

Arguments “Against” Proposition 140

Vote NO on California style elections. 1. The voter has no choice between different philosophies - all candidates can be from the same party. 2. The voter cannot select his favorite candidate to do tradeoffs between the final two candidates - instead the government selects the top candidates. Important voter choices are taken away. This system is bad for California and it will be bad for Arizona. Vote NO on California style elections.

Ms. Anne Neeter, Sedona

Prop 140 is a sprawling, multi-page amendment to our constitution that imports a California election scheme into Arizona that will confuse voters, make ballots longer, delay tabulation results for several weeks, and will result in votes being tossed out due to simple errors.

Jungle Primaries and Ranked Choice Voting have been tried in California already. Since its adoption it has led to candidates from only one political party appearing on the general election ballot, depriving many voters of any choice at all. And Ranked Choice Voting has led to weeks long delays in tabulation, sometimes even resulting in the wrong person being declared the winner.

Worst of all, Prop 140 puts all power into the hands of just one politician, the Secretary of State, to decide how many candidates appear on the general election ballot for every race. The Secretary of State even gets to decide how many candidates he gets to run against in his own race! It doesn't get any more unfair than letting a partisan politician decide how many opponents that he and his party will be running against.

Prop 140 is confusing, undemocratic and constitutionally empowers a partisan politician to pick and choose which candidates we vote for in the General Election.

Please vote NO on Prop 140!

Scot Mussi, President, Arizona Free Enterprise Club, Gilbert ***Sponsored by Arizona Free Enterprise Club***

Vote no on this well-funded, dark money voter initiative to wreck our elections by inserting hard-to-fix changes into our state constitution. A solid majority of voters believe party politics best represent their interests, but jungle primaries will eliminate any control over who campaigns in a party's name. Our right to freely associate with like-minded citizens in order to persuade fellow voters to support particular economic and civil solutions to various issues will be destroyed. Furthermore, ranked choice voting is a radical scheme that unnecessarily complicates the voting process for no discernable benefit. Many localities burdened with this process need multi-page instruction manuals for the voters in order to limit the number of spoiled ballots. Also, ranked choice voting results are derived from complex algorithms that cannot be audited. Democracy will suffer because voters will lose faith in the ultimate outcome. Finally, investing the authority to determine the number of candidates listed on the general election ballot solely in the office of

the Secretary of State is a sharp attack on our ability to choose our elected officials. We should not expose our elections to such partisan gamesmanship. Other states and localities have tried these schemes and have repealed, or are now in the process of repealing, these bad ideas. Let's not repeat their mistakes. Vote no on this elitist initiative to impose jungle primaries and ranked choice voting on our voting process.

Brook Doty, Chairman, LD17 Republicans, Tucson

Ballot Argument Against Open Primaries

Vote no on Proposition 140

This proposition is too extreme for Arizona. It aims to change our Primary System which guarantees that all registered parties however small or large, including Independents, can be represented on the ballot in the GENERAL election. Open primaries can restrict or remove your choice in the general election.

A primary election is intended to allow the voters from every registered party to choose the candidate of their choice to be represented on the general election ballot. Open primaries will not protect each party's or independents representation.

Open primaries can make voting more confusing, make ballots longer and more complex. Only the winners of an OPEN primary will be on the general election ballot and might represent just one party. Independent candidates who don't get enough votes in the primary will NOT be on the general election ballot. This goes against our democracy.

Independents do not have their own slate of candidates, nor have they formed a registered party, but they can vote in the primary. They must declare a registered party choice first so they receive just one ballot to avoid fraud and duplicate voting.

Our Primary System ensures equal and fair representation of each registered party so their voters have a voice in the General Election. This provides good Checks and Balance on all parties and their candidates. So vote no on this proposition to protect democracy in our voting system and ensure the candidates from your party, independents, and all parties will be represented in the general election.

Respectfully,
Dr. Gail Bass Derscheid
Scottsdale, AZ

Dr. Gail Bass Derscheid, self, Scottsdale

Vote NO on the Make Elections Fair Ballot initiative. Most Americans just want elections where it is easy to vote, hard to cheat, and easy to trust the election results. Special interest groups want voters to approve permanent changes to the Arizona Constitution, eliminating Arizona's semi-

open Political Party Primaries, and requiring all winners to receive “a majority (50%+1) instead of “a plurality (most) of votes”. Funded by a few liberal multi-millionaires, this mislabeled ballot initiative implements radical California-style Jungle Primaries and complicated Alaska style Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) election processes. In Jungle Primaries, all candidates compete in the same primary election. Only the top 2 to 5 candidates advance to the general election. However, in politically biased jurisdictions, opposite party and 3rd party candidates are often disenfranchised, because candidates, from the same political party, usually advance to the general election. In RCV, voters rank all candidates in order of preference on a complicated ballot (following complicated instructions). During the RCV vote count, if no candidate receives a majority (50%+1) of votes, then the last place candidate is eliminated, voter preferences are adjusted, and incomplete ballots are eliminated. The RCV process repeats until one candidate receives a majority (50%+1) of votes. Analysis of 96 jurisdictions using RCV determined 61% of the final round winners received less than 50% of the original votes cast. As of January 2024, over 85 jurisdictions have tried and subsequently repealed RCV. Implementing RCV and Jungle Primaries will disenfranchise vulnerable ESL, elderly, disabled, low information, and minority voters, and will cost Arizona taxpayers \$10+ million. RCV and Jungle Primaries are failed electoral experiments. Don’t let Arizona become another failed electoral statistic. Vote NO on the Make Elections Fair Ballot Initiative. Joel Strabala, Concerned Arizona Citizen.

Joel Strabala, Concerned Arizona Citizen, Tucson

Arizona voters should be very frightened by the “Make Elections Fair” Proposition 140. Proponents have deceptively claimed it is about “open primaries.” Arizona has open primaries. Any independent or unaffiliated voter can vote in any primary (except Presidential Preference) by requesting a Democrat or Republican ballot. The true purpose of this proposition is to do away with the party system and institute Jungle Primaries and Ranked Choice Voting. In other words—to throw our entire system of government into chaos!

This proposition

1) includes absolutely NO specifics about how this process will work. The legislature is tasked with figuring it out, and if they don’t, or if the governor vetos it, it then goes to the Secretary of State who has full authority to devise the plan. This puts our entire election system in the hands of ONE person.

2) allows for the system to change from race to race, and makes it impossible to audit or confirm election results.

3) actually EXEMPTS ITSELF (is this constitutional?) from the requirement that all initiatives include a funding source. If this proposition goes into effect, it will require a complete overhaul of Arizona voting laws, centralization of state elections to Maricopa County (other county election offices will be reduced, and voters will lose even more local control over elections), and new technology. This is going to cost a fortune. Taxpayers beware!

4) requires jungle primaries, where any candidate from any (or no) party runs on the same ballot. The proposition allows for candidates to designate a party on the ballot, but the candidates don't have to be nominated nor endorsed by that party.

These are the INTENDED CONSEQUENCES of this misguided proposition, and I hope you can also imagine what kind of UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES could lie ahead. Vote NO on Proposition 140.

Sherrylyn Young, MD, Tucson

If you signed a petition to get Prop.140 on the ballot, you were probably deceived. Signature collectors falsely told us it was for "open primaries," so independent voters could vote in primary elections. Independent voters ALREADY vote in Arizona primaries! This proposal actually eliminates the constitutional language currently recognizing that right.

This amendment would make elections chaotic, not "fair." It's being promoted with millions from big-dollar donors and "political consultants." It makes candidates more answerable to them, but can only confuse voters and undermine faith in our elections.

Prop.140 deletes three simple sentences of Arizona's constitution and adds seventeen paragraphs with new, undefined terms and phrases. Some paragraphs are in conflict. Its botched definition of majority confuses ballots and votes, and makes it mathematically impossible to declare an election win in easily foreseen situations. Amending legislation is prohibited, so officials and courts must supply meaning via pure speculation.

It bans the primaries used now, and mandates California-style "jungle primaries." Smaller-party candidates won't get into general elections. Where jungle primaries are used, final elections often have only candidates from one major party. That limits choice at the general election, suppresses turnout of other parties' voters, and skews down-ballot contests.

This measure promotes a monstrosity called "ranked choice voting." It's based on pretentious but fallacious logic, and has no demonstrated validity. Its long, ranked-choice ballots require excessive time and care to complete. That reduces turnout. "Black box" algorithms and repeated rounds of tabulation produce long-delayed results that are almost impossible to explain or understand. The contrived results cannot be independently confirmed. And there is NO proof of benefits claimed by proponents.

These are just some of this proposition's horrific features. Arizona voters should not reward rampant use of falsehood to qualify this measure for the ballot. VOTE "NO"!

Lyle Aldridge, Tucson

Prop 140
California Style Elections

Prop 140 will amend the Arizona Constitution and change the current election system.

This can lead to only one party's candidates on the General Election ballot, essentially eliminating choice for voters.

Prop 140 is confusing and will lead to voters having their ballots tossed out.

With Prop 140, ballots will be longer and election results will be delayed even more than they are now.

Prop 140 gives the Secretary of State the power to determine how many candidates move from the Primary to the General election. That's too much power for one politician.

California style election systems are wrong for voters in Arizona.

Keep Arizona elections clear and fair.

Please vote NO on Prop 140.

Tom Standish, Mesa; Gary Crook, Mesa; Jim Morgan, Mesa; and Sally Boatman, Mesa

"Please vote No on Prop 140 because of the negative, chaotic and disorderly way it would affect elections. It is a predatory takeover of our way of voting.

With a jungle primary the top primary candidates could be all from the same party, meaning only one party is represented on the general election ballot. We would be subject to California or New York style politics. Prop 140 will confuse voters and is nothing more than a ploy from out of state interests to push California style elections. A jungle primary created by Prop 140 could negatively affect Libertarian, Independent or No Name-Party candidates who may not have the resources or support to compete against candidates from larger parties. Vote NO on Prop 140. Thank you.

Gisela Aaron, Tucson, AZ; LD17, Pct 176"

Gisela Aaron, Tucson

Sponsored by AZ Free Enterprise Club

Vote NO on this measure promoting California-style elections. It's a totally confusing patchwork of rules that can be manipulated by the Secretary of State and special interests. Why would we want to empower one politician to pick and choose how many candidates show up on the ballot? It includes ranked choice voting which no one can even explain. It could result in candidates on the general election ballot being from only one party. It just opens our elections to partisan manipulation. Please vote NO on Prop 140.

Carol Stines, Phoenix

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Open primaries put all candidates from all parties on the ballot thus you can end up with only candidates from one party in the General Election. This actually makes the primary MORE partisan and less inclusive since the other party's voice is eliminated. This is what has happened in most states that have adopted open primaries. Currently in Arizona if one is independent or hasn't selected a party, they can vote either in the Democrat or Republican primary along with voters registered in that party. This amendment would allow up to five candidates for one office thus almost ensuring that rank-choice voting would be implemented. This is where voters rank the candidates according to their preference. If no candidate gets 50%+1 votes, the candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated and those voters get their second choice. This continues until a winner is declared; thus elected officials can win with less than 50% of the vote. There is no run-off election. For a voter's voice to count they must fill out their ballot perfectly and rank all candidates, even if they don't support some candidates, otherwise their ballot might get exhausted. Thus rank-choice voting creates an artificial majority. It also PROLONGS the COUNTING of the votes and would make a RECOUNT much more DIFFICULT. Let's face it: elections are frequently contested and the longer voters wait to find out who won, the less confidence they have in the election process. Alaska passed rank-choice voting in 2020 and this year they have a ballot measure to repeal it. I would argue that if you want a diversity of ideas, then you want different political parties represented. Please vote "NO" on rank-choice voting in this and the Better Ballot Arizona Constitutional Amendment.

Patricia Meade, Taxpayer, Phoenix

A Jungle Primary (as used in California) is a radical scheme to destroy our election system and leads to the creation of a one party state. It will disenfranchise voters and empower special interests.

Because a jungle primary system includes Republicans, Democrats, Libertarians, No Label Party, and Independents all on the same Primary election ballot, this will considerably lengthen the size of our ballot. A jungle primary system could result in only Democrats and zero Republicans on the General ballot for certain races, or only Republicans and zero Democrats!

Currently, Independents may choose whether to vote in the Republican or the Democrat primary, but not both.

Special interest groups are trying to make it easier for themselves to win -- by rigging the system through changing it with this confusing proposition.

Join the ANDPhx Republican Club in voting NO on Prop 140 . ANDPhx: Anthem, New River, Desert Hills, and north Phoenix.

Cathy Schwanke, Chairman, Anthem-New River-Desert Hills-New River-No. Phoenix Republican Club (ANDPhx Republicans), Phoenix

I'm against jungle primaries, and you should be too! I don't want my vote wasted in a jungle primary, where only candidates of the other party could appear on the general election ballot leaving me and you with no choice at all!

Republicans should vote for Republican nominees, Democrats should vote for Democrat nominees, and Independents can choose which primary to participate in, ensuring everyone has a choice in November. Jungle Primaries don't do that - they limit choice for Republicans, Democrats, Libertarians, and Independents. Vote NO on Prop 140!

Stephen Harris, Retired, Glendale

I attended a Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) seminar to learn why the Alaskan people are so disappointed with the RCV system they adopted. I learned that RCV is a confusing and unclear process prone to errors because of the overly complicated process of ranking candidates and counting votes. RCV leads to confusion, complications, disenfranchisement and increased costs for the multiple ballots that will be required to achieve a winning candidate which may or may not be the actual first choice of a majority of voters. Prop 140 would even allow for candidates winning with just 13% of the vote - far from a majority! Voters should oppose RCV because it will complicate the election process and result in additional costs to the taxpayers. In fact, Prop 140 exempts itself from the constitutional requirement that ballot measures designate a funding source, because they know it will cost millions! Please vote NO on Prop 140!

Mary Lunn, Glendale

Sponsored by Arizona Free Enterprise Club

Vote NO on Proposition 140.

This Proposition makes voting unwieldy as all qualified candidates are placed on a single ballot, regardless of political party. The number of candidates that move on to the general election is unfairly and undemocratically determined by one partisan politician, the Secretary of State, with no assurance that all parties will have representation in the general election.

This leaves the voter in the precarious position of having to rank candidates about which they know nothing or with whom they completely disagree ideologically.

If a majority is not met, the candidates are then re-ranked, based on the number of votes they received. The candidate with the least votes is dropped and their votes are added to the voter's next "choice", until there is ultimately one candidate with a "majority" of votes.

Proposition 140 would make voting confusing, cumbersome and convoluted, take weeks to tabulate, consolidate power in the hands of one politician, and limit choices in the general election.

Vote NO on Proposition 140.

VICTORIA HANSON, Apache Junction

Vote NO on Prop 140. Statistics was my favorite class in school, and I can tell you this complicated measure is statistically designed to reduce the importance of your vote. Prop 140 will usher in California ideas that lead to only one political party appearing on the general election ballot, confuse votes, and let just one person determine how many candidates move from the first election to the second. Protect the value of your vote by voting NO on Prop 140.

Kaaren Sherrell, Self, Self, Indianola

The last thing Arizona needs is more chaos and confusion around our elections.

Center for Arizona Policy urges Arizonans to vote NO on Prop 140.

Introducing California-style elections in Arizona would be a disaster for our state. Prop 140 would result in long, confusing ballots, lead to even more delays in tabulating votes, and produce election results that do not reflect the will of the people.

Prop 140 allows a single politician—the Secretary of State—to select which candidates would move from the primary to the general election. This consolidation of power is a tool of disenfranchisement that Arizonans who believe in free and fair elections should reject.

It also may create scenarios under which different ways of voting could be required for different offices, rather than each election being decided the same way—by the simple “one person, one vote” system that has been the hallmark of our representative republic since its founding.

Schemes like Prop 140 have led to candidates from only one party appearing on the ballot, leaving voters with no real choice in that election. The overly complicated way in which votes are counted, and then recounted, has led to the wrong candidate being declared the winner. This system offers more opportunities for partisan manipulation of our elections.

Prop 140 is a solution in search of a problem. And this “solution” has been tried and has failed everywhere it has been implemented.

It’s another California measure that should not be implemented in Arizona.

Vote NO on Prop 140.

Cathi Herrod, President, Center for Arizona Policy, Phoenix and Greg Scott, Vice President of Policy, Center for Arizona Policy, Phoenix

Vote NO on Prop 140!

Prop 140 is a sprawling, multi-page amendment to the Arizona Constitution importing complicated California-style election schemes which confuse voters, make ballots even longer, delay voting and vote tabulations further, place increased burdens on election officials, and result in votes being canceled due to simple errors.

Jungle Primaries could lead to only candidates from one political party appearing on the general election ballot, disenfranchising many voters of any choice at all. In the general election the voters rank all candidates for an office in the order of the voter's preference to determine the winners. This is called Ranked Choice Voting and undermines the fundamental principle of "one person, one vote".

Jungle Primaries and Ranked Choice Voting have been experimented with in California, Alaska, Maine and Hawaii. Five states have banned ranked-choice voting in statewide or local elections- Florida, Idaho, Tennessee, Montana, and South Dakota. Arizona needs to follow suit and voters need to approve Ballot Proposition 133 to protect our elections. Jungle Primaries are an unneeded and unwanted change to a system that works. It poses a threat to free and fair elections. Jungle Primaries and Ranked Choice Voting should not be allowed in Arizona.

Kristin Baumgartner, Prescott

The last thing Arizona needs is a confusing, complicated, California-style election scheme that could disenfranchise voters. Prop 140 would import to Arizona some of the worst components of California's election system like jungle primaries and Ranked-Choice Voting.

Jungle primaries and Ranked-Choice Voting create an incredibly confusing and opaque process that is prone to errors. Two months after a 2022 California school board election using Ranked-Choice Voting, it was finally discovered that votes had been incorrectly tabulated and the wrong candidate had been certified as the winner.

Ranked-Choice Voting also disenfranchises voters. Ranked-Choice Voting forces voters to rank and cast a ballot for candidates they don't support in order to ensure that their ballot is not discarded in the numerous rounds of vote tabulation. New York City used Ranked-Choice Voting for their 2021 mayor's race, and it took eight rounds of tabulation to declare a winner. More than 140,000 voters were effectively disenfranchised due to "ballot exhaustion," since they didn't rank all the candidates. It's as if those voters didn't even cast a ballot, since their votes were not counted in the final vote total.

Arizonans want an election system where it is easy to vote and hard to cheat. California-style jungle primaries and Ranked-Choice Voting only increase distrust, confusion and chaos in our election system. Heritage Action urges voters to vote NO on Prop 140.

Nathan Duell, Arizona State Director, Heritage Action for America, Glendale
Sponsored by Heritage Action for America

Proponents of Prop 140 would have you believe it creates fairness and simplicity in the election process. It does the very opposite! It creates a multi-page amendment to our state constitution.

It is an attempt to import California-style election schemes into Arizona, that will confuse voters, make ballots even longer, delay tabulation further and place a burden on election officials. It will also result in votes being tossed out due to simple errors.

The worst part is that Prop 140 puts all the power into the hands of one partisan politician, the Secretary of State, to decide how many candidates move from the primary to the general election in every race, including his own.

This election manipulation is undemocratic, taking the choice out of the hands of the people and putting it into the hands of someone who can pick and choose which scheme will be used for every race to benefit his own political party and even his own race. Having moved from California to Arizona in 2018, I have personal experience with this type of voting as it was brought to California in the mid-2000's. It was called "Open Primaries" and Californians were sold a bill of goods!

It led to only candidates from one political party appearing on the general election ballot, because those two garnered the most votes. This deprived many voters of any choice at all and led to delays in tabulation, and in some cases resulted in the wrong person being declared the winner. From that point on, California became a one-party state.

Having had enough, I moved to Arizona, a state that had free and fair elections without one party rule.

I do not want Arizona to follow California's lead. It does not end well!

Vote NO on Prop 140!
Patricia Moore

Patricia Moore, Voter, Goodyear

Confidence in the electoral process continues to decline. If I wanted to destroy it completely then this proposition would be the ideal vehicle to do so.

As a former accountant, if I wanted to mislead or hide something, I would make it as complicated as possible. I would add as many rules and steps as possible though a multi-page document which I know most people wouldn't read and would use ambiguous language so that if challenged, I could trot it out to a judge to justify my position. Why wrap it up in a day when we can blow enough smoke to drag it out forever.

Have you read the amendment, not just the summary? Any questions? Can you understand the calculations? Willing to wait weeks for a result you may not understand? Which races does it apply to? How many steps and iterations – remember this can vary by race at the discretion of a Secretary of State depending on the needs of his own race or his party.

As a poll worker I'm familiar with the details that go into voting day and it's meticulous. I shudder to think what these levels of complications would add. In addition to guiding voters through the normal process, we now have to explain an extra burden that, after a day at work or dealing with family for the day, a voter shouldn't have to deal with, just to satisfy some esoteric theory about what's "fair".

I would like to think that after putting in a 15-hour day, the fruits of our labor would go to be tabulated in a straightforward manner and hopefully I could see results that evening or the next morning and not be put through some sort of black-box process.

Vote No Prop 140
Steve Hetsler,
Gold Canyon

Stephen Hetsler, Gold Canyon

□ Prop 140 presents itself as a solution to the perceived flaws of traditional voting systems, but it introduces its own set of problems. Firstly, it complicates the voting process, potentially alienating voters and suppressing turnout, particularly among those already disengaged from politics. Its intricate nature requires extensive voter education and substantial resources to implement effectively, diverting attention and funds from more pressing issues.

Moreover, Prop 140 can produce outcomes that do not accurately reflect the electorate's preferences. With the possibility of numerous candidates and complex vote transfers, the winner may not necessarily be the most preferred candidate overall, but rather the one deemed least objectionable by the majority. This undermines the principle of majority rule and can lead to outcomes that lack legitimacy in the eyes of voters.

Additionally, Prop 140 opens the door to strategic voting, where voters may feel compelled to game the system by ranking candidates strategically, rather than expressing their genuine preferences. This undermines the integrity of the electoral process and erodes trust in democracy.

Furthermore, Prop 140 will prolong election cycles, especially in cases where multiple rounds of counting are required to determine a winner. This extended uncertainty can be detrimental to political stability and can hinder effective governance.

In summary, while Prop 140 aims to address certain shortcomings of traditional voting systems, it introduces complexity, undermines majority rule, encourages strategic voting, and prolongs election cycles. These drawbacks outweigh any potential benefits, making Prop 140 a problematic choice for electoral reform.

Kristan Culbertson, Parks

"Prop 140 is an unwieldy constitutional amendment putting all primary candidates on one ballot and for certain races using ranked choice voting. This will create confusing patchwork ballots and lead to unfair results. This California style election measure is not right for Arizona. Prop 140 will be a burden to voters causing long and confusing ballots and longer waits for election results.

Arizona does not want one party rule as has happened in California. This has caused many voters to be disenfranchised leading to less interest in participating in the election system.

Prop 140 also includes a very odd provision that allows just the Secretary of State to unilaterally determine how many candidates proceed from the primary to the general election. Even in their own race. This makes no sense at all and is without a doubt going to lead to gamesmanship.

Vote No on Prop 140!"

Rose Smilgys, Anthem
Sponsored by Kaaren Sherrell

"Arizona should reject Prop 140, as these voting systems are not only complex but also costly and not needed. In a time of rampant inflation, we should prioritize the responsible use of taxpayer money - not funnel it to California election schemes that don't work.

Prop 140 will lead to a dilution of the candidate pool as well as unpopular candidates winning. Implementing Prop 140 will also require significant new investments in voter education and system infrastructure, adding unnecessary costs to the electoral process. That's why the drafters of Prop 140 exempted themselves from the constitutional requirement that costly measures like this one identify a funding source. Instead, it will require our overburdened taxpayers to pick up the tab as counties buy all new equipment to try to make it work.

In Arizona, where budget constraints are a pressing issue, it is irresponsible to propose such expensive and complicated changes to the voting system. Instead, we should focus on improving voter turnout, enhancing election security, and addressing more pressing issues facing our state.

We must be wise stewards of public funds and prioritize the efficient use of taxpayer money. Rejecting Prop 140 is a step towards preserving a transparent, fair, and cost-effective electoral process for all residents. Let's focus on solutions that truly benefit the people of Arizona and oppose unnecessary and costly voting systems like those being sold in Prop 140. Vote No!"

Trisha Sours, El Mirage
Sponsored by Kaaren Sherrell

"The new schemes in Prop 140 are a threat to the fundamental values of individual liberty and the freedom of choice in Arizona's electoral system – they are NOT fair. These methods limit the autonomy of voters by adding more complexities and constraints, ultimately undermining the principles of democracy.

In states like California, Maine, Nevada, and Alaska where these schemes have been implemented, many voters have experienced unintended consequences and confusion. Alaskans, for example, are now actively working to repeal RCV due to the challenges it has brought to their electoral process. This movement shows that these systems are flawed and not the solution they claim to be.

By rejecting Prop 140, we can protect the integrity of our electoral system and ensure that every voter's voice is heard without manipulation or confusion. These methods only serve to

complicate the voting process, making it harder for voters to make informed decisions and express their preferences clearly.

Let us stand together to uphold the principles of liberty and freedom in our electoral system. Reject attempts to meddle with our voting process by political consultants and out of state special interest groups. Voting 'No' on Prop 140 will reserve the rights of every citizen to choose their representatives without unnecessary obstacles. Rejecting California election schemes is essential to safeguarding the core values of democracy and ensuring that the will of the people prevails in Arizona's elections.

"

Lou Sniderman, Sun City
Sponsored by Kaaren Sherrell

Vote no on Prop 140! Jungle primaries and ranked choice voting is California-style voting. Instead of a primary followed by a general election, it's more like a general followed by a run off, and then several more run offs. All candidates from both parties are on the same "primary" ballot. The Secretary of State decides how many candidates advance to the general. Thus, one partisan politician decides who gets cut. The primary winners can come from either party, or could come from just one party. This means one or several parties could be completely excluded from the general election, leaving only one option. Ranked choice voting is used in the general election, where several "run offs" happen at once until a "winner" emerges.

The downsides of these California-style election schemes are...

- It's more complicated and confusing. Voters will struggle to rank candidates.
- The person with the most votes could end up losing.
- It's more expensive, relying on a complicated tabulation process.
- It takes even longer to figure out results.
- Worst of all, a single politician gets to decide who gets eliminated from the general ballot.

Vote NO on Prop 140!

Don Hayles, Tucson

"Arizona should reject Prop 140, as these voting systems are not only complex but also costly and not needed. In a time of rampant inflation, we should prioritize the responsible use of taxpayer money - not funnel it to California election schemes that don't work.

Prop 140 will lead to a dilution of the candidate pool as well as unpopular candidates winning. Implementing Prop 140 will also require significant new investments in voter education and system infrastructure, adding unnecessary costs to the electoral process. That's why the drafters of Prop 140 exempted themselves from the constitutional requirement that costly measures like this one identify a funding source. Instead, it will require our overburdened taxpayers to pick up the tab as counties buy all new equipment to try to make it work.

In Arizona, where budget constraints are a pressing issue, it is irresponsible to propose such expensive and complicated changes to the voting system. Instead, we should focus on improving voter turnout, enhancing election security, and addressing more pressing issues facing our state.

We must be wise stewards of public funds and prioritize the efficient use of taxpayer money. Rejecting Prop 140 is a step towards preserving a transparent, fair, and cost-effective electoral process for all residents. Let's focus on solutions that truly benefit the people of Arizona and oppose unnecessary and costly voting systems like those being sold in Prop 140. Vote No!"

Mark David Smith, Prescott
Sponsored by Kaaren Sherrell

"As a concerned parent, I strongly oppose the imposing of jungle primaries and ranked choice voting in Arizona with Prop 140. These voting schemes may sound fancy, but they actually make things more complicated and confusing for voters, especially young and elderly people. Imagine a newly registered 18 year old voter trying to understand how to rank a bunch of candidates, many whom they probably know little to nothing about. Or as an elderly Arizonan who has spent many years voting the current way, navigating this new method of voting that is far more complicated than the current process.

Young and elderly voters already face numerous challenges in engaging with the democratic process. Introducing complex voting systems like those proposed in Prop 140 will further alienate them and discourage their participation. We should be making voting as simple and accessible as possible to encourage all voters to actively participate.

In a time when misinformation and division are already rampant, we need to prioritize clarity and transparency in our electoral processes. Complicated voting systems will lead to alienation and a lack of trust in the system. As parents, we must advocate for straightforward and understandable voting procedures to ensure that our children grow up in a society where their voices are heard and their votes truly matter.

Let's not gamble with the future of our democracy by introducing overly complex voting systems from California. Instead, let's focus on making the voting process more user-friendly and inclusive for all citizens, especially the younger ones who are just beginning to understand the importance of civic participation. Our children deserve a clear and straightforward electoral system that empowers them to engage in democracy with confidence and enthusiasm. Vote NO on Prop 140.

"

Brenda Marts, Tucson
Sponsored by Kaaren Sherrell

"The proposal to introduce jungle primaries and ranked choice voting in Proposition 140 should be strongly opposed. These systems, though appearing to offer benefits on the surface will actually create many problems and complications for the state during a time of economic uncertainty and societal division. Proposition 140 should be strongly opposed.

Ranked choice voting may seem appealing as it allows voters to rank candidates in order of preference. But the complexity of this system leads to confusion among voters, which will lower their trust in elections. Additionally, jungle primaries do not ensure that the most qualified candidates reach the general election after winning in the primary. Instead, they result in situations where two candidates from only a single party advance to the final round, limiting voters' choices and restricting political diversity. This diminishes the representation of different perspectives within the state.

The provisions in this measure will also require spending a lot of our taxpayer money and making major changes to the current election infrastructure. That is why the drafters of this measure EXEMPTED themselves out of a requirement to provide a funding source for the measure. They know it will be costly, and they want you to pay for it.

With our current challenges such as inflation, crime, and a crisis at the border, it is so important to prioritize addressing these critical issues instead of introducing unnecessary changes to the election system. Resources should be directed towards supporting struggling businesses, communities, and individuals, rather than being wasted on using costly and complex California-style voting methods. So we should all VOTE NO ON PROP 140."

Dianna Gates, Glendale
Sponsored by Kaaren Sherrell

"At first glance, Prop 140 may seem like an innovative improvement to the electoral process. But upon closer examination, we see that these proposed changes are California ideas that are not as great nor as fair as they seem, and in fact are dangerous and unfair.

Jungle primaries for instance, on the surface, may seem like a way to promote bipartisanship. But it actually leads to a situation where two candidates from the same party dominate the general election. This would shut out smaller parties and independent voices. This lack of diversity restricts choices for voters and limits representation of various political ideas and values.

Ranked choice voting requires voters to rank every single candidate in order of preference, or risk having their ballot not counted. The process of redistributing votes based upon the various rankings is very complicated and confusing for most voters, lacks any transparency, and results in ballots being tossed out and not counted due to simple errors.

Prop 140 is a way for special interests to maintain their power and control over the electoral process. As voters, we must be wary of massive changes to the electoral system, especially Prop 140 that will put power in the hands of a few. Let's not be swayed by slick marketing tactics and instead focus on preserving the fairness, integrity and inclusivity of our current democratic process. Vote No on Prop 140!

"

Kathy Roper, Phoenix

Sponsored by Kaaren Sherrell

"Vote NO on PROP 140

California-style primaries rob voters of choice. Since all party candidates run on the same ballot, not having a political choice could leave voters with no ideological differences from which to choose. Each party should be permitted to put forth their best candidates as decided by voters of that party, and then voters decide which candidate's platform is best for them in the general election. Without a clear choice, voters could be disenfranchised.

VOTE NO ON PROP 140"

Laurel Lynn Scott, San Tan Valley
Sponsored by Charles Mackey

Prop 140 will make a confusing patchwork ballot where some races will be determined by ranked choice voting and others will not. And the choice as to how many candidates proceed to a general election will be decided by one politician, the Secretary of State. Who drafted this measure? It is clearly broken.

Prop 140 is BAD because it will lead to:

1. Longer and more confusing ballots
2. Delayed election results
3. Ballots being tossed out due to simple mistakes being made by confused voters
4. The wrong candidate being declared the winner.
5. Candidates from only one party on the general election ballot
6. Allowing a candidate with as little as 13 percent of the vote to win in a general election
7. Giving too much power to one politician

Alaska adopted the schemes of Prop 140 in 2022. Now, they already have a measure to undo their mistake.

Let's not make the same mistake in Arizona. Vote "No" on Prop 140.

Lynda Patrick-Hayes, Mesa

VOTE "NO" ON PETITION 140: MAKE ELECTIONS FAIR ARIZONA

Our Current Primary System Works and is Fair

Arizona's current primary system, based on one candidate, one vote, embodies the principles of simplicity, inclusivity, and transparency that are essential for a FAIR and DEMOCRATIC electoral process. Let us prioritize the preservation of the current fundamental principles that underpin a fair and accessible electoral system.

Glaring Problems with this Suggested Constitutional Amendment to Change Our Primaries

Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) and Jungle Primaries are complex, complicated and confusing. Voters will struggle to understand how to rank their preferences or navigate these pointless systems, leading to potential errors, and a lack of confidence in the outcome. Voter engagement is crucial so adding unnecessary layers of complexity could deter participation and undermine the integrity of the elections.

Furthermore, these alternative voting systems will be UNFAIR as they could disproportionately disadvantage smaller parties and independent candidates. In a scenarios, the fragmentation of votes among candidates from the same party could inadvertently boost a candidate from a more dominant political faction, stifling diversity and competition in the electoral landscape.

The lack of transparency in RCV and Jungle Primaries is another major point of concern. Voters may struggle to follow the progression of candidates through multiple rounds or decipher the outcome, eroding trust in the electoral process and potentially disenfranchising certain segments of the electorate.

Moreover, the logistical challenges associated with implementing RCV and Jungle Primaries cannot be overlooked. Overhauling election infrastructure, redesigning ballots, and conducting extensive voter education campaigns would require significant time, resources, and effort. In a state already grappling with various pressing issues, diverting attention and resources to a complicated electoral reform is NOT the most prudent course of action.

Vote “NO” on Petition 140: It will NOT make elections fair in Arizona

Kathleen Mapes, Voter, Tucson

I am a frustrated voter! Prop 140 is being pushed by New York special interests trying to upend Arizona primaries. It is important Arizonans strongly oppose this scheme because it will have damaging effects on our electoral system and ultimately make voters distrust the election system.

Proponents of Prop 140 try to sell this system as being good for inclusivity and reducing partisanship, in reality, it will erode our choices and hinder voters ability to select their own candidates. This could result in "mystery" candidates advancing that voters don't really know where they stand on important issues. Even worse, it has resulted in candidates from only one party advancing to the general election ballot. Given that 2/3 of Arizona voters identify with a political party, many voters will not bother coming out to vote at all.

Proponents of 140 also claim ranked choice voting will ensure more moderate candidates. But the reality is ranked choice voting can end up favoring obscure candidates that are not popular at all. Typically a special interest candidate being pushed by the Political Class.

As a concerned voter, I think that it is crucial to keep the integrity of our electoral process as it is right now and ensure that every vote counts. Complex systems like Prop 140, that are used in California, will only muddy the waters and make it easier for manipulation and abuse. We must uphold the principles of transparency and accountability in our elections, rather than allow these convoluted schemes that benefit a select few. Let's keep our voting process simple and allow voters to make informed decisions without overly complicated systems. Vote NO on Prop 140!—

Joyce Haver, Phoenix

AMAC Action represents 2.2 million Americans over the age of 50, including over 70,000 residing in the state of Arizona.

Prop 140 would allow the Jungle Primaries and Ranked-Choice Voting systems into Arizona's elections despite evidence showing that these systems hurt the democratic process, especially for those over the age of 50 who have spent more than 30 years using the simple and effective one-person, one-vote system.

Our current system's simplicity is its strongest feature; one person has one vote for one candidate for each open office. Ranked-choice voting does the opposite by forcing voters to choose multiple candidates, including some for whom they have little information, creating confusion. Ranked-choice voting is also more likely to lead to errors on the ballot, which creates systematic unfairness in the election. It also has been shown to delay the vote tabulation process increasing the potential for fraud.

Ranked-choice voting is a complex system that will disenfranchise voters who are unfamiliar with how to rank their choices. It manufactures a majority by throwing out ballots and redistributing votes. Voters should be confident in their elections; ranked-choice voting degrades that confidence.

The financial impact of Prop 140 should not be ignored. Arizona has and should continue to invest in secure voting technology; however, any election using ranked-choice voting requires a much more significant investment in technology to help validate the rankings and recount the votes as candidates are removed. In addition to the technology costs, a massive voter education campaign is necessary to inform voters of the new and different voting system.

Arizona does not need Ranked-Choice Voting and the deprivation of choice that comes with Jungle Primaries.

Please vote "No" on Prop 140.

Nikki Colletti, AMAC Action Delegate, AMAC Action, Glendale

Sponsored by AMAC Action

"Please vote no on Prop 140. I have a sign on my car that reads "Don't California My Arizona."" Prop 140 leads to confused voters, extra-long ballots, and one party controlling the general election ballot. I've sat through at least 4 in-depth explanations on how a winner is selected, and I still cannot adequately explain it. The fact that Alaska had a fiasco last election is proof that voters simply won't understand how to vote. Vote NO!

Michal Joyner, Scottsdale

Sponsored by Arizona Free Enterprise Club

Funded by out-of-state special interests, the ironically named “Make Elections Fair Act” imports California’s disastrous election system to Arizona. This measure would eliminate our system of “one person one vote” whereby the candidate with the most votes wins, and replace it with an arbitrary ranking system controlled by a single, partisan politician.

The result would be an election scheme that reduces transparency, delays election results, and disenfranchises voters – particularly those registered as independents. Please preserve the integrity of our elections and vote NO on Proposition 140.

Victor Riches, President & CEO, Goldwater Institute, Phoenix

This measure is a mash-up of what is often referred to as a “Jungle Primary” and “Ranked Choice Voting”. Those of us who have come to Arizona to get away from one-party politics in California saw a very similar proposition on the ballot there about 10 years ago. Since this Arizona measure deals with two subjects, let me break them out for discussion:

A “Jungle Primary” is an election in which all candidates run in the same primary regardless of political party. The candidates may list their party affiliation on the ballot, but they are not required to, nor are they required to have the endorsement of the party they claim to represent. This system can be easily manipulated so that voters from one party vote for the weakest opponent in the opposition party to help their preferred candidate win. Often it results in top candidates from the same party. This is the way it has been done in California for the last decade and how’s that worked out? (Answer: one-party rule).

Ranked-Choice Voting (RCV): In this proposal, the partisan Secretary of State (SOS) will determine how many candidates will move on from the “Jungle Primary” to the General Election. In the General Election voters will list on the ballot their order of preference for candidates surviving the primary. This can result in long lines at the polls and if you like getting election results on election night or the next day, forget about it as this system is very complicated. The bottom-dwellers on each round are eliminated and the SOS determines how many get to go on to the next round. It usually takes multiple rounds to determine the winner, and the winner may not be the winner of the popular vote.

Please vote NO on Prop 140!

Conrad Tolson, Concerned citizen, Eloy

California Style Elections (I-14-2024):

As an Arizonan voter, I oppose the implementation of California-style elections in our state. The proposed jungle primary and ranked-choice voting system may seem appealing at first glance, promising more choices and a fairer representation of voter preferences. However, upon closer inspection, we find that is not accurate and its proposal should cause significant concern.

The jungle primary system could lead to chaotic and crowded ballots. With all candidates, regardless of party, competing in a single primary, voters might face overwhelming choices without adequate information. This could potentially dilute the quality of candidates and make it harder for voters to make informed decisions.

Ranked-choice voting is not the answer for Arizona. The complexity of ranking candidates could confuse voters, especially those unfamiliar with the system, potentially leading to voter errors and disenfranchisement. I have talked with hundreds of Arizonans, and it is clear, they do not want Ranked-choice voting.

Under Arizona's current system, voters can easily identify candidates affiliated with major parties, which helps in understanding each candidate's general platform and policies. This clarity could be lost with the proposed changes, making it harder for voters to distinguish between candidates and their policy stances.

While the California-style elections propose innovative changes, they may not be suitable for Arizona's unique political landscape. The potential confusion and complexity introduced by the jungle primary and ranked-choice voting system could undermine voter confidence and the integrity of our elections. Therefore, I believe maintaining Arizona's current election system, with necessary improvements, is preferable over adopting California-style elections. Please vote NO on I-14-2024.

Andrew Adams, Gilbert Citizen, Gilbert
Sponsored by LD14GOP

Arizona voters don't need more confusion and opportunities for manipulation. Vote NO on Proposition 140.

Proposition 140 would require ranked choice voting, which is confusing and undemocratic because candidates with the most first-place votes don't always win.

For example, this can happen when voters from one party undermine the primary election by choosing weaker candidates from other parties as their second choice. This strategy aims to increase the chances of their own party's candidate winning in the general election by ensuring the competition is against a weaker opponent.

Vote NO on Proposition 140.

Bob Pamplin, Mesa

The League of Women Voters of Arizona strongly opposes this amendment to the Arizona Constitution. The League supports a voting system that better represents the voters, such as Ranked Choice Voting for single-seat races and proportional representation for multi-seat races. The Make Elections Fair citizens' initiative wants Open Primaries (one primary instead of separate Democratic and Republican primaries), saying it will increase participation by independent voters. It also includes additional changes that would equalize signature requirements for all candidates for federal and statewide office, eliminate public funding for party primaries, and allow the legislature to determine how many candidates advance to the general election (a minimum of 2 and up to 5). If more than 2 candidates advance to the general election, the legislature must determine a ranking system for voting. This is one of this

proposal's fatal flaws; using a citizens' initiative to give more power to the legislature is against its purpose and sets a bad precedent.

Despite its claim, this initiative does not increase independent voters' participation due to the potential intrusion of partisan legislators to manipulate the general election if they codify a top-two system. This initiative is confusing and misleading and does not help the voters.

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ARIZONA URGES YOU TO VOTE NO

Pinny Sheoran, President, League of Women Voters of Arizona, Scottsdale

Sponsored by League of Women Voters of Arizona

"Vote NO on Prop 140!

Prop 140 makes significant changes to our constitution, and imports California-style election schemes into Arizona. Here's why you should oppose it:

- **Confusing System:** Creates a patchwork of voting styles that make ballots longer and more difficult to understand.
- **Disenfranchises Voters:** Deprives voters of choice by allowing only one political party to appear on the general election ballot.
- **Longer Lines at Polls:** Longer wait times at polling stations add unnecessary burdens on Election Day.
- **Delays in Getting Results:** Similar schemes in California have caused major delays in tabulation; it has even resulted in the wrong candidate being declared the winner.
- **Error-Prone:** The complexity of the new voting rules increases the likelihood of errors, which will get voters' ballots bounced.
- **Costly:** Election officials from all 15 counties will need all new equipment, and will need to design a new ballot style every election cycle. \$\$\$
- **Partisan Manipulation:** Gives unprecedented power to the Secretary of State to decide how many candidates advance from the primary to the general election. This undemocratic provision allows partisan manipulation for personal and political gain.

Don't let Prop 140 undermine our democracy. Vote NO to protect our elections from confusion, disenfranchisement, and partisan manipulation."

Susan Garvey, Prescott

Sponsored by Charles Mackey

Prop 140 is a poorly written amendment to Arizona's Constitution that will leave voters regretting its adoption.

New voting schemes like those proposed in Prop 140 have been tried in California already, and the results have been terrible. Many California voters have no one to vote for in the general election, because the primary has already scrubbed the candidate slate of any diversity. This depresses voter turnout.

And ranked choice voting has been equally disastrous. Its complicated algorithmic process for tabulating voter ballots has caused major delays and errors so drastic that, in one local California race, the wrong person was even declared the winner!

A provision completely unique in Prop 140, and untested anywhere else in the states, allows for just one politician, the Secretary of State, to decide how many candidates move from the primary to the general election for every race. This is such a terrible idea it makes me wonder if the drafters of this measure even knew what they were doing. Allowing a partisan politician to pick and choose which scheme will be used for every race to benefit his/her own political party (and even his/her own race) will obviously lead to election manipulation, and is totally undemocratic.

Please vote NO on Prop 140!

Inger Johnson, Chino Valley
Sponsored by Charles Mackey

"Prop 140 is a dangerous proposal that could harm the integrity of Arizona's elections. These new systems threaten to undermine the unique character and values that make our state special. By opposing these changes, we can protect our traditions and preserve the authenticity of our election process.

Ranked choice voting is a complicated and confusing system that will confuse voters, particularly those with limited education and familiarity with politics. It requires voters to rank candidates in order of preference, which could lead to mistakes and errors that ultimately distort election outcomes. This system could end up keeping voters away on election day because they do not fully understand how to participate effectively, leading to results that do not truly reflect the will of the people.

Similarly, jungle primaries also pose a threat to the democratic process. By letting candidates from all parties run in a single primary and advancing the top two candidates to the general election, jungle primaries will eliminate representation of smaller parties and limit voter choice. This system could result in only candidates from the same party getting to the general election, effectively marginalizing 50 percent of the electorate, who will not even bother to vote.

As Arizonans who cherish our state's identity and values, we must come together to oppose Proposition 140. Let's protect the way Arizonans like voting by rejecting these California ideas and saying 'No' to Prop 140.

"

Barbara Mellor, Rio Verde
Sponsored by Arizona Free Enterprise Club

As a proud Arizonan and American, I value the simple and straightforward process of our current primary system. It ensures every citizen's voice is heard equally, without any confusing ranking systems or extra steps. Changing to Jungle Primaries and Ranked Choice Voting would only

complicate things for me and many others who have been voting this way for years. Let's stick to what works and continue to uphold the democratic principles we cherish -- one person, one vote.

I have been proudly casting my vote in Arizona for decades, I strongly oppose the ideas in Prop 140. The current primary system may not be perfect, but it provides a simple and straightforward way for every citizen's voice to be heard equally and clearly. Prop 140 would not only create obstacles for me and many other long-time voters in Arizona; it would also risk undermining the democratic principles that we hold dear.

I value the tradition and consistency of our current primary system, and I believe that it has served us well over the years. I do not see the need to completely upend the system. Let's stick to what works and continue to uphold the democratic values that we cherish as Americans and Arizonans.

I urge all voters to vote NO on Proposition 140. Let's preserve the simplicity and fairness of our current primary system to ensure that every citizen's voice is heard and respected in the voting process.

Mary Reitz, Fountain Hills
Sponsored by Arizona Free Enterprise Club

Ranked choice voting (RCV) and jungle primaries, proposed changes to the electoral system in Prop 140, claim to promote fairness and representativeness. However, as someone who values simplicity and efficiency, I strongly oppose these measures, as they bring unnecessary complexity and uncertainty to the electoral process.

If we accept ranked choice voting, this will add layers of time and complexity by requiring voters to rank candidates in order of preference. As tested in other states like Alaska and Maine, RCV has proven to confuse voters and make the electoral process cumbersome. As someone who already juggles various responsibilities, I do not need the added burden of navigating a convoluted voting system.

Prop 140 claims to be inclusive, but in reality, it often results in only candidates from a singular party getting to the general election. That has been the case in California, where they use jungle primaries, and it has all but eliminated a diverse range of candidates that represent different ideas and therefore severely restricted options for voters.

By maintaining the current electoral system in Arizona, we can uphold the simplicity and transparency that are crucial for small businesses to thrive. Let's instead focus on policies that promote economic growth and create a conducive environment for entrepreneurship, rather than introducing changes that complicate and undermine our democratic processes.

I am advocating for straightforward and business-friendly practices. I urge fellow Arizonans to reject Prop 140. Let's prioritize clarity and efficiency in our electoral system, to ensure that the voice of every voter is heard without unnecessary complications.

Daniel Spencer, Lakeside

Sponsored by Arizona Free Enterprise Club

Prop 140 proposes dramatic changes to the way elections are conducted in Arizona. Few states actually use jungle primaries and ranked choice voting (RCV) on state-wide races, as proposed in Prop 140, because it turns out they wind up being unpopular with voters.

Ranked choice voting is a messy system. The political consultants pushing this system in Prop 140 assure voters that the candidate with the broadest appeal will win the election. In reality, it often leads to bizarre outcomes where the candidate least known or favored by the majority of the electorate can win. Currently, voting is simple. Voters choose the one candidate they want to see win. With RCV, many voters will quickly get overwhelmed by the need to rank multiple candidates, leading to errors or even apathy towards the voting process.

Prop 140 wants to majorly change our primary system also. In Arizona, the current primary system allows voters to choose their preferred candidate without the added burden of ranking multiple choices or getting through a jungle of candidates. It is important to preserve the integrity of our elections by sticking to a system that is simple, efficient, and familiar to voters -- one vote for one candidate.

By saying “No” to Prop 140 in Arizona, we can ensure that the voice of the people is heard loud and clear and fairly. Let's protect our democratic values by rejecting these misguided proposals and preserving the current system that has served us well.

Charmon Puhlmann, Mesa

Sponsored by Arizona Free Enterprise Club

Proposition 140 “Jungle Primaries (Secretary of state Petition Serial Number: I-14-2024)
Vote NO on Jungle Primaries (Make Elections Fair).

This seemingly innocent name masks a hidden provision in the measure that lets just one politician, the Secretary of State, decide how many candidates move from the primary to the general election.

This could result in some races where candidates from only one political party appear on the general election ballot, depriving many voters of any choice at all.

This is a precursor to Ranked Choice Voting that makes voting more confusion, longer ballots increased election complexity.

Additional reasons for saying NO to this Proposition is that it will lead to manipulation of the voting process, undermine traditional political party structures, limit voter choices and disadvantage minority parties.

The groups pushing this initiative are trying to trick voters into supporting a poorly written constitutional amendment, while arguing it will lead to less partisanship and more centrist candidates on the general election ballot.

This is a blatant attempt to disenfranchise voters and deprive them of their right to choose their candidates. One politician should never have the power to decide who Arizona voters can cast their ballot for.

Vote NO on Jungle Primaries (Make Elections Fair).

Deborah Kirkland, Mesa

"As a lifelong Arizona voter who has experienced numerous election seasons, I strongly oppose Prop 140. Our current primary and "first past the post" voting systems are straightforward and transparent. I don't want to vote how a minority of other states do!

In fact, this initiative is being funded primarily by a New York state organization called Open Primaries, ironically from a state that doesn't use "open primaries" themselves. What they don't even want in New York, they want to force into Arizona.

Prop 140 is clearly being driven by special interests and will impose a chaotic voting system on Arizonans. Older voters like me will find it overwhelming and confusing. Prop 140 will be sure to deter individuals -- many new or old to voting -- from exercising their right to participate in elections. Maybe that is the point for these out-of-state groups, who have no business meddling in Arizona elections.

As someone who values the integrity and reliability of our electoral system, I believe we should focus on maintaining and improving our existing process, rather than introducing convoluted changes. For that reason, I will vote NO on Proposition 140.

Together, we can prioritize preserving a fair and efficient voting process that encourages citizen engagement and upholds the democratic values of OUR state. Vote No!"

Heather Turley, Mesa

Sponsored by Arizona Free Enterprise Club

VOTE NO on Proposition 140 to defend our democracy and ensure voter rights.

This would change the AZ Constitution and our voting process and implement California-style election systems. First, all candidates, regardless of party affiliation, would appear on the same primary ballot. The general election ballots may have a confusing combination of both voting for a selected candidate (as currently done) or having voters rank all candidates (regardless of party affiliation) in order of the voter's preference. Thus, different voting rules would apply to different races, up and down the ballot. Finally, how these ranked votes would be tabulated is not defined and the « algorithms » used to calculate the winners is complex and not easily certifiable. It will be extremely difficult to validate the results.

There are three main issues with Proposition 140:

This process can lead to candidates from only one party advancing to the general election for an office, thus eliminating choices for voters. Imagine having only the choice between two Democrats or two Republicans for state senate, rather than choosing between a Democrat and a Republican or other party candidate.

Undemocratic complete power can be given to a single individual - the Secretary of State - to determine the number of candidates for each office who may advance from the primary to the

general election, including his or her own. This allows a partisan politician to choose which scheme will be used for each race to benefit a chosen political party.

The system is confusing and might lead to voters' ballots being discarded for not being completed correctly. It also could lead to the wrong candidate being declared the winner due to complicated tabulations.

VOTE NO on Proposition 140 to preserve AZ democracy.

Victoria Craig, Concerned Citizen, Scottsdale

"Prop 140 is being proposed broadly as an alternative to the traditional voting system in Arizona, and in particular as a way to better serve Independent voters. However, I am an independent voter and I strongly oppose implementing these systems in our state. These voting methods, far from making my voice count, will only serve to complicate the process and make it harder for people like me to understand and engage in the electoral process.

Ranked choice voting, in particular, can be difficult to grasp for many voters. Under this system, voters don't just vote for who they like best; they must rank every single candidate, even obscure ones they know nothing about or strongly dislike. Though supporters argue this method ensures that the winning candidate has majority support, it actually confuses and frustrates voters, who may not fully understand how their votes are being counted. As an independent voter, I want a system that is clear and straightforward, not one that adds unnecessary layers of complexity.

Similarly, Jungle Primaries, where all candidates from all parties compete on a single ballot, can also create confusion and uncertainty for voters. Without the clarity of party labels for candidates on the ballot, voters may struggle to make informed decisions about the candidates and their platforms. This lack of transparency could further alienate voters, making them feel disconnected from the electoral process.

I am an independent voter who values clarity and fairness in the voting process, I believe that implementing Prop 140 in Arizona is not the solution. It is essential that any changes to our voting process prioritize transparency and accessibility, to ensure that every vote truly counts. Vote No!"

Angela Guerrero, Tempe
Sponsored by Arizona Free Enterprise Club

- Vote No on Prop 140

Prop 140 would bring a confusing and error-prone California-style election scheme to Arizona. What do we lose if this election scheme is adopted? You lose the opportunity to vote for the candidates most closely aligned with your ideas and political philosophy. For example, if there are five candidates for an office from all parties, all five would be listed together on the ballot. If a voter only chooses to rank one or two because he does not like the others, his ballot will be thrown out if it goes to a very likely second or third round. In other words, under this scheme, a

voter would be forced to vote for candidates he does not agree with, or his ballot will be thrown out if the vote goes to a third round. It could also easily lead to candidates from the same party advancing as the only choice in the general election which would disenfranchise a substantial part of the voters of the excluded political parties (and nonparties).

Another thing we lose would be any chance of getting timely election results. There is already a general dissatisfaction among voters due to the length of time it takes to get election results. Prop 140, if passed, would exacerbate this delay in getting results since the count would likely go through several rounds of elimination until one candidate has a majority of the vote. Another delay would be at the voting centers. Under Prop 140 the ballot would be longer, confusing, and complicated. The lines at the polls would be longer and would increase the likelihood that voters would make mistakes which could lead to having their ballot thrown out.

Vote No on Prop 140 and preserve our

James Roth, Arizona Citizen, Rio Verde

Vote NO on Prop 140!

The term "Fair" Elections is extremely misleading in that it tries to convince voters that major changes are required to our current electoral process. But Jungle Primaries lead to only candidates from one political party appearing on the general election ballot, depriving many voters of any choice, which is not "fair" at all. Those in other states with this Jungle Primary system regret that they have it. They say it is horrible and unfair!

Prop 140 creates risks to our elections without providing any clear benefits.

In addition to being unnecessary, this initiative would complicate and raise the cost of administering elections in the following manner:

1. More Bureaucracy: Managing new voting technologies will create more red tape.
2. Election Integrity Risks: Jungle primaries could compromise the security of our elections.
3. No Funding Plan: There's no clear way to pay for these changes if passed.
4. Voter Confusion: This system will likely confuse many voters, making it harder to cast informed votes.

Voting "NO" on jungle primaries helps ensure our elections remain simple, secure, and well-funded. Groups that promote and fund these types of ballot initiatives have a hidden political agenda that runs counter to their publicly stated objective.

Vote NO to protect our current system and prevent California-style primaries from being enacted in Arizona.

Lynanne Cottle, Mesa

Sponsored by Arizona Free Enterprise Club

"I was approached six times by people gathering signatures for Prop 140 and each time was the same – when asked what the petition was for, the signature gatherers' uniform response was: “to allow ALL voters to vote in the Primary Elections”.

When I informed these paid circulators that voters already had that right, the signature gatherers would immediately leave to gather signatures elsewhere. Twice I observed the same petition gatherer using the same deception to collect more signatures.

If the idea was good then there would not be any need to use deception to get us to sign. What other easter eggs are they smuggling into this initiative under the guise of what is already allowed under the status quo. Ideas birthed in deception are always destructive.

Please do not be deceived, ALL voters already have the right to vote in the primaries.

Vote No on Prop 140"

Tom Kouts, Phoenix

"Maintaining the integrity of Arizona's primary system is crucial in upholding the democratic values that our state was built upon. Ranked choice voting and jungle primaries may be seen as innovative solutions to some, but in reality, they represent unnecessary risks that compromise the fairness and transparency of our elections.

We don't need ranked choice voting. It is a complex process of ranking candidates that will confuse voters, be prone to errors, and be ripe for manipulation. By straying from the simple and straightforward one candidate, one vote system, we risk undermining the trust in our electoral process that Arizonans have come to rely upon.

Jungle primaries that merge candidates from all parties onto a single ballot, blur the distinctions between candidates and deprive voters of a clear choice between candidates with different political ideologies. This chips away at the importance of political diversity and representation in our democratic system, especially because it can result in candidates from only one political party appearing on the general election ballot.

As Arizona voters, we should not support these changes that will disrupt the fairness and clarity of our elections. The current system has proven its effectiveness over the years, and any attempts to fix what isn't broken should be met with skepticism. Let's honor our electoral process by standing firm against ranked choice voting and jungle primaries. Our democracy is too precious to risk upending it with imported California election schemes that have proven to fail voters. Please vote NO on Prop 140.

"

Nancy Cottle, Mesa

Sponsored by Arizona Free Enterprise Club

Having to rank every candidate in every race makes ballots long and complicated. Many studies show that when you complicate ballots, the less affluent, ESL, less educated, elderly, etc. get left out. This is NOT saying they cannot figure it out, but data shows this type of ballot is easier for them to make mistakes on. It has been found that there is a 650% increase in spoiled ballots. Some voters get confused as to what they are to do and mistakes are made leading to their ballot not being counted.

It is also concerning that one person, the Secretary of State, determines how any people will be on the ballot in the general election. This gives a lot of power to one individual. These decisions should not be left to the whims of one person.

Let's not overcomplicate such an important duty as voting, and let's not hand over all power to one partisan politician. This is a type of voting that has been repealed by 85% of the US jurisdictions that have tried it in the last 100 years. Please vote NO on Prop 140.

Florence Smith, Phoenix

Vote NO on Prop 140, which proposes to bring California-style Jungle Primaries and Rank Choice Voting to Arizona. With Jungle Primaries, the general election ballot may have candidates of only one political party vying for such important offices as Governor. Voters who want to vote for a candidate of an opposition party in the general election are disenfranchised, their only choice being to cast a normally futile write-in ballot.

If Rank Choice Voting is combined with the Jungle Primary, the situation becomes even more bizarre and unfair. With Rank Choice Voting, long lines at the polls can be expected as voters struggle to rank all of the candidates for every single race. Other delays may ensue due to the complicated nature of the counting. All for nothing. This confusing system does not do anything to elect a better candidate or provide a better election experience for voters.

For the most part, voters are in the dark about the details of how such elections would work, the particulars being left to the Secretary of State. This much power should not be left to one partisan politician. Vote NO on Prop 140 and stop these schemes while we can.

Brenda Warneka, Voter, Scottsdale

"Make elections fair" for WHO????

Prop 140 contains a very large number of ideas that each need to be examined in detail; almost all of them are uniquely bad ideas.

Prop 140 will completely undo the purpose of having a primary election and disenfranchise voters by not allowing them to endorse their party candidates. It also gives power to the Secretary of State, a PARTISAN politician with a vested interest in the outcome (a classic conflict of interest) to choose how many candidates appear in the general election on a race-by-race basis. This is too much power invested in one person, which is undemocratic and UNFAIR.

Prop 140 could allow only one party's candidates to appear on the ballot, thus ignoring the will of many voters as they may not be able to vote FOR the candidate of their choice in the general election because no one from their party may appear on the ballot. This is undemocratic and UNFAIR.

Prop 140 will permit non-party affiliated candidates for President to spend your tax dollars to start their campaign, really? This is a waste of your taxes!

Please vote NO on Prop 140.

Written by:

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I oppose the Proposition 140 for Arizona. Many people, including me, strongly oppose these new systems because they are too hard to understand in English, yet alone any other language.

Many voters support a simple voting system where they can vote for one candidate with their one vote as it is much more straightforward and easier to understand. By sticking to the current format of voting, we can be sure that all voters are able to participate in the electoral process without confusion or uncertainty.

Please join me in voting 'No' to Prop 140.

Peter Anello, Mesa

Sponsored by Arizona Free Enterprise Club

Prop 140 has been named in such a way that it sounds like a good thing. It's when you get into the details that it fails us. It makes our elections more confusing, makes ballots longer and places a burden on election officials that ends up with votes not getting counted due to simple errors.

Candidates end up on a ballot through a process that takes the control out of the hands of the voters and places it into the hands of ONE politician. This means you may not even have any choices that represent your ideals in the general election. It also plainly states that Rankings may be used (Sec 4. Article VII, section 7) to determine who has the highest number of votes. This has been a disaster in other states such as Alaska and California.

This won't fix anything it will break things further.

Vote NO on Prop 140!

John Hassett, Phoenix

Did you know the writers of the "Make Elections Fair Arizona" opinion-tested each and every word to ensure you would be fooled with a title that makes you feel warm and fuzzy while BIG MONEY special interests seek to cut off your access to elections where the little guy actually has a chance to win?

It's true! Their entire goal isn't just to manipulate your vote; it's to manipulate every ballot you complete from here on out. It's to make voting so complicated that you lose your will to access your most precious right passed down by the founders and protected by so many who put it all on the line to ensure liberty in our Republic lives on for the next generation.

Jungle primaries and ranked-choice voting lead to single-party rule, favoring politicians backed by dark money who often deceive voters. Phoenix's single-party rule, resulting from jungle primaries, has led to deteriorating infrastructure, high taxes, inflation, and neglect of residents' needs. Alaska is also facing corruption due to these voting schemes and is working to restore partisan primaries to combat it.

Your NO vote on Prop 140 is not just a mark on a ballot; it's a powerful decision. It's a rebuke of the BIG MONEY political class who think you deserve less from your government while their wallets fill up in abundance from the theft of their trade.

Your NO vote on Prop 140 means you keep your neighborhood precinct committeemen elections and you can even run for office to be the voice of your community yourself if you ever so desire.

Your NO vote on Prop 140 means local elections won't cost millions of dollars to win.

Read for yourself why is a boondoggle scam that's bad for AZ at <https://907honest.com/>

Merissa Hamilton, Chairwoman, EZAZ.org, Phoenix