

2026 VOTER GUIDE

STATEWIDE OFFICES - GOVERNOR



Katie Hobbs

Party: Democratic

Incumbent: Yes

Website: www.katiehobbs.org

Background:
Governor since 2023; previously Arizona Secretary of State (2019–2023) and state legislator (2011–2019). Ran unopposed in the Democratic primary.

Running Mate:
John Giles, former Republican mayor of Mesa (2014–2025) who left the GOP and registered as an independent earlier this year.

Key Platform Priorities: Focuses on:

- Lowering costs
- Balanced budgets
- Expanding affordable housing
- Funding public education
- Raising pay for first responders
- Healthcare access
- Protecting reproductive rights

Tribal Policy & Engagement:

- Signed historic tribal water rights settlements (Northeastern Arizona and Yavapai-Apache Nation).
- Delivered the first-ever Indian Nations & Tribes State of the State Address and visited all 22 tribal nations.
- Created the MMIP Task Force and signed the “Turquoise Alert” law.
- Secured Medicaid coverage for traditional healing services at tribal facilities.
- Vetoed GOP budgets over cuts to tribal water case funding and tribal healthcare grants.

STATEWIDE OFFICES - GOVERNOR



Andy Biggs

Party: Republican

Incumbent: No

Website: www.biggsforarizona.com

Background:
U.S. Representative for AZ-05 since 2017; Freedom Caucus-aligned. Won the GOP primary (July 21, 2026) over David Schweikert, Scott Neely, and Ken Miceli.

Running mate:
Sine Kerr, Buckeye dairy farmer and former Arizona Senate Majority Whip (LD13/LD25, 2018–2025), most recently AZ state executive director for the USDA Farm Service Agency.

Key Platform Priorities: Focuses on:

- Lowering taxes
- Securing the border in partnership with federal law enforcement
- Expanding natural gas/nuclear energy
- Water and land management
- School choice/ESA expansion
- Election integrity

Tribal Policy & Engagement:

- Views the Colorado River issue as a management crisis and supports emergency river funding.
- Co-sponsored the Ashlynne Mike AMBER Alert in Indian Country Act to give tribes access to AMBER alert funding.
- Introduced the Native American Education Opportunity Act for BIE students.

STATEWIDE OFFICES - GOVERNOR



Risa Lombardo

Party: Green

Incumbent: No

Website: https://risalombardo.com

Background:
Longtime Arizona resident (moved from New York in 1991); worked as a legal secretary/paralegal. Former Republican precinct committeewoman who joined and won the Green Party primary.

Key Platform Priorities: Framed around Green Party pillars:

- Reducing military spending
- Transitioning from fossil fuels
- A living wage
- Campaign finance reform

Tribal Policy & Engagement: ***No public statement found.***

STATEWIDE OFFICES - GOVERNOR



Teri Ann Hourihan

Party: No Labels Party

Incumbent: No

Website: https://teriann4azgov.org

Background:
Healthcare company owner and licensed professional counselor.

Running mate:
Angela Harrolle Mohan, former federal Special Agent, nonprofit executive, and small business owner.

Key Platform Priorities:

- Campaign Finance & Government Accountability
- Healthcare & Medicaid Reform
- Immigration & Border Security

Tribal Policy & Engagement:
Hourihan's platform highlights concern regarding state Medicaid provider suspensions, arguing that broad administrative enforcement without due process hurts legitimate care providers– which directly diminishes healthcare access for vulnerable populations, including Native Americans who rely on these services.

On border security and land management, Hourihan notes that security, water conservation, and respect for Native tribes are core state priorities. She advocates for direct cooperation between federal, state, and tribal leadership to address border enforcement while respecting tribal land jurisdiction.

Emphasizes inclusive governance that engages non-partisan, rural, and tribal communities often overlooked by traditional party apparatuses, advocating for direct dialogue with local community leaders on water, healthcare, and economic resources.

STATEWIDE OFFICES - SECRETARY OF STATE



Adrian Fontes

Party: Democratic

Incumbent: Yes

Website: https://electfontes.com

Background: Secretary of State since 2023; former Maricopa County Recorder. Ran unopposed in the Democratic primary.

Key Platform Priorities: Focuses on:

- Election administration
- Voting transparency
- Voter access

Tribal Policy & Engagement:

- Has keynoted the Inter-Tribal Association of Arizona's breakfast ahead of Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day.
- Has addressed the Navajo Nation directly pledging tribal consultation to protect voting rights.



Alexander Kolodin

Party: Republican

Incumbent: No

Website: www.alexforaz.com

Background: State representative (Scottsdale, first elected 2022); attorney; Arizona Freedom Caucus member. Won the GOP primary over former state GOP chair Gina Swoboda (July 21, 2026).

Key Platform Priorities: Focuses on:

- Election-law enforcement
- Proof-of-citizenship verification
- Faster results reporting
- Limiting early voting

Tribal Policy & Engagement:
Criticized state management of Colorado River federal draft impact statements; no specific tribal platform.

STATEWIDE OFFICES - ATTORNEY GENERAL



Kris Mayes

Party: Democratic
Incumbent: Yes
Website: www.krismayes.com

Background: Attorney General since 2023; former Arizona Corporation Commissioner. Ran unopposed in the Democratic primary.

Key Platform Priorities: Focuses on:

- Consumer protection
- Corporate accountability
- Environmental enforcement

Tribal Policy & Engagement:

- Issued a formal AG opinion that historical horse racing gambling devices violate tribal-state gaming compact exclusivity.
- Secured $2M for a dedicated MMIP unit in the AG's office.
- Allocated $6M in Sober Living Home Fraud grants to tribal nations.



Warren Petersen

Party: Republican
Incumbent: No
Website: www.petersenforag.com

Background: Arizona Senate President since 2023 (in the legislature since 2012); sits on the Arizona Water Banking Authority board and the Senate Water Committee.

Key Platform Priorities: Focuses on:

- State water protection
- Law enforcement funding
- Business growth

Tribal Policy & Engagement:

- Extensive water policy record.
- Voted for the most recent tribal gaming compact and MMIP legislation.
- Led the 2026 legislative budget package that contained provisions affecting tribal water litigation and Medicaid match rates.

STATEWIDE OFFICES - STATE TREASURER



Nick Mansour

Party: Democratic

Incumbent: No

Website: www.mansourforarizona.com

Background:
Third-generation Arizonan from Tucson; Stanford-educated (engineering, MBA); former Chairman/CEO of Arizona College of Nursing, grew it from one campus to 24 across 14 states. Unopposed in the Democratic primary.

Key Platform Priorities: Focuses on:

- Fiscal transparency for state assets
- Education endowment management
- Workforce development

Tribal Policy & Engagement:
No public statement found.



Elijah Norton

Party: Republican

Incumbent: No

Website: https://nortonforaz.com

Background: Former Arizona GOP party treasurer and entrepreneur.

Key Platform Priorities: Focuses on:

- Government oversight
- Tax cuts
- Expanding school choice

Tribal Policy & Engagement:
No public statement found

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION



Teresa Leyba Ruiz

Party: Democratic

Incumbent: No

Website: www.drruizforarizona.com

Background: 35-year educator, former community college president, and math teacher.

Key Platform Priorities: Focuses on:

- ESA voucher program transparency
- Teacher retention
- Academic standards

Tribal Policy & Engagement:
Campaign priorities page pledges to "form advisory committees representing Tribal nations" among other stakeholder groups if elected. No further specifics (such as funding levels, named tribal partners) were located.



Kimberly Yee

Party: Republican

Incumbent: No

Website: https://kimberlyyee.com

Background: Outgoing State Treasurer and former Senate Majority Leader.

Key Platform Priorities:

- Financial-literacy framing carried over from her Treasurer role
- Strong school-choice/voucher advocate
- Supports eliminating the U.S. Department of Education

Tribal Policy & Engagement:

- Addressed the Navajo Nation Council on state-tribal financial collaboration and partnered with local chapters.
- Advocates including tribal schools in school-choice programs.

STATE MINE INSPECTOR



Les Presmyk

Party: Republican

Incumbent: Yes

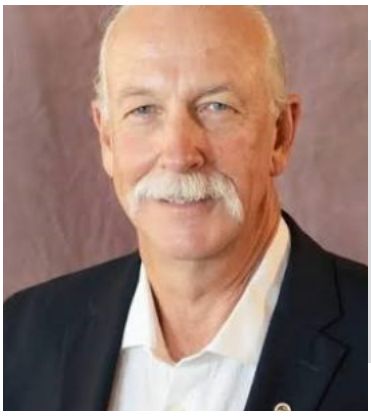
Website: https://lespresmyk.com

Background: Professional mining engineer; appointed by Gov. Hobbs in 2025. Unopposed in the primary.

Key Platform Priorities: Focuses on:

- Mine safety oversight across active and abandoned sites statewide

Tribal Policy & Engagement: No direct statement found. The office's purview touches issues like the Resolution Copper/Oak Flat project near the San Carlos Apache Tribe's sacred site, though no direct Presmyk statement on Oak Flat was located.



Brian Matlock

Party: Democratic

Incumbent: No

Website: https://www.matlockforazmi.com/

Background: Marine Reserves veteran and mechanical engineer with decades of mining experience.

Key Platform Priorities:

- Proposes a new statewide mine health-and-safety standard modeled on international mining safety frameworks.

Tribal Policy & Engagement:
No public statement found.

CORPORATION COMMISSION (2 Seats - two votes allowed)



Kevin Thompson

Party: Republican

Incumbent: Yes

Website: https://thompsonforcorpcomm.com

Background: Air Force veteran and current Chair of the Corporation Commission.

Key Platform Priorities:

- Utility regulation continuity
- Oversees 350+ regulated water companies statewide

Tribal Policy & Engagement:

- Voted against Coal Community Transition funding expansion for the Navajo Nation and Hopi Tribe.
- Opposed reopening the Cholla coal plant due to ratepayer costs.



Clara Pratte

Party: Democratic

Incumbent: No

Website: https://www.claraforaz.com

Background: Member of the Navajo Nation; former SBA official, tribal administration executive, and co-founder of Navajo Power.

Key Platform Priorities: Focuses on:

- Lowering utility costs
- Increasing transparency
- Rural representation
- Renewable-energy investment

Tribal Policy & Engagement: Focuses on:

- Tribal renewable energy development
- Expanding utility access on reservation lands
- Advocating for tribal ratepayers

CORPORATION COMMISSION (2 Seats - two votes allowed)



Ralph Heap

Party: Republican

Incumbent: No

Website: https://azcc.vote

Background: Orthopedic surgeon and current state legislator.

Key Platform Priorities:

- Opposes green energy mandates
- Focuses on ratepayer costs and rural water access

Tribal Policy & Engagement:
No public statement found.



Jonathon Hill

Party: Democratic

Incumbent: No

Website: https://www.votehillaz.com

Background: Engineer and scientist at ASU's Mars Space Flight Facility.

Key Platform Priorities: Focuses on:

- *Lowering utility costs*
- *Transparency*
- *Rural representation*
- *Renewables*
- *Emphasizes utility cybersecurity*

Tribal Policy & Engagement:

- *Emphasizes aquifer management and regulating water companies operating near rural and tribal lands.*

Legislative District 12

LD12 covers Ahwatukee (Phoenix), West Chandler, and Southwest Tempe in Maricopa County.

State Senate (1 Seat, open - Sen. Denise Epstein not running for re-elction)



Patricia "Patty" Contreras

Party: Democratic

Incumbent: No

Website: https://www.contrerasforaz.net/

Background: Native Arizonan from Somerton, AZ; LD12 resident 30+ years; retired after 31.5 years with the City of Phoenix (Parks & Recreation and Human Services); B.S. from ASU, M.A. from NAU. Elected to the AZ House in 2022, re-elected 2024. Unopposed in the Democratic primary.

Key Platform Priorities: Focuses on:

- Public education funding
- Senior services
- Environmental protection

Tribal Policy & Engagement:

- Sits on the House Natural Resources, Energy & Water Committee
- Supports tribal positions on water rights and gaming.



Anthony Ramirez

Party: Independent (no party)

Incumbent: No

Website: www.ramirezforaz.com

Background: Attorney, former police officer, and small business owner.

Key Platform Priorities: Focuses on:

- Infrastructure
- Public safety
- Affordability

Tribal Policy & Engagement:

- Platform explicitly calls for coordinating water reliability through joint Tribal, State, and municipal management.

Legislative District 12

LD12 covers Ahwatukee (Phoenix), West Chandler, and Southwest Tempe in Maricopa County.

State Senate (1 Seat, open - Sen. Denise Epstein not running for re-elction)



Stacey Travers (legal name Anastasia Travers)

Party: Democratic

Incumbent: Yes

Website: https://www.traversforaz.com/

Background: U.S. Army veteran and geoscientist; serving in the House since 2023.

Key Platform Priorities: Focuses on:

- Education funding
- Healthcare access
- Veterans' services

Tribal Policy Engagement:

- Member of the House Water Committee and Governor's Water Policy Council alongside tribal representatives.
- Supports tribal gaming and water sovereignty positions.



David Richardson

Party: Republican

Incumbent: No

Website: https://www.votedavidrichardson.com

Background: Mechanical engineer and biotech entrepreneur. Previously ran for LD12 Senate in 2022 (lost).

Key Platform Priorities: Focuses on:

- Economic growth
- Entrepreneurship
- Education pathways

Tribal Policy & Engagement:

- In a 2022 debate, discussed water-supply security solutions including desalination, water piping, and conservation.

Legislative District 12

LD12 covers Ahwatukee (Phoenix), West Chandler, and Southwest Tempe in Maricopa County.

State Senate (1 Seat, open - Sen. Denise Epstein not running for re-elction)



Armando Montero

Party: Democratic

Incumbent: No

Website: https://monteroforaz.com/

Background: Raised in Arizona public schools; in 2020, at age 19, became the youngest person ever elected to the Tempe Union High School District Governing Board (later Board President); pursuing a J.D. at ASU as a Harry S. Truman Scholar. Endorsed by Rep. Greg Stanton, AG Kris Mayes, and Tempe Mayor Corey Woods. Unopposed in the primary.

Key Platform Priorities: Focuses on:

- Revitalizing the local economy
- Fully funding education
- Affordable housing/renter protections
- Accessible healthcare
- Democracy/voting-rights protections

Tribal Policy & Engagement:

- Has a dedicated "Water for a Livable Arizona" platform plank: strengthening oversight/ transparency of groundwater use and prioritizing Arizonans over out-of-state corporations.
- No explicit tribal water-rights language found, but directly relevant to tribal water-settlement debates.

Legislative District 16

LD16 covers Casa Grande, Coolidge, Maricopa, Eloy, and part of the Apache Junction/Gold Canyon area, spanning Pinal, Pima, and Maricopa counties. It includes the Ak-Chin Indian Community; the Gila River Indian Community is also referenced in past LD16 legislation.

State Senate (1 Seat)



T.J. (Thomas) Shope

Party: Republican

Incumbent: Yes

Website:https://tjshope.com

Background: State Senator since 2023 (previously in the House, including as Speaker Pro Tem); family background in mining and grocery trades. Unopposed in the primary.

Key Platform Priorities Focuses on:

- Law enforcement funding
- Jobs/mining interests in Pinal County
- Border security
- I-10 widening and SR 347 improvements
- "Protecting our water rights and rural way of life"

Tribal Policy & Engagement:

- Co-led the 2021 Tribal-State Gaming Compact Amendment (HB 2772) modernizing tribal gaming and sports betting.
- Sponsored tribal health consultation legislation.
- Authored the "Ag-to-Urban" water conversion law (SB1611).

Legislative District 16

LD16 covers Casa Grande, Coolidge, Maricopa, Eloy, and part of the Apache Junction/Gold Canyon area, spanning Pinal, Pima, and Maricopa counties. It includes the Ak-Chin Indian Community; the Gila River Indian Community is also referenced in past LD16 legislation.

State Senate (1 Seat)



Elaine Aldrete

Party: Democratic

Incumbent: No

Website: https://aldrete4az.org

Background: Tucson resident; serves on the Drexel Heights Fire District governing board (term 2024–2028); founder of Teaching Life Choices, Inc. (2012). Endorsed by Arizona List. Unopposed in the 2026 Democratic primary.

Key Platform Priorities Focuses on:

- Community advocacy focus
- Described as continuing to represent Pinal County in the legislature

Tribal Policy & Engagement:
No public statement found.

Legislative District 16

LD16 covers Casa Grande, Coolidge, Maricopa, Eloy, and part of the Apache Junction/Gold Canyon area, spanning Pinal, Pima, and Maricopa counties. It includes the Ak-Chin Indian Community; the Gila River Indian Community is also referenced in past LD16 legislation.

State House (2 Seats, two votes allowed)



Teresa Martinez

Party: Republican

Incumbent: Yes

Website: https://martinezforarizona.com

Background: Born/raised in Casa Grande; House member since 2021; former congressional staffer.

Key Platform Priorities: Focuses on:

- SR 347 corridor improvements
- Local business
- School safety
- Law enforcement

Tribal Policy & Engagement:

- Sponsored "Emily's Law" (HB 2281) creating Arizona's "Turquoise Alert" MMIP system.
- Sponsored HB 2062 creating tribal specialty license plates supporting tribal funds.
- Active collaborator with GRIC leadership.



Chris Lopez

Party: Republican

Incumbent: Yes

Website: https://www.lopezforaz.com

Background: Born/raised in Casa Grande; Small business owner; Vice Chair of the House Natural Resources, Energy and Water Committee.

Key Platform Priorities: Focuses on:

- Agriculture
- Border security
- JTED/vocational education
- Small business

Tribal Policy & Engagement:

- Vice Chair role gives direct oversight over state water policy impacting tribal allocations.

Legislative District 16

LD16 covers Casa Grande, Coolidge, Maricopa, Eloy, and part of the Apache Junction/Gold Canyon area, spanning Pinal, Pima, and Maricopa counties. It includes the Ak-Chin Indian Community; the Gila River Indian Community is also referenced in past LD16 legislation.

State House (2 Seats, two votes allowed)



Julia Romero Gusse

Party: Democratic

Incumbent: No

Website: https://www.juliaforarizona.com

Background: Air Force veteran, former Maricopa City Council member, and former federal VA advisor.

Key Platform Priorities: Focuses on:

- Lowering utility costs
- Corporate water user accountability
- Veterans' services

Tribal Policy & Engagement:

- Chairs the Maricopa Ak-Chin STEAM Foundation with ties to the Ak-Chin Indian Community.
- Advocates for water management reform protecting local aquifers.

FEDERAL OFFICES
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS (DISTRICT NO. 2)



Eli Crane

Party: Republican

Incumbent: Yes

Website: https://eliforarizona.com

Background:
U.S. Navy SEAL veteran and small business owner. He currently serves on the House Veterans' Affairs Committee and the House Small Business Committee.

Key Platform Priorities:

- Focuses on deregulation, curbing federal spending, lowering taxes, and supporting small business growth.
- Emphasizes increased funding for physical barriers, border patrol resources, and stricter immigration enforcement.
- Prioritizes reforming VA healthcare, streamlining rural healthcare access, and expanding resources for military veterans.

Tribal Policy & Engagement:

- Co-led bipartisan legislation such as the Native American Entrepreneurial Opportunity Act to codify the Office of Native American Affairs within the Small Business Administration.
- Co-sponsored federal initiatives to improve healthcare access for Native American veterans in rural and tribal communities.
- Supports tribal water rights settlements and advocates for direct tribal authority over natural resource management on reservation lands.

FEDERAL OFFICES
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS (DISTRICT NO. 2)



Jonathan Nez

Party: Democratic

Incumbent: No

Website: www.jonathannezforaz.com

Background:
Spent over two decades in public service, most notably serving as President of the Navajo Nation from 2019 to 2023. He previously served as Navajo Nation Vice President, Navajo County Board Supervisor, and a local chapter official.

Key Platform Priorities:

- Advocates for expanding federal investment in rural roads, clean water systems, electric grid infrastructure, and affordable rural housing.
- Focuses on protecting and fully funding Indian Health Service (IHS) facilities, lowering prescription drug costs, and strengthening rural clinics.
- Supports federal protections for mail-in voting, expanding polling place accessibility on tribal lands, and protecting election infrastructure.

Tribal Policy & Engagement:

- Brings direct executive experience managing sovereign tribal administration, federal trust responsibilities, and intergovernmental agreements.
- Emphasizes protecting Colorado River allocations for tribal nations, securing funding for agricultural water infrastructure, and advancing sustainable water rights settlements.
- Advocates for mandatory, early, and meaningful federal consultation with tribal governments like GRIC on regional energy, environmental, and transportation projects.

FEDERAL OFFICES
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS (DISTRICT NO. 2)



Curtis Goodwin

Party: Libertarian

Incumbent: No

Website: https://www.azvoterguide.com/candidate/goodwin-curtis

Background:
Arizona native and running as the Libertarian Party nominee. Works as a technician.

Key Platform Priorities: Focuses on:

- Constitutional principles
- Individual liberty
- Fiscal restraint
- Reducing the scope of federal agency involvement in local affairs

Tribal Policy & Engagement:

- Supports maximum self-determination for tribal nations, advocating for reduced federal oversight and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) bureaucracy.
- Encourages economic independence through private enterprise, lower tax burdens, and removing federal regulatory barriers to business development on tribal land.

BALLOT MEASURE ANALYSIS

Below is an overview of each proposition on the 2026 ballot, including the legal mechanism, vote outcome effects, and specific implications for members, programs, and governance within the Gila River Indian Community (GRIC).
In Arizona, the proposition number tells you the type and source of the ballot measure

Number	Type of Measure	What it does
100s	Constitutional amendments	Changes the Arizona Constitution. It may be proposed by the Legislature or through a citizen initiative. Either way, voters must approve it.
200s	Citizen-initiated state laws	Citizens collect signatures to place a new state statute—or a change to an existing statute—on the ballot. It does not amend the Constitution.
300s	Referred state laws	Generally, involves a statutory measure referred to voters, most commonly by the Legislature. This category can also include a referendum petition asking voters to approve or reject a law the Legislature already passed.
400s	Local Measures	County, city, town, school district or other local questions—such as bonds, school overrides, local sales taxes and expenditure-limit measures. Only voters in that jurisdiction vote on them.

Constitutional Amendments (Propositions 141 – 144)

Proposition 141 (SCR 1004)
Prohibition on Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Taxes & Tracking

- Official Summary: Adds Section 26 to Article IX of the Arizona Constitution to prohibit state or local taxes/fees based on motor vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and bans laws or rules monitoring/limiting vehicle miles traveled without explicit consent.
- Effect of "YES" Vote: Prohibits VMT taxes and tracking mechanisms across Arizona.
- Effect of "NO" Vote: Retains current tax language, leaving future VMT revenue options open.
- Impact on GRIC:
- Commuter Protection: Many GRIC members commute across reservation boundaries to Maricopa and Pinal County urban centers for employment, healthcare, and education.
  A "YES" vote ensures drivers will not face mileage tracking or per-mile fees on state highways.
- Infrastructure Funding Trade-off: As fuel tax revenues decline with electric vehicle adoption, prohibiting alternative road usage fees could reduce long-term state highway funds for critical regional corridors (such as I-10 and SR-347) connecting the reservation to nearby cities.

Proposition 142 (HCR 2044)
Restrictions on Public Institution Anti-Discrimination & DEI Initiatives

- Official Summary: Amends Article II, Section 36 to prohibit public entities/schools from requiring statements supporting race-based diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), spending public funds on DEI positions in public education, or using race-based disciplinary policies.
- Effect of "YES" Vote: Enforces strict bans on DEI staffing, funding, and statements across state agencies and public education.
- Effect of "NO" Vote: Maintains existing constitutional anti-discrimination provisions.
- Impact on GRIC:
    - Native Student Support Services: Native American outreach programs, specialized support centers, and dedicated diversity advisors at state public universities (ASU, UA, NAU) and public-school districts could face budget restrictions or elimination.
    - State Contracting: Public contracting and procurement initiatives aimed at supporting minority- and tribal-owned businesses may encounter heightened administrative barriers, though sovereign tribal entity operations under federal law remain exempt.

Proposition 144 (HCR 2001)
Strict Government-Issued Voter ID & Mail Ballot Restrictions

- Official Summary: Amends Article VII to mandate government-issued photo ID for all voters (including mail-in voters), mandate local election day ballot tabulation options, prohibit foreign national campaign contributions, and establish a higher standard of judicial review for election law challenges.
- Effect of "YES" Vote: Mandates government photo ID for mail and in-person voting, limits acceptable voter ID documents, and restricts legal avenues to challenge state election laws.
- Effect of "NO" Vote: Maintains current voter identification standards and judicial review precedent.
- Impact on GRIC:
    - Mail-In & Elder Voting Access: Tribal members—particularly elders relying on mail-in ballots or rural mail delivery—face added burdens to provide compliant government photo identification. Issues regarding physical address requirements versus P.O. Boxes on tribal IDs could complicate ballot acceptance.
    - Legal Challenges to Sovereignty & Access: Creating a tougher standard for judicial review under the Arizona Constitution makes it significantly harder for the Tribe or civil rights organizations to challenge state election laws that disparately impact Native voters.

Statutory Referrals (Propositions 316 – 320)

Proposition 316 (HCR 2021)
Prohibition & Cap on Local Municipal Grocery Taxes

- Official Summary: Amends A.R.S. § 42-6015 to retroactively ban local governments from enacting or raising grocery taxes from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2027. After June 2027, mandates voter approval for any grocery tax and caps it at 2%.
- Effect of "YES" Vote: Temporarily freezes municipal grocery taxes and requires voter approval with a 2% cap thereafter.
- Effect of "NO" Vote: Preserves current municipal authority to levy sales tax on groceries.
- Impact on GRIC:
    - Household Financial Relief: Protects GRIC families purchasing groceries in neighboring off-reservation municipalities (e.g., Chandler, Gilbert, Phoenix, Casa Grande) from sudden sales tax hikes on essential food products.
    - Public Assistance Alignment: Complements emergency food and public assistance efforts (such as SNAP and FDPIR) by limiting food cost escalation off reservation.

Proposition 317 (HCR 2055)
Declaring Drug Cartels as Terrorist Organizations

- Official Summary: Adds A.R.S. § 41-4256 declaring drug cartels as terrorist organizations and directing the Arizona Department of Homeland Security to prioritize cartel threats.
- Effect of "YES" Vote: Classifies cartels as terrorist organizations under state law and directs state homeland security resources against cartel activity.
- Effect of "NO" Vote: Retains current terrorism definitions and agency directives.
- Impact on GRIC:
    - Community Safety & Law Enforcement: Supports broader anti-trafficking efforts targeting illicit drugs (such as fentanyl) moving along reservation transit corridors (I-10 and SR-347).
    - Intergovernmental Coordination: Requires clear jurisdictional boundaries and collaboration between the Arizona Department of Homeland Security and the Gila River Police Department (GRPD) to ensure state actions respect tribal land sovereignty.

Proposition 318 (HCR 2003)
Sex-Designated Athletics & Private Space Regulations

- Official Summary: Amends A.R.S. § 15-120.02 to mandate team designations (male, female, coed) based strictly on birth certificate sex, extending this requirement to private schools and prohibiting unauthorized access to sex-designated private spaces.
- Effect of "YES" Vote: Requires private and public educational entities to enforce sports designations and private facility access based strictly on biological sex at birth.
- Effect of "NO" Vote: Maintains current rules applying sports designations primarily to public schools.
- Impact on GRIC:
    - Applies directly to public school districts educating GRIC youth (such as Sacaton Elementary, Coolidge Unified, and Chandler Unified). School administrators serving tribal youth must align sports rosters and facilities strictly with birth certificates, creating potential compliance and legal risks for local districts.

Proposition 319 (SCR 1026)
Restrictions & Voter Approval for Photo Traffic Enforcement

- Official Summary: Amends Title 28 to ban state and local government photo traffic enforcement unless contracted by Dec 31, 2026, and requires 10-year voter re-approval for existing municipal systems.
- Effect of "YES" Vote: Restricts photo enforcement expansion and forces 10-year municipal re-authorization elections.
- Effect of "NO" Vote: Leaves existing photo enforcement rules intact.
- Impact on GRIC:
    - Tribal Commuters: Prevents new automated speed radar traps on off-reservation municipal roads frequently traveled by GRIC residents. Sovereign tribal traffic regulations inside reservation boundaries remain unaffected under GRIC sovereign law.

Proposition 320 (SCR 1032)
Mandatory 60% Direct Instructional Spending Requirement

- Official Summary: Adds A.R.S. § 15-917 requiring school districts with 7,500+ students (or in counties with 500,000+ residents) to allocate at least 60% of operational funds to direct classroom instruction. Penalizes non-compliant districts with a 25% annual cut in Classroom Site Fund revenues.
- Effect of "YES" Vote: Enforces a 60% direct instruction spending threshold and penalizes non-compliant districts.
- Effect of "NO" Vote: Preserves local school district flexibility over budget operational allocations.
- Impact on GRIC:
    - Threat to Essential Non-Instructional Support: Public school districts serving reservation youth (e.g., Casa Grande, Chandler, Coolidge) could be forced to trim non-instructional operational spending. This includes critical support services such as student transportation/busing across reservation lines, student counseling, cultural support programs, and meal services.
    - District Funding Cuts: If neighboring school districts fall out of compliance, a 25% state funding cut could negatively impact overall school quality and resources available to tribal students.



"THE COMMUNITY'S VOICE IS OUR VOTE"