

# Election 2024: The Arizona Answer Sheet

## THE STATEWIDE BALLOT MEASURES ("PROPOSITIONS")

*The Northside Democrats recommend voting YES on # 139 (Abortion) and NO on ALL OTHER measures.*

NOTES: Propositions passed by the voters can only be changed by a statewide vote or a supermajority of the Legislature; they cannot be vetoed by the Governor. The wording of propositions may be obscure or deceptive. **If you don't understand the wording or don't agree with ALL parts of a measure, consider voting NO** and working for change within the Legislature.

Eleven of the 13 ballot measures are **Referenda proposed by the Republican-controlled Legislature**. Note that **one-third of current Arizona legislators are documented "election deniers"**. All the Referenda aim at restricting voters' rights, politicizing the judiciary, and deliberately undermining the structure and workings of Arizona's government.

\*\* indicates the measure was **supported only by Republicans**, opposed by Democrats; \* means it was opposed by most Democrats.

For more detailed information, see the well-researched analyses by *Civic Engagement Beyond Voting* at [substack.com/@cebv](http://substack.com/@cebv), *Ballotpedia* at [ballotpedia.org/Arizona\\_2024\\_ballot\\_measures](http://ballotpedia.org/Arizona_2024_ballot_measures), and *The Arizona Mirror* at [azmirror.com/voter-guide/2024](http://azmirror.com/voter-guide/2024).

### CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS:

**Amendments to the Arizona Constitution can only be enacted by the voters.** Citizens may propose an amendment through an **Initiative petition**; the Legislature may propose an amendment by voting to "refer" it to the ballot as **Referendum**.

**NO \*\*133:** Forbids any changes to the current system of partisan primary elections for all state and local partisan offices; removes cities' current right to decide on conduct of their elections. The Legislature's reaction to any hint of progress.

**NO \*\*134:** Practically eliminates Citizens' Initiatives by changing current statewide signature requirements to a percentage of the voters in each one of the 30 Legislative Districts. If even just one LD's number fell short, the Initiative would be unable to get on the ballot, giving a single district veto power over all the other voters in the state,

**NO \*\*135:** Limits Governor's power in a state of emergency to 30 days; Legislature would reconsider every 30 days thereafter. Would cause logistical chaos as well as loss of Federal funds (41 AZ "disasters" are still in the paper pipeline).

**NO \*\*136:** allows anyone to challenge constitutionality of a Citizens' Initiative in court **before it gets on the ballot**, contrary to "separation of powers". An attempt to eliminate Initiatives: backers have to fight lawsuits while collecting signatures.

**NO \*\*137:** Eliminates retention elections for state judges appointed by the Governor, giving them life tenure. Would apply **retroactively** to the judges on the November ballot, so that Bolick and King are guaranteed retention despite the vote.

**NO \*\*138:** Cuts hourly wage for tipped employees by up to 25% below legal minimum, based on tips. Restaurant owners sponsor this; can already pay tipped workers \$3 below minimum, changing to percentage gives owners ever more savings.

**YES 139:** "ARIZONA ABORTION ACCESS ACT" - A Citizens' Initiative submitted with more than 800,000 signatures. Restores the fundamental right to safe and legal abortion that existed under *Roe v. Wade*, prevents the government's interference before fetal viability, and protects access to abortion after fetal viability for the patient's physical & mental health.

**NO 140:** "MAKE ELECTIONS FAIR ACT" - A dangerously flawed Citizens' Initiative for "open" primaries: puts all candidates on the same ballot, gives the Legislature power to decide how many candidates could "win" the primary--a very bad idea!

**CITIZENS' INITIATIVES FOR STATE STATUTES: None are proposed on this year's ballot.**

### LEGISLATIVE REFERENDA FOR STATE STATUTES

*The Legislature can pass laws and "refer" them to the voters instead of to the Governor for her signature--or veto.*

**NO \*311:** Imposes a flat \$20 fee on all AZ criminal convictions, to fund a new \$250,000 death benefit to "first responders". Not needed, insurance already covers police, fire, others. No review/approval process, likely to be financially disastrous.

**NO \*\*312:** Designed by the Goldwater Institute; would allow property owners to claim tax refund if their city/county does not enforce public-nuisance laws against the homeless. Doesn't solve homelessness, diverts revenue and police resources.

**NO \*313:** Mandates "natural life" (without parole) sentence for **first** conviction of child-sex-trafficking. Not needed, "natural life" already mandated for 2d conviction; could actually hurt coerced victims and hamper law-enforcement's use of decoys.

**NO \*\*314:** Declares undocumented crossing of Federal borders a **state crime** & enables local police to arrest anyone merely on suspicion of border-crossing. No funding, promotes racial profiling, is unconstitutional at both state and Federal levels.

**NO \*\*315:** Requires state agencies to get Legislative approval of regulations that increase costs by \$500,000 over 5 years. Would severely limit state agencies' ability to administer laws effectively; all new rules already reviewed by experts & public..

★ **Important note:** YOU ARE ALLOWED by law to look at this or any paper when you are in the voting booth, but you must not display any candidates' names in the polling place. Please put this paper in your pocket before entering the polling place, and look at it only in the privacy of the voting booth; otherwise you might not be permitted to enter the polling place.

✦ For more information: **Pima County Democratic Party (520-326-3716)**. Print out copies of this sheet at: [www.northsidedems.org](http://www.northsidedems.org).