

Vote Yes: Proposition 129

Arizona Farm Bureau's Positions

Proposition 129: Single Subject Rule

Proposition 129 would amend Arizona's constitution by limiting ballot initiatives to a single subject, and requiring that single subject to be accurately expressed in the initiative's title. Arizona Farm Bureau supports this commonsense reform.

Simply put, Proposition 129 will make ballot measures easier for voters to understand. Direct democracy has long been hailed as a cornerstone of Arizona policy; but how effective is that system if the issues voters are dealing with are overly complex? Limiting a ballot measure to a single subject, and requiring that subject be expressed in the measure's title, will empower voters to make a simple, clear choice. That way, they know that their voice is heard when they express their opinions on proposed laws.

This is particularly relevant to the agricultural industry. In recent years, a favorite tactic of radical anti-agriculture groups, including animal rights activists, has been to impose strict regulatory regimes that completely upend the rules an industry must follow in order to produce critical consumer goods. [Single subject rules have been instrumental in keeping these kinds of bad policy measures off the ballot.](#) This protects producers from having to comply with impractical, onerous, and unhelpful rules. But it also protects consumers by keeping food safe, affordable, abundant, and available on our grocery store shelves.

Resources: www.makeitsimple129.com

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)

Animal Rights:

We are opposed to the concept of animal “rights” and oppose the expenditure of public funds to promote the concept of animal rights. We support the ethical treatment of animals; however, we oppose any group or movement seeking to elevate concerns for the well-being of animals to a similar status as the rights of people.

We oppose initiatives/referendums/legislative movements that move to create animal welfare public policy that dictates standards above sound veterinary science and best management standards.

We support increasing the penalties for individuals and groups that violate and destroy property, both public and private, in the name of animal rights. (Amended 2020)