organization that imposes a duty on the political subdivision, unless otherwise expressly required by Arizona law.

Action Taken

Passed House Municipal Oversight & Elections 5-4

Passed the House 31-28 and was sent to the Senate

HB2851 - Elections; ballot chain of custody

Sponsor

Rep. Justin Heap (R)

Summary

Requires the Board of Supervisors to provide a chain of custody record for ballot printing location; ballot transportation; storage and delivery of ballots to the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections; and any voting location. Asserts that the chain of custody record must include the time and signature for each point of contact and other specified information. Specifies that unvoted ballots delivered to a voting location where there is no election board worker requires the person delivering the ballots to note that the ballots were delivered and secured without a designated recipient. Adds that a ballot box, before receiving ballots, must be locked with a tamper evident seal. Specifies that the tamper evident seal must be checked by two board members in case of an emergency transfer. Details that at the close of the polls and if a ballot box has been transferred or opened, a report must be made including the date, time and name of any election officer witnessing the transfer or opening of a ballot box. Requires the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections to prepare a chain of custody record, with specified information, for the transportation and delivery of voted ballots. States that all damaged and defective ballots replaced with a duplicate ballot must be included in a

chain of custody record that includes specified information. Requires the county recorder or election officer in charge to provide a live video, with full visibility of the ballots, at various stages of the ballot's cycle. Instructs the county recorder or election officer in charge to maintain a specified record of all voting irregularities that occur during specified elections. Specifies that the voting irregularities record must be sent to the President of the Senate, Speaker of the House and the Secretary of State.

Action Taken

Passed House Municipal Oversight & Elections 5-4

Passed the House 31-28 and was sent to the Senate

HCR2058 - Legislative districts; population; census; citizenship

Sponsor

Rep. Justin Heap (R)

Summary

Directs the Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) or other officer or body designated by the Legislature, to take a census that must be completed by December 31 of years ending in zero. Requires the census to include a tabulation of the number of United States citizens residing in Arizona and their residences. Specifies the census may be conducted consistent with the procedures and methods adopted by the United States Census Bureau or its successor agency. Prohibits the IRC, or other designated body, from employing federal practices inconsistent with this Act. Instructs the IRC to use the data collected from the census to determine the citizen population of each Legislative district. Specifies, if no census is timely completed, the IRC must use the most current data from the United States Census Bureau or its successor agency to determine the citizen population of each Legislative district. Requires the IRC, during the commencement of the mapping process for legislative districts, to create districts of equal citizen population in a grid-like pattern across Arizona. Specifies any member of the Legislature has standing to initiate any action or proceedings to enforce the provisions of this Act.

Action Taken

Passed House Municipal Oversight & Elections 5-4

HCR2049 - Ballot measures; challenges.

Sponsor

Rep. Neal Carter (R)

Summary

The 2024 general election ballot is to carry the question of whether to amend the state statutes to stipulate that beginning in 2025 - 2026, if the amount of monies available to the Permanent State School Fund exceeds the amount required, pursuant to state law and there are no outstanding state school facilities revenue bonds, qualified zone academy bonds, state school trust revenue bonds issued to correct existing deficiencies, the Arizona State Land Department shall transfer those monies to the School Facilities Revenue Bond Debt Service Fund. Prohibits the State Treasurer from transferring monies pursuant to state law before meeting all obligations mentioned above.

Action Taken

Passed House Municipal Oversight & Elections 5-4



ANNUAL REPORT 2022/2023



2022/2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Presented By The Citizens Clean Elections Commission

The Annual Report will be submitted to the Governor, the President of the Arizona State Senate and the Speaker of the Arizona State House of Representatives. This report will be made available online at www.azcleelections.gov.

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Katie Hobbs
Governor

Thomas M. Collins
Executive Director



Mark Kimble
Chair

Galen D. Paton
Mark Kimble
Steve M. Titla
Amy B. Chan
Damien R. Meyer
Commissioners

State of Arizona
Citizens Clean Elections Commission

1110 W. Washington - Suite 250 - Phoenix, Arizona 85007 - Tel (602) 364-3477 - Fax (602) 364-3487 - www.azcleelections.gov

February 29, 2024

The Honorable Katie Hobbs
Governor of the State of Arizona
1700 West Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Governor Hobbs:

The Citizens Clean Elections Commission is pleased to submit for your information the 2022/2023 Annual Report, pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes §16-956(A)(5). The Annual Report describes the activities performed by the Commission in the last calendar year.

In 1998, the voters of Arizona passed the Citizens Clean Elections Act. Over 2 decades later, the Commission continues its commitment to uphold the letter and spirit of the Act. The Commission accomplished its goals set forth and looks forward to the same success in 2024.

Respectfully,

Mark Kimble, Chairman
Citizens Clean Elections Commission

Voter Education Budget

The Commission spends 10% of the expenditure cap on voter education in accordance with its statutory requirements.

See page 10 of this report for more financial information.

Voter & Public Education

The Commission provides information to the public regarding participation in the political process and the functions and purposes of the Clean Elections Act. This is accomplished through education campaigns throughout 2022/2023, along with grassroots and social media outreach. The Commission consistently provides election information on how, where, and when to vote.

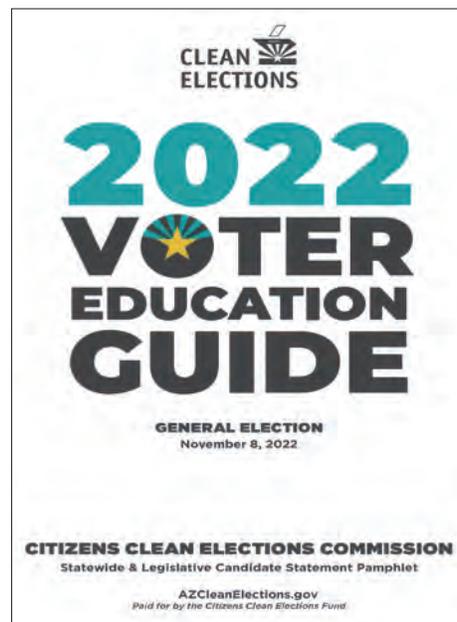
The Commission's education and outreach efforts for 2022/2023 included:

- **Voter Education Campaigns**
- **U.S. Senate & State Debates**
- **Voter Education Guides**
- **Voter Issue Surveys and Subject Matter Expert**
- **Comprehensive Election Information**
- **Grassroots Outreach**
- **Website & Social Media**



Voter Education Campaigns

Voters continue to have questions on how to participate, how to get information on voting, and who to trust for election information. In 2022, the Commission’s voter education campaigns explained to voters Clean Elections purpose to provide straight-forward information on how to participate and where the candidates stand. In addition, the Commission launched a successful youth voter outreach campaign, “Level Up”. This outreach effort encourages younger voters to get better educated or Level Up their election knowledge and register to vote. Campaigns featured such crucial tools as the Voter Education Guide and debates.



Election Information

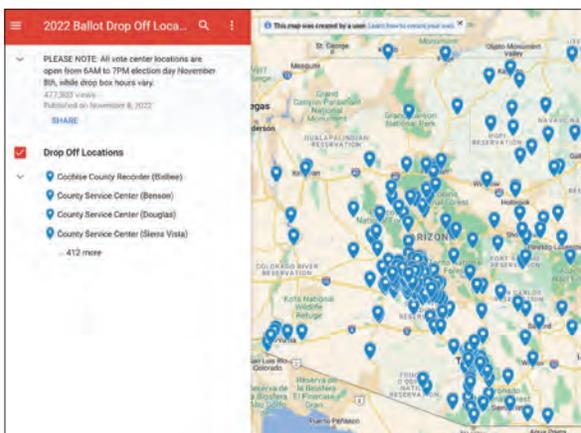
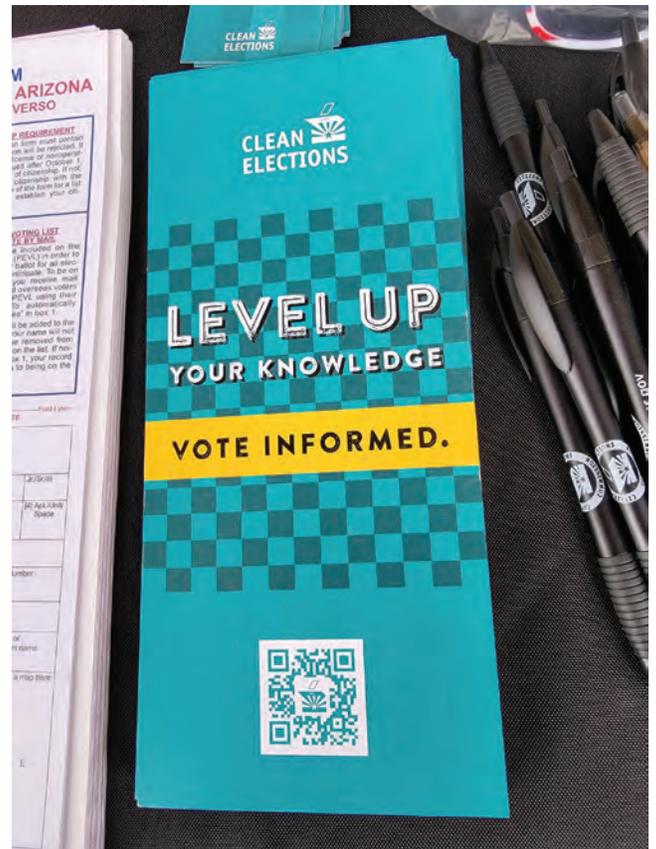
Every year, before each election, the Commission reaches out to all 15 counties within Arizona to identify what jurisdictions are having an election. The Commission updates its website with:

- Information on each election
- Highlight key deadlines
- How to get your ballot
- Voter education tools, such as videos and infographics

This information provides a quick point of reference for voters to access all necessary voting information. Voters learn how to access information through a comprehensive outreach campaign.

It's worth noting that the November 8, 2022, election was particularly eventful with all statewide offices up for election along with a Senate seat and all the Congressional seats. The Commission received positive feedback from the Arizona Association of School Business Officials (AASBO) regarding this effort and AASBO was able to share these detailed pages with their mailing list, which contains around 3,900 readers!

The Commission supplements election information web pages with voter education tools, such as videos and infographics. For example, the Commission developed a video explaining bond and override elections.



U.S. Senate & State Debates

2022

In 2022, the Commission hosted state legislative debates throughout the state. Whether a candidate was using the Clean Elections system or running traditionally, the debates provided voters with more information on the candidates and allowed the candidates the ability to speak directly with the voters. In addition, the Commission hosted statewide candidate debates as well as a U.S. Senate debate.

Debate Work Group Efforts

2023

The Commission hosted a Debate Work Group that consisted of voters, elected officials, members of the media, as well as political consultants.

The working group looked at the Commission’s practice of hosting candidate debates and provided insight and feedback on ways to enhance the process. Those ideas included separating the debates into party debates instead of hosting all candidates at once, including moderators from the local community who have a pulse on the election issues, among others.

The Commission will implement many of the group’s suggestions as early as the 2024 election cycle.

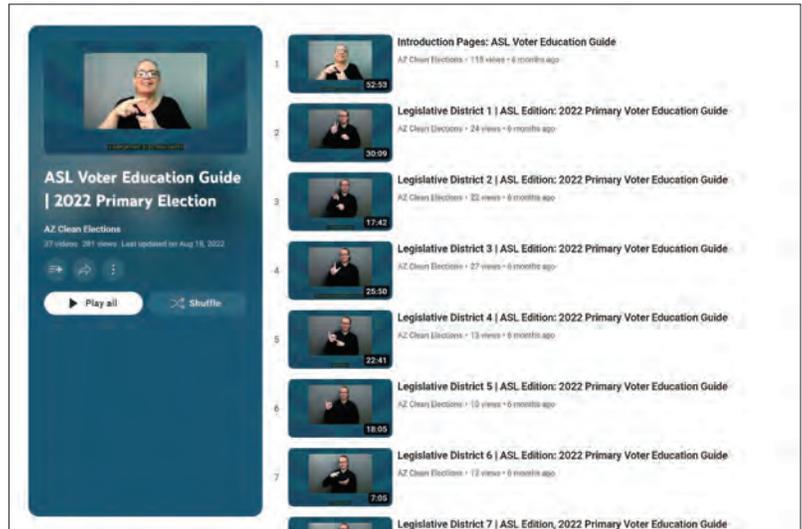


Voter Education Guide

The Commission provides the public with a Voter Education Guide. The Guide is designed to be district-specific, so voters can see candidates running in their district as well as statewide offices.

The guide:

- Presents candidates by district.
- Includes a 200-word statement and an image from each candidate.
- Is provided in English, Spanish, American Sign Language, and in a spoken form for those with impaired vision.
- Is available in print and electronic formats.



Grassroots Outreach

In an ongoing effort to increase outreach to Arizona Voters, the Commission participated in many events over the course of 2022 and 2023. Some outings included National Voter Registration Day and Registration Drives across the county where the Commission helped register voters and provided voting fundamentals and how to stay up to date on local, state and federal elections. Below is a list of the 2023 events.

MARCH

Gina and Avery held a virtual presentation for the public on how our government works and civil discourse for National Civics Learning Week.

MAY

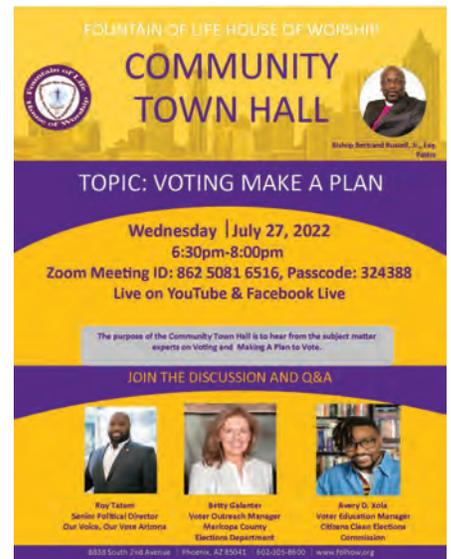
Gina, Avery, and Tom attended the Election Officials of Arizona conference

JULY

- Commissioner Meyer, Tom, Gina, and Avery attended the 12th Annual African American Conference on Disabilities
- Avery was a vendor at the 9th Annual Teacher Leadership Summit to promote Clean Elections civics curriculum
- Tom and Avery attended the 75th Anniversary Native Right to Vote luncheon
- Avery was a panelist for the Arizona's Youth Electorate: Exploring the Political Behavior of Young Swing Voters discussion by the McCain Institute

AUGUST

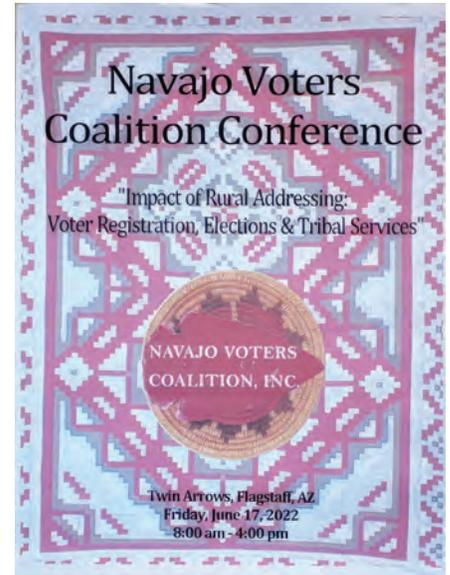
Avery presented on Running Clean for the AZ Commission of African American Affairs



VOTER & PUBLIC EDUCATION

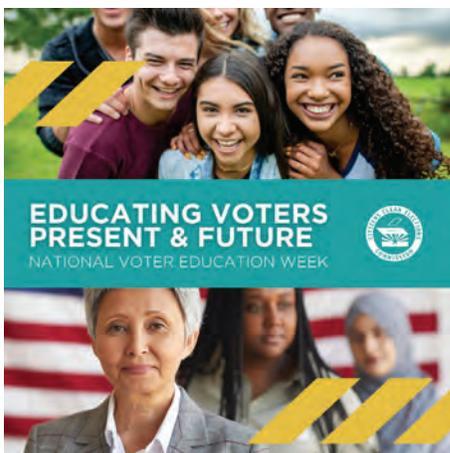
SEPTEMBER

- Gina and Avery participated in the Disability Voting Rights Week and National Voter Registration Day virtual training by Disability Advocacy Coalition and the Arizona Disability Voter Coalition
- Avery held a Civil Discourse workshop at Tempe Public Library to kick off National Constitution week
- Gina and Avery attended and presented at the Tribal County Summit in Camp Verde, AZ hosted by the Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona
- Avery collaborated with Watts College of Public Service and Community Solutions to celebrate National Voter Registration Day at the University Center
- Gina and Dana Lewis, Pinal County Recorder, held a Q&A on Facebook Live for National Voter Registration Day



OCTOBER

Gina and Avery participated in the Disability Voting Rights Week and National Voter Registration



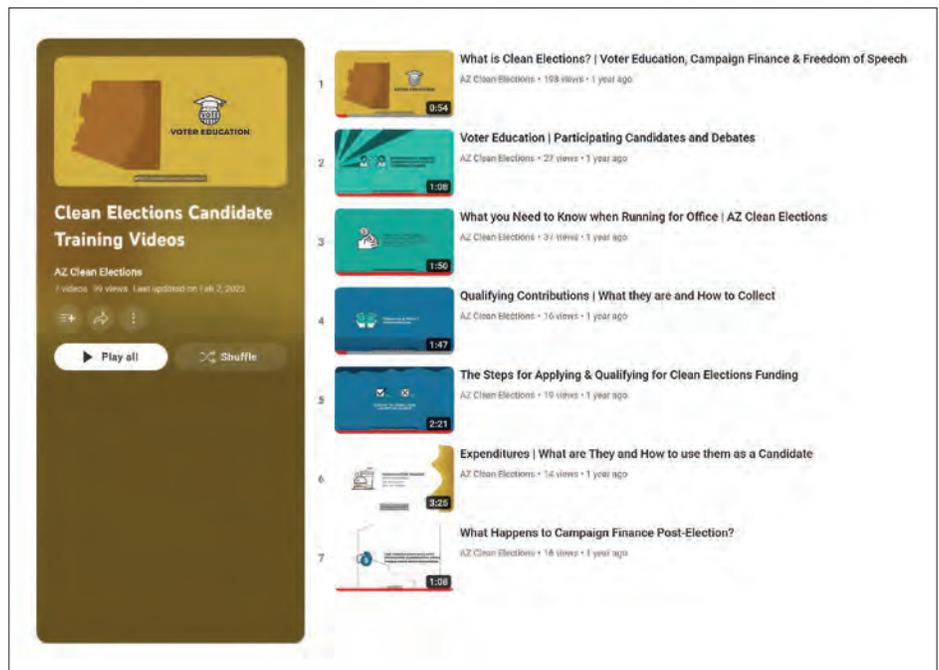
Clean Elections

TRAINING & GUIDES

Education is a core component of the Commission. In 2022 & 2023, the Commission continued to provide information to interested groups and potential candidates through speaking engagements, training workshops, as well as through publications on our enhanced agency website.

Each election cycle the Commission develops a guide to assist participating candidates as they navigate the political campaign process and to inform non-participating candidates, and other groups involved in elections, about the Clean Elections Act and rules. The guide covers important topics such as requirements of the Clean Elections Act and Rules, filing and reporting deadlines, how to become a Clean Elections participating candidate, and how to qualify for funding.

Participating candidates are required to attend one Clean Elections Candidate Training Workshop during the election cycle. The workshops are open to the public and designed to provide information to prospective candidates, or those who are assisting participating candidates, about the requirements of the Clean Elections Act. The workshops began in July of 2023 and will continue into 2024.



Website & Social Media

The Commission had an increase in its engagement with voters online. Utilizing social media channels has allowed the Commission to instantly connect with voters on timely and important election-related issues. Voters and candidates alike can follow the Commission on social media for more information about elections and running for office.

Social media sites such as Twitter, YouTube, and Facebook were used. The chart below displays the amount of followers/likes throughout the recent years. Even numbered years represent statewide election years.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
	34,492 Followers	34,084 Followers	33,481 Followers	33,185 Followers	33,000 Followers
	1,860 Followers	2,098 Followers	2,197 Followers	2,820 Followers	2,784 Followers
	3,307 Views	1,712,089 Views	532,334 Views	7,290,966 Views	3,149,061 Views

YEAR	SESSIONS	USERS	% OF NEW USERS	PAGE VIEWS
2023	399,000	300,000	99.33%	570,000
2022	1,000,000	796,000	98.86%	1,700,000
2021	360,595	301,443	99.9%	533,898
2020	1,514,415	1,196,474	98.65%	2,881,496
2020	1,514,415	1,196,474	98.65%	2,881,496
2019	194,338	165,171	90.4%	356,231

Financial Information

REVENUE SOURCES

Citizens Clean Elections Commission revenue comes from the following sources:

- 10% surcharge on all civil penalties and criminal fines
- Civil penalties paid by candidates.
- \$5 qualifying contributions collected from participating candidates.

CONTROLS ON SPENDING

The Commission’s total expenditures cannot exceed seven times the number of Arizona residents personal income tax returns filed during the previous calendar year. Up to 10% of the total expenditure cap for administration and enforcement purposes may be used. The Commission may make public education paid media expenditures up to 10% of the total expenditure cap as well. (A.R.S. §16-949)

The 2022 expenditure caps were as follows:

- Total Expenditure Cap: \$23,919,756
- Administration & Enforcement Cap: \$2,391,976
- Public Education Expenditure Cap: \$2,391,976

The 2023 expenditure caps were as follows:

- Total Expenditure Cap: \$23,948,344
- Administration & Enforcement Cap: \$2,394,834
- Public Education Expenditure Cap: \$2,394,834

CY 2022*/2023** REVENUES	
Court Assessments	\$5,591,193* \$5,947,461**
Commission Assessments	\$46,781* \$4,680**
\$5 Tax Check-off (late tax filings)*	\$0*/\$0**
Miscellaneous	\$35,994*/\$0**
\$5 Qualifying Contributions	\$79,495*/\$0**

*Previously, Arizona citizens could contribute voluntarily through a \$5 check-off box on Arizona state income tax return forms and through dollar for dollar tax credits. This portion of the Act was removed in 2012; however, late tax filers may still contribute.

**The Citizens Clean Elections Commission operates on a calendar year budget rather than the State’s fiscal year budget.

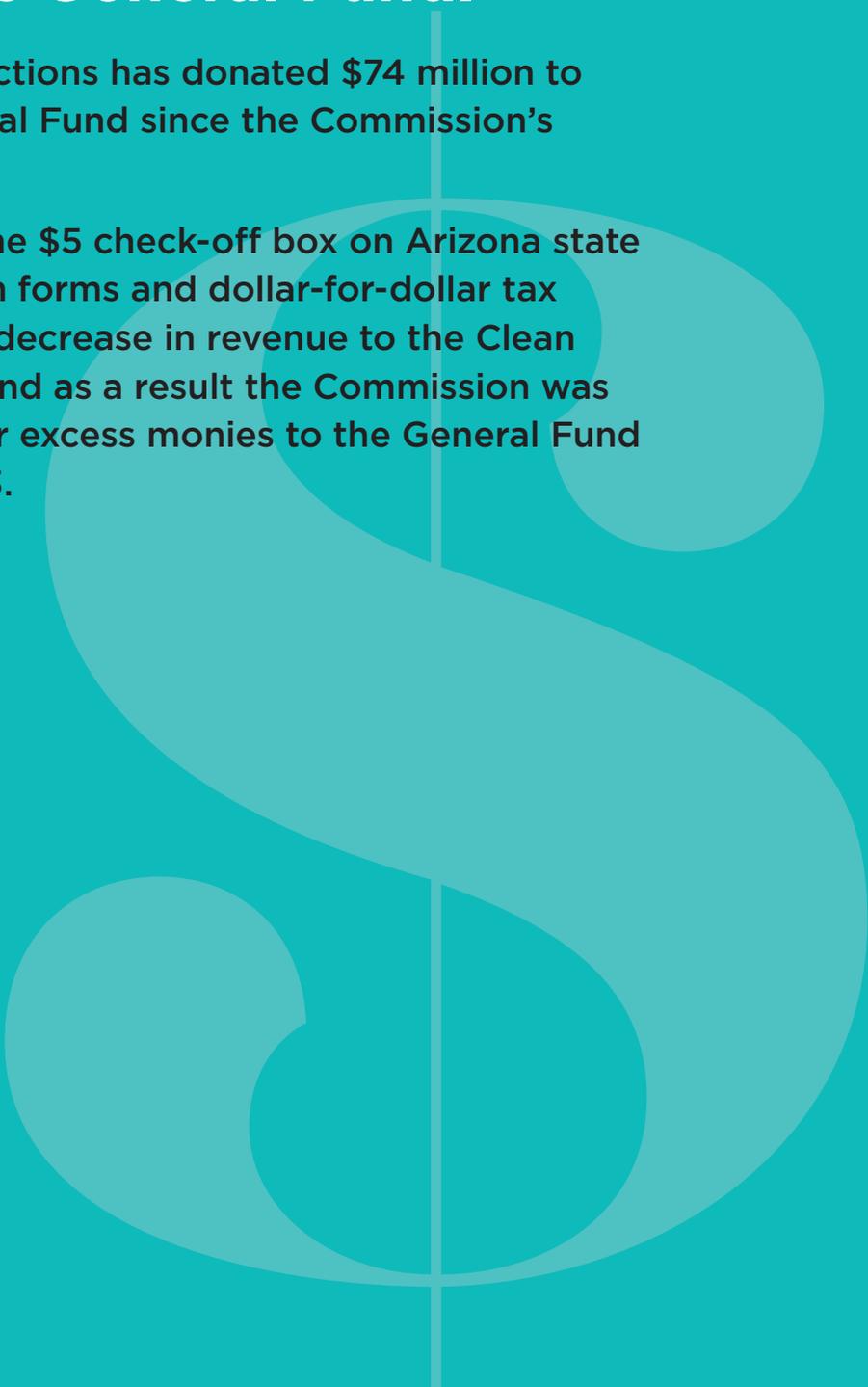
Clean Elections is funded by voluntary contributions and surcharges on criminal penalties and violations, such as traffic tickets.



Not a single dollar of Clean Elections funding comes from the State's General Fund.

In fact, Clean Elections has donated \$74 million to the State's General Fund since the Commission's inception.

The removal of the \$5 check-off box on Arizona state income tax return forms and dollar-for-dollar tax credits caused a decrease in revenue to the Clean Elections Fund, and as a result the Commission was unable to transfer excess monies to the General Fund in 2022 and 2023.



Enforcement, Audits & Litigation

The Commission enforces the Citizens Clean Elections Act and Commission rules which are a part of the Arizona Administrative Code. The Act and Commission rules contain specific campaign finance provisions and limitations.

Commission staff monitor campaign finance reports to ensure campaign spending occurs as specified by the Act and Rules. The Commission has the authority to subpoena witnesses, take evidence, and require, by subpoena, the production of any books, papers, records or other material relevant to an enforcement matter.

Potential penalties for violations of the Act range from monetary penalties, the disqualification of a candidate or forfeiture of office. Most enforcement matters are settled amicably.

The Commission also conducts audits to ensure compliance with the Act and Commission rules. The audits are completed by an independent auditing agency. Candidate audits are conducted during election years after the Commission has disbursed funds to qualified candidates.

In 2022, the Commission conducted 33 audits: 13 primary election audits and 20 general election audits.

ENFORCEMENT

The Commission acts on both external and internally filed complaints.

During 2022, the Commission resolved 8 complaints arising from the 2022 election cycle.

Rulemaking & Legislation

COMMISSION RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

In accordance with A.R.S. §16-956(C), the Commission may adopt rules to carry out the purposes of the Citizens Clean Elections Act.

The Commission proposes and adopts rules in public meetings, with at least sixty days allowed for interested parties to comment after the rules are proposed. After consideration of the comments received in the sixty day comment period, the Commission may adopt the rule in an open meeting.

The Commission diligently makes changes to its rules and procedures to address concerns and improve the functions of the program. Rules adopted by the Commission are not effective until January 1 in the year following the adoption of the rule. However, rules adopted by unanimous vote may be immediately effective and are enforceable.

In 2022, the Commission amended the following rules:

- A.A.C. R2-20-305
- A.A.C. R2-20-306



VISION STATEMENT

Through the successful implementation of the Arizona Citizens Clean Elections Act, the Commission seeks to improve the integrity of Arizona state government and promote public confidence in the Arizona political process.

RULEMAKING & LEGISLATION

The 2022 election saw the passage of Prop 211, also known as the Voters Right to Know Act (VRKA). This law established new disclosure requirements for entities that are involved in elections. Under VRKA, more information on who is donating money to third party groups is available to the public. The Commission worked throughout 2023 to draft rules governing the new law. The proposed rules were available to the public for their input, were made available to all involved in campaigns, and were discussed at length during the Commission meetings that are open to the public both in person as well as via streaming.

The following rules regarding the Voters Right to Know Act were approved by the Commission in 2023:

R2-20-801.	Definitions and Rules of Construction
R2-20- 802.	Time
R-20-803.	Opt-out Notices
R2-20- 804.	Request for Exemptions
R2-20- 805.	Disclaimers
R2-20-806.	Ex Parte
R2-20-807.	Record keeping
R2-20- 808.	Advisory Opinions
R2-20-809.	Complaint Procedures
R2-20- 810.	Response Procedures
R-20-811.	Investigation and Enforcement Procedures
R2-20- 812.	Enforcement Hearing Procedures
R2-20- 813.	Transactions and Structuring

2022/2023 Legislation

The Commission adopted the following legislative principles and priorities in an effort to improve the Act and Commission procedures:

Oppose efforts to defund, eliminate or limit the Citizens Clean Elections Act and/or the Commission. Over several sessions, members of the legislature have proposed measures that seek to defund, limit, or eliminate the authority of the Act or the Commission itself. The Commission has historically opposed these efforts on the grounds that they are typically poorly constructed, misleading, or otherwise ill-considered. The Commission works to maintain the letter and spirit of the law and supports efforts that further the purpose of the Act. The Commission opposes the following:

- **Amending, superseding the Clean Elections Act and/or diverting funds from the Clean Elections fund without furthering the purpose of the act or the required supermajority vote.**
- **Attempts to limit the power the Commission must enforce the Act**

Additionally, the Commission monitors proposed legislation regarding current campaign and elections laws and supports election law reforms. Election issues continue to percolate through both the political and legal process. The Commission continues to support reforms including improving the public financing program; improving the campaign finance code to ensure that voters are receiving information about the identity and contributions of campaign contributors and expenditures, including independent expenditures; ensuring that changes improve the State's anti-corruption, anti-circumvention, and informational interests, the Clean Elections Act and the Commission's independence; and improving voter access to information, voter involvement and voting.

Support improvements to voter education and access. The Commission continues to support efforts to enhance voter education and participation through legislation that advances the anti-corruption and public participation values that undergird the Act.

Looking Forward to 2024

Here is a preview of what the Commission is looking forward to in 2024.

2024 EDUCATION PLAN PREVIEW

With a Presidential election, Senate and Congressional races as well as state and local contests, 2024 looks to be a very exciting and demanding year for the Commission. As in the past, the 2024 Voter Education Plan will provide voters many opportunities to become engaged in the political process. From debates and pamphlets, to voter registration drives and partnering with nonprofits, the Commission is preparing for an eventful 2024. The following are just a few of the areas the Commission is involved with in 2024:

- CRM/Texting Campaign
- Civics Curriculum
- Civic Engagement and Voting education
Comic Book
- Voter education and outreach materials
- Debates
- Voter Education Guides
- PPE Education
- Primary Election Education
- General Election Education
- Social Media Videos
- Accessible voting information, including multiple languages (such as Diné and ASL)

2024 ELECTION CYCLE ~ CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Candidates may begin collecting \$5 qualifying contributions on August 1, 2023, the start of the qualifying period. Candidates must collect a minimum number of qualifying contributions, as referenced below:

CORPORATION COMMISSION	LEGISLATURE
1,500	200

Commissioners & Staff

COMMISSION STRUCTURE & MISSION

The Citizens Clean Elections Commission was established by the enactment of the Citizens Clean Elections Act, A.R.S., Title 16, Chapter 6, Article 2. In addition to administering the provisions of Article 2, the Commission promulgates rules and enforces A.R.S. §§ 16-940 through 16-961.

The Commission's mission is to fairly, faithfully and fully implement and administer the Citizens Clean Elections Act.

The Citizens Clean Elections Commission consists of five members. All members must be registered to vote in the State of Arizona. No more than two members of the commission may be members of the same political party. No more than two members of the commission may be residents of the same county.

COMMISSIONERS*

Steve M. Titla (D)

Gila County, AZ

Mark Kimble (I)

Pima County, AZ

Damien R. Meyer (D)

Maricopa County, AZ

Galen D. Paton (R)

Pima County, AZ

Amy B. Chan (R)

Maricopa County, AZ

COMMISSION STAFF

Thomas M. Collins

Executive Director

Paula Thomas

Executive Officer

Mike Becker

Policy Director

Gina Roberts

Voter Education Director

Alec Shaffer

Web Content Manager

Avery Xola

Voter Education Manager

*Commissioners listed are for the 2022/2023 calendar year.

Commissioner Biographies

MARK KIMBLE

Independent – Pima County

Governor Katie Hobbs appointed Mark Kimble, an Independent, to the Citizens Clean Elections Commission in July 2015, while she served as Senate Democratic Leader. Mark was a longtime journalist in Southern Arizona. After graduating from the University of Arizona with a bachelor's degree in journalism, Mark worked for the Associated Press and then for the Tucson Citizen newspaper. During a 35-year career at the Citizen, he was a reporter, city editor, assistant managing editor and associate editor-columnist in charge of the editorial page. When the Citizen closed in 2009, Mark went to work as senior press advisor and later as communications director for Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords. When she resigned in 2012, Mark became communications director for her successor, Congressman Ron Barber. Mark and his wife, Jennifer Boice, live in Tucson.

DAMIEN R. MEYER

Democrat – Maricopa County

Former Governor Jan Brewer appointed Damien R. Meyer to the Citizens Clean Elections Commission to serve a term ending January 31, 2019. Damien R. Meyer is an experienced commercial litigation attorney. Damien has extensive experience in representing both individuals and businesses including banks, contractors, landlords, real estate developers, aviation companies, entrepreneurs, and health care companies in all areas of their business including contractual analysis and disputes, collection and payment disputes, commercial tort liability, provisional remedies and negotiation of pre-litigation disputes to avoid formal litigation. He also has extensive experience in representing clients in formal litigation in Arizona State and Federal courts, the Arizona Court of Appeals, in private arbitrations and before several state administrative agencies. Mr. Meyer, his wife and two children currently reside in Phoenix.

STEVE M. TITLA

Democrat - Gila County

Former Senate Democratic Leader Leah Landrum Taylor appointed Steve M. Titla in July 2013 to the Citizens Clean Elections Commission. Mr. Titla is a partner in the Titla & Parsi law firm and is admitted to practice law both in Arizona and on the San Carlos Apache Reservation. The firm represents the San Carlos Apache Tribe as special counsel and has also served as legal counsel for the election boards of the San Carlos Apache and San Juan Southern Paiute Tribes. Previously, Mr. Titla was an attorney with the Navajo Nation Department of Justice and has served as president of the National Native American Bar Association. In addition to a B.S. and J.D. from Arizona State University, Mr. Titla earned an M.B.A. from the University of Phoenix. From 1974-76 Mr. Titla served in the U.S. Marine Corps, leaving with an honorable discharge. He also served in the Arizona National Guard until his honorable discharge in 1980. Mr. Titla's term on the Citizens Clean Elections Commission expires in January of 2018.

Commissioner Biographies

GALEN D. PATON

Republican – Pima County

Former Governor Doug Ducey appointed Galen D. Paton, a Republican, to the Citizens Clean Elections Commission in 2016. Commissioner Paton obtained his Master of Arts in Physical Education from the Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. He has had a long and rewarding career coaching high school and college softball, volleyball and basketball teams in the southwest. In 2005, he led Sabino High School to the Arizona 4A State Championship and a No. 4 ranking in the country. The Arizona Coaches Association along with the National Fastpitch Coaches Association crowned Mr. Paton 2005 coach of the year. Mr. Paton retired from coaching in 2010 and is a current member of the Realty Executives Tucson Elite group. He resides in Tucson with his wife.

AMY B. CHAN

Republican – Maricopa County

Governor Katie Hobbs appointed Amy B. Chan, a Republican, to the Citizens Clean Elections Commission in 2017, while she served as Senate Democratic Leader.

Commissioner Chan was admitted to the State Bar in 1999. Initially she worked as an immigration attorney, helping people obtain immigration benefits through the administrative and immigration court process. In 2001 she began work as a legislative research analyst for the House Judiciary Committee. She was an Administrative Law Judge for the Corporation Commission from 2005-2006 and then returned to the legislature as Policy Advisor and Counsel to the Majority for the State Senate. In 2009 Secretary of State Ken Bennett appointed her State Election Director. She served in that capacity until 2013, when she left to spend more time with her growing family. She returned to the Arizona Secretary of State's office as General Counsel in 2022 and currently serves in that capacity. She and her husband Keith have two sons and live in Phoenix.



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