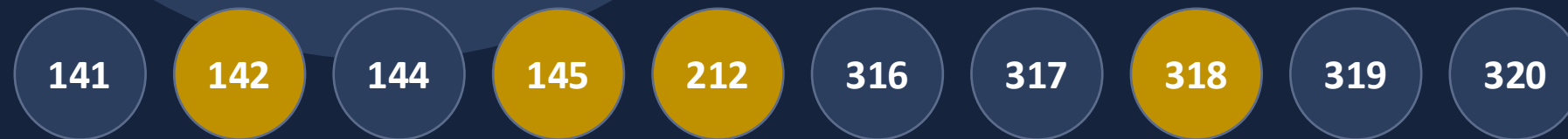


NOVEMBER 3, 2026 · STATEWIDE GENERAL ELECTION

Arizona's 2026 Ballot Measures

How measures reach the ballot, what each one would do, arguments voters will see in the Secretary of State's publicity pamphlet, recommended vote.



Sources: Arizona Secretary of State, Ballotpedia, Save Our Schools AZ, Civic Engagement Beyond Voting, various news outlets. Arguments and vote recommendations summarized from the CEBV voter-pamphlet arguments.



THE BASICS

Two roads to the ballot

CITIZENS' INITIATIVE

Two types: State statute or constitutional amendment
Signatures are required to make ballot, the number is based on share of the last governor's race

15% **Initiated constitutional amendment**
AZ is one of 18 states allowing this

10% **Initiated state statute**
AZ is one of 21 states allowing this

5% **Veto referendum**
Repeals a law the legislature just passed

Petitions circulate up to 24 months; signatures are due four months before election day.

LEGISLATIVE REFERRAL

Two types: State statute or Constitutional amendment

A simple majority sends a measure to voters

31

votes in the House

16

votes in the Senate

- No governor's signature is required, so no veto possible
- The Commission on Salaries may also refer measures

To pass: ballot measures need a simple majority of voters — except measures approving taxes, which need 60%.



AS OF AUGUST 8, 2026

What's certified — and what's still in court

9

measures currently
certified for the ballot
(includes Prop 145)

4

constitutional
amendments

5

state statutes
referred by lawmakers

1

citizens' initiative
awaiting verification

The list is not yet final

- Lawmakers originally advanced ten referrals; five challenged in court
- Prop 142 has been ruled eligible for ballot, appeal unknown (anti DEI)
- Prop 143 ruled unconstitutional; no appeal (anti school unions)
- Prop 145 was ruled unconstitutional on July 28; Legislative leadership appealed to Supreme Court July 30 (anti Prop 212)
- Prop 318 has already been ruled eligible (anti trans)
- Prop 212 still needs state certification, county signature validation, and must clear lawsuits (ESA voucher reform)

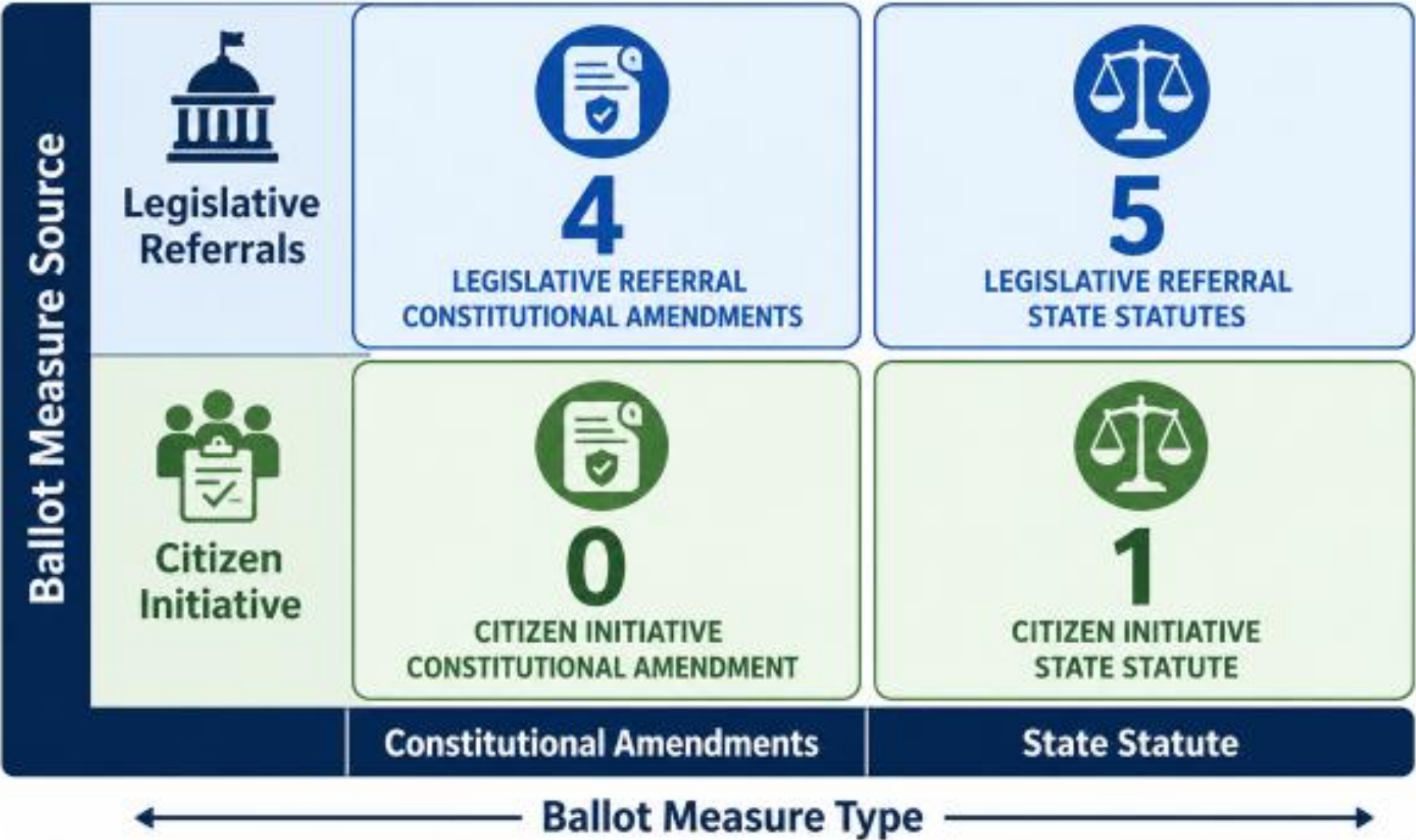
Late August deadline

Every legal dispute must be resolved before ballots go to the printer — so the final list can still change.



AS OF AUGUST 8, 2026

What's certified — another view



PROP
141

Banning a vehicle-miles-traveled tax

VOTE NO

Leg referral · Constitutional amendment | Vehicles · Transportation taxes

WHAT IT WOULD DO

Would amend the constitution to bar any tax or fee based on miles driven, and any tracking of miles traveled. **Current legal status: eligible**

Bottom line: a permanent ban on one of the few tools for ensuring that all users pay their fair share for highway maintenance.

35%

of Arizona pavement rated in good condition

18¢

gas tax per gallon — unchanged for decades

THE CEBV CASE AGAINST

- Arizona has the third-worst-maintained highways in the nation, and the gas tax's buying power is now roughly half what it was.
- Plug-in EVs pay no gas tax; a mileage-based fee is one of the few ways to have every driver is paying a fair share of road costs.
- Measure writes a fringe conspiracy theory about government tracking into the state's constitution where it would be hard to undo.
- Ballot clutter: lawmakers referred a problem that doesn't exist instead of addressing the road-funding crisis they created.



PROP
142

A ban on race-based "preferential treatment"

Leg referral · Constitutional amendment | Public & higher education · Civil rights · Affirmative action

VOTE NO

WHAT IT WOULD DO

Would bar government bodies, including schools and universities, from requiring endorsement of preferential treatment by race, funding affirmative action office or post, and requiring enrollment in courses promoting race-based diversity. **Current legal status: eligible**

Bottom line: anti-DEI, anti-affirmative action, anti-CRT measure with sweeping language that's hard to fix.

KEY DETAIL

It would also permit bans on any "related practice or concept" — a catch-all with no defined limit.

THE CEBV CASE AGAINST

- It reached the ballot only because it couldn't pass as a bill — yet it would amend the constitution, where imprecise wording does lasting damage.
- The sweeping language could stop teachers from covering accurate history and science.
- Race and ethnicity data is essential to credible research and to medical outcomes.
- Arizona's strength comes from welcoming difference, not from erasing it in the founding document.



PROP
144

Rewriting Arizona's election laws

Leg referral · Constitutional amendment | Election administration · Voter ID · Early & mail voting

VOTE NO

WHAT IT WOULD DO

Would require photo ID to vote, limit voting to citizens, and let the legislature rewrite mail-voting rules. **Current legal status: eligible**

Bottom line: voter ID is the headline; permission to restrict mail voting is the payload.

KEY DETAIL

The measure's author has said openly that he designed Prop 144 to eliminate voting by mail.

THE CEBV CASE AGAINST

- The mail-voting provision would let a future legislature restrict — or entirely eliminate — voting by mail.
- Arizona's mail system is a national model, relied on by seniors, disabled voters, rural residents and working families.
- Passing it hands lawmakers standing permission to narrow voting rights later, without going back to the voters.
- It was approved unanimously by Republican legislators — a shift of power away from voters and toward the officials voters are choosing.



PROP
145

A shield for the ESA voucher program

Leg referral · Constitutional amendment | Military service · School choice · ESA vouchers

VOTE NO

WHAT IT WOULD DO

Presented as protecting a military family's ESA account — but its main purpose is to void all attempts to limit the \$1.1B ESA voucher program. **Current legal status: court has said it's unconstitutional - appealed**

Bottom line: specific military-family framing, but a voucher-wide effect.

Court status: ruled unconstitutional July 28, 2026; legislative leaders appealed the decision to the AZ Supreme Court on July 30.

THE CEBV CASE AGAINST

- The sponsor has acknowledged the intent: kill Prop 212 the Protect Education initiative if both measures pass.
- "Military families" is the packaging; but wiping out all current and future voucher guardrails is the effect.
- ESA vouchers were originally intended for special-needs students but were opened to everyone in 2022 with no income or need test.
- Lawmakers literally passed this referral in the middle of the night.



PROP
212

Guardrails for the ESA voucher program

Citizens' initiative · State statute (pending court ruling) | School choice · Program oversight

VOTE YES

WHAT IT WOULD DO

Caps family income eligibility at \$150K and restricts how ESA funds are used, requires ID checks and State Board oversight, adds testing.

Current legal status: undergoing signature verification, possible lawsuits.

Bottom line: the guardrails lawmakers never wrote for a \$1B program.

20%

fraud rate found in ESA spending records

\$1B+

drawn from the state budget each year

THE SOS AND CEBV CASE FOR

- Public records requests by journalists have turned up all sorts of voucher abuse -- "ghost children," grand pianos, ski vacations, theme-park trips and other luxury purchases charged to taxpayers.
- There is no mandatory disclosure or accountability when it comes to ESA private education vouchers.
- Public school district budgets, by contrast, are analyzed by the Auditor General every year and open to public scrutiny.
- Prop 212 measure asks for modest safety rules, testing, and an income cap — basics elements lawmakers should have written themselves.





Voter approval and a cap on local food taxes

VOTE NO

LRSS · State statute | Sales taxes · Food & beverage taxes · Local control

WHAT IT WOULD DO

Would bar local governments from raising a tax on groceries without voter approval and caps any such tax at 2%. **Current legal status: eligible**

Bottom line: saves pennies at the register, paid for with limits on city services or property taxes.

\$150M+

annual cost to 65 cities
under a similar 2023 bill

30%+

of the town of Taylor's
budget comes from food tax

THE CEBV CASE AGAINST

- Gov. Hobbs vetoed a similar bill in 2023 precisely because of the hole it would blow in local budgets.
- Cities fund firefighters, police, libraries and parks — losing this revenue means cutting services or raising property taxes.
- Mayors opposing the measure say a food tax spreads the cost more equitably than concentrating it on homeowners.
- The savings are small at the register: about six cents on a \$3 gallon of milk.



PROP
317

Declaring cartels terrorist organizations

VOTE NO

Leg referral · State statute | Immigration · Criminal sentencing · Border policy

WHAT IT WOULD DO

Would declare drug cartels to be terrorist organizations under Arizona law and require DHS to do everything in its authority to address threat posed by drug cartels. **Current legal status: eligible**

Bottom line: a messaging measure with real legal spillover and no effect on trafficking.

KEY DETAIL

The Brennan Center warns churches, food banks and clinics aiding a smuggled migrant could face prosecution.

THE CEBV CASE AGAINST

- A messaging move rather than a public-safety measure — it does nothing to interrupt actual drug trafficking.
- Federal law already lets officials target production and distribution with severe criminal and civil penalties.
- Research points to reducing demand at home — including addiction treatment — as the more effective response.



PROP
318

Restroom, locker room and sports rules

Leg referral · State statute · Ruled eligible for the ballot | Sex & gender · LGBTQ · Athletics

VOTE NO

WHAT IT WOULD DO

Would bar anyone at a school from using a restroom, locker room or private space not matching their birth certificate. **Current legal status: eligible**

Bottom line: one rule for kindergarteners and college athletes alike.

KEY DETAIL

Utah, 2022: a school secretly investigated an athlete's sex after she won by a wide margin.

THE CEBV CASE AGAINST

- Vindictive, mean-spirited, one size fits all rule is applied to kindergarteners and college athletes alike — no distinction by age or level of competition.
- Girls with stocky builds or short hair could be asked to prove they are girls; children could be examined and shamed.
- Culture war stuff. It solves no demonstrated problem while singling out a very small group of kids who just want to play sports.



PROP
319

Voter approval for traffic photo enforcement

VOTE NO

Leg referral · State statute | Vehicles · Law enforcement · Traffic safety

WHAT IT WOULD DO

Would bar state and local governments from using red-light and speed cameras without voter approval. **Current legal status: eligible**

Bottom line: makes a proven crash-prevention tool contingent on winning an election.

21%

drop in fatal crashes from red-light cameras (IIHS)

1.4

deaths prevented per month on one Philadelphia road

THE CEBV CASE AGAINST

- Intersections are the most dangerous points on any road, and cameras cut fatal crashes there by 21% — up to 29% in some studies.
- A Philadelphia study estimated monitoring one dangerous roadway prevented as many as 20 crashes a month.
- Speed cameras near Arlington County, Virginia elementary schools produced significant declines in accidents.
- Cameras work by changing behavior — drivers slow down instead of trying to beat the light.



PROP
320

Requires 60% of public school budgets be spent on "direct instruction"

Leg referral · State statute | Public education funding · School governance

VOTE NO

WHAT IT WOULD DO

Would require public school districts to spend 60% of their budget on direct instruction — teachers, supplies, athletics — or lose funding.

Current legal status: eligible

Bottom line: a deceptive measure that splits public school funding into arbitrary and unsustainable buckets thereby crippling their ability to function.

22%

admin spending at the average for-profit charter

60%

rigid threshold with no flexibility

THE CEBV CASE AGAINST

- The narrow definition excludes counselors, custodians, librarians, buses, food service, security, maintenance and special-needs services.
- At 11% of operating budgets, Arizona public school districts already spend among the least on administration in the country.
- For-profit charters spend roughly double what districts do on administration — and this measure doesn't touch them.
- Splitting budgets into rigid buckets sets public schools up to fail, which serves the interests attacking them rather than students.



PROP 320

Additional information on Prop 320

The justification for Prop 320 is that AZ public school “instructional spending” has hit a historic low of 52.1%, which is true...

BUDGET CATEGORY	SUB-CATEGORY	% OF BUDGET	BREAKDOWN DETAILS
CLASSROOM SPENDING 	 Instruction	52.1%	Teacher salaries, classroom supplies, textbooks
	 Student Support	~9–10%	Counselors, nurses, speech pathologists
	 Instruction Support	~6–7%	Librarians, teacher training, curriculum development
NON-CLASSROOM SPENDING 	 Administration	~11%	Superintendents, principals, business operations
	 Plant Operations	~13–18%	Heating, cooling, janitorial services, building safety
	 Food Service & Transport	~10%	School buses, cafeteria meals, kitchen staff

WHAT'S REALLY GOING ON

Analyses by groups like the **Grand Canyon Institute** confirm that the declining percentage of public school spending on classroom instruction is an artifact of Arizona’s notoriously low per-pupil funding rather than due to any bloated district administration overhead.



Ten possible measures, ten decisions

141

Ban on vehicle-miles-traveled taxes (LRCA)

NO

316

Local food tax cap & voter approval (LRSS)

NO

142

Ban on race/ethnicity "preferential treatment" (LRCA)

NO

317

Cartels declared terrorist organizations (LRSS)

NO

144

Election law overhaul & mail-voting authority (LRCA)

NO

318

Restroom, locker room & athletics restrictions (LRSS)

NO

145

ESA defense disguised as military-family relief (LRCA)

NO

319

Voter approval for traffic cameras (LRSS)

NO

212

Guardrails for ESA vouchers (CISS)

YES

320

60% direct-instruction spending mandate (LRSS)

NO

Positions summarized from CEBV's voter-pamphlet arguments. Props 142, 145, 212 and 318 remain subject to final court rulings.