## ARIZONA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY RECORDERS

## **VOTE "NO" ON PROPOSITION 309**

We, the Arizona Association of County Recorders, oppose Proposition 309 because it addresses a non-existent problem, it imposes new burdens on voters, it delays tabulation results, it jeopardizes voter data privacy, and it will likely disenfranchise thousands of voters.

**Non-existing problem**: Supporters of Proposition 309 cannot identify a single instance of fraud that the measure would remedy. The very few instances of early ballot fraud that have occurred over the past 10 years have been committed by family members who have access to the intended voter's ballot packet and signature. These family members also have access to the intended voter's birthdate and social security number and would therefore not be deterred.

**New burdens on voters:** Since 1992, Arizona voters have proven identity through documentation upon registering to vote, and then by signature when casting an early ballot. This is the same proof-of-identity method used for checks, contracts, and all other vote-by-mail heavy states (if they require proof of identity at all). It works. There is no need to impose a new regulatory regime on millions of law-abiding voters.

**Delays tabulation results:** Proposition 309 will *quadruple* the amount of time needed to verify the identity of each early vote. In Arizona, hundreds of thousands of early ballots are dropped off on Election Day. Those results are already delayed past Election Day. Proposition 309 will delay them further.

Jeopardizes voter data privacy: Currently, return ballots have no sensitive personal identifiable information. Under Proposition 309, all voters will have to write their birthdate on the return ballot, and many voters will write the last four numbers of their social security number or their 10-digit driver's license number. This will encourage criminals to intercept return ballots to steal the information for crimes such as financial fraud (and it will also prevent the ballot from being cast).

**Disenfranchise thousands of voters**: As seen in Texas following the state's adoption of a similar law, Proposition 309 could disenfranchise thousands of voters. Many Arizona voters – long familiar with the old system – will not remember to put the newly required information on the return envelope or will not want to. Trust us, many thousands of voters already forget to sign the return envelope. These votes are not counted.

Please vote "NO" on Proposition 309.

Signed,

The People Responsible for Early Voting in Arizona Arizona Association of County Recorders

Apache County Larry Noble

Cochise County
David Stevens

Coconino County
Patty Hansen

**Gila County** Sadie Jo Bingham

Graham County Wendy John

Greenlee County Sharie Milheiro

La Paz County Richard Garcia

Maricopa County Stephen Richer President

Mohave County Kristi Blair

Navajo County Michael Sample

Pima County Gabriella Cazares-Kelly Vice President

Pinal County
Dana Lewis

Santa Cruz County Suzanne Sainz

Yavapai County Michelle Burchill

Yuma County Richard Colwell