

Vote Yes: Proposition 132

Arizona Farm Bureau's Positions

Proposition 132: Supermajority Requirement

Proposition 132 would impose a 60 percent vote requirement on any ballot measures seeking to enact a tax. Arizona Farm Bureau supports this effort to make sure that Arizona taxpayers, not out of state interests, have a say in the taxes they pay.

Over the past few years, our state has seen numerous attempts to enact taxes through the ballot box. While Proposition 132 would not prevent politically popular tax increases from passing, it would ensure that a broad cross-section of voters are in favor of spending more of their hard-earned money on critical government programs. Ballot measures will be more fair, more balanced, and prevent out-of-state interests from imposing their will on Arizonans without broad consent.

Moreover, Proposition 132 is only consistent with existing protections in Arizona's constitution. Years ago, Arizona amended its constitution to require new taxes or fees are proposed at the State Legislature to obtain a supermajority (two-thirds) vote in order to pass. Proposition 132 would add extend taxpayer protection by requiring an increased threshold at the ballot box, too.

Arizona Farm Bureau Policy:

Arizona Initiative Process:

We believe that the Arizona citizens' initiative process in its present form results in "taxation without representation". In 2009, Arizona had the highest budget deficit to expenditure ratio of any state in the union. Over fifty percent of Arizona's annual budget expenditures are a direct result of initiative compliance funding mandates, yet most initiatives have been passed by less than twenty percent of registered voters.

We support an Arizona Constitution amendment that includes the following:

1. The number of validated signatures necessary to qualify a ballot initiative is to be determined and required for each County and based on the highest number of qualified votes cast in any of the previous five general elections.
2. Funding disclosure requirements for initiatives are to be the same as those for state office candidates.
3. Initiatives must designate full funding source(s) that do not include the state general fund as a revenue source.
4. Five years after passage of a statutory initiative it must be reaffirmed by passage in the legislature and its sources of funding are to come under the control of the legislature. (Amended 2020)