

Arguments “Against” Proposition 314

As Bishops of the Arizona Catholic Conference, we express our frustration about the current situation at the US-Mexico border. The lack of a federal solution to challenges faced by both vulnerable asylum seekers and American communities is sorely needed and long overdue. The states and local communities along the border shoulder much of the challenges created by the the federal government’s neglect. Its failure to address increased migration in a pragmatic and humane way has led to an ineffective response at the border and an unacceptable number of migrant deaths.

We do not question the good intentions of those seeking to address these challenges. Nonetheless, we believe that Proposition 314 will have unanticipated consequences, and that it is not the right solution.

Although proponents argue that Proposition 314 is about border security, the reality is that its passage will create real fear within Arizona communities that will have harmful consequences. In particular, by having state and local law enforcement responsible for enforcing what should be the role of federal immigration authorities, many crime victims and witnesses will be afraid to go to law enforcement and report crimes. As a result, dangerous criminals will not be apprehended and public safety will be threatened.

Additionally, immigration by its nature is a national issue and the regulation of immigration extends beyond the purview of individual states, points consistently affirmed by the U.S. Supreme Court. Rather than holding the federal government accountable, Proposition 314 will only create further disorder and confusion, placing unworkable and unrealistic expectations on state judicial officers and law enforcement personnel.

The federal government needs to do a much better job of managing our national border and providing comprehensive immigration reform. Proposition 314, however, is unlikely to survive legal challenges and is not the right solution to these problems.

John Dolan, Bishop of Phoenix, Arizona Catholic Conference, Phoenix; Edward Weisenburger, Bishop of Tucson, Arizona Catholic Conference, Phoenix; James Wall, Bishop of Gallup, Arizona Catholic Conference, Phoenix; and Eduardo Navares, Auxiliary Bishop of Phoenix, Arizona Catholic Conference, Phoenix
Sponsored by Arizona Catholic Conference

Prop 314 threatens the well-being and economic stability of Arizona. While it claims to address “border security” and the fentanyl crisis, it fails to address the root issues in public health, and instead targets vulnerable populations and businesses crucial to our state.

Implementing and enforcing this bill would require substantial taxpayer funding. The Department of Public Safety (DPS) projects costs at \$41 million annually, a significant expenditure given the state's current budget deficit. These funds would be diverted from essential services to cover court proceedings, incarceration, and administrative expenses. Additionally, it would strain rural police departments that lack the resources or training to implement this bill.

This bill risks Arizona's financial stability by driving away workers and businesses due to its hostile environments and the anti immigrant narrative.

Arizona's agriculture heavily relies on seasonal and migrant labor. Strict verification requirements could lead to severe labor shortages, increased operational costs, and potential crop losses. Arizona businesses depend on a diverse workforce, including the labor and buying power of the immigrant community. Prop 314 would instill fear in communities of color, particularly those concerned about wrongful detention while seeking employment. This fear would hinder businesses' ability to maintain operations, causing economic stagnation and loss of productivity. Companies may hesitate to invest or expand in Arizona due to the unstable regulatory climate, driving them to relocate to more business-friendly states.

Prop 314 would empower police to demand proof of legal status, straining resources and damaging community relations. The bill's harsh provisions, such as prosecuting asylum seekers and separating families, would lead to significant social and economic repercussions.

Prop 314 does not address border security, or the fentanyl public health crisis we are facing. It jeopardizes economic development, undermines our values and hinders progress of rural communities.

Tom Prezelski, Senior Political Advisor, Rural Arizona Action (RAZA), Coolidge
Sponsored by Rural Arizona Action

Vote No on Proposition 314 'Secure the Border Act'

Proposition 314 (aka the 'Secure the Border Act') presents a troubling path for Arizona. This proposition is an unfunded mandate that could lead to enormous costs for cities and counties in Arizona. Without a dedicated way to pay for this proposition, the burden turns to local law enforcement, courts, and the jail and prisons to come up with ways to cut their budget in order to fund the mandates of this proposition. This will undoubtedly prevent them from prioritizing the public safety needs relevant to their communities.

If you pass Proposition 314, essential health and public services for many Arizona families could be denied, leading to worsening economic disparities and health inequities among Arizona's communities. This proposition also imposes unjust and excessive regulations on families working barely above the poverty line in Arizona.

In addition, this proposition has no protections against enforcement actions in sensitive locations like hospitals, schools, or places of worship. This proposition also has no protections for the elderly, children, or other vulnerable individuals.

Additionally, Proposition 314 would deepen existing divides and foster discrimination within our society. It would lead to unfair policing, harassment, and racial profiling, violating basic safeguards like due process that we all deeply value.

Proposition 314 also provides immunity to law enforcement and government officials, meaning they can't be held accountable by Arizonans.

By voting no on this proposition, we send a clear message: discrimination has no place in Arizona. Our neighbors should not be denied their basic rights.

Please vote no on Proposition 314 to stand for a fair future for all Arizonans.

Will Humble, Executive Director, Arizona Public Health Association, Phoenix

Vote NO on Proposition 314!

Proposition 314 will fail by design. It was drafted by the same kind of radical politicians who, at the Federal level, torpedoed a bipartisan proposal that would have actually helped with immigration issues. They were afraid a real solution would cost them their favorite wedge issue. It is modeled on a Texas law that has accomplished nothing but lawsuits.

Fentanyl is indeed a problem but efforts to deal with dangerous drugs only by draconian policies aimed at restricting the supply always fail. The act itself calls out the need to "address the drug overdose crisis in Arizona through comprehensive and collaborative approaches.: Let's try that. This proposal doesn't do it.

In many respects this is a repeat of the failed SB1070 that not only divided the people of Arizona but hurt our reputation nationally. Recently, we have succeeded in attracting employers providing good jobs. Passage of this law could put that at risk.

This proposal assumes that police can tell by sight whether someone is a citizen, a legal immigrant, or undocumented. Even though serious crime is down in Arizona the police have more important things to do than guess at a person's immigration status.

The drafters of this measure clearly don't care if people are harassed even if they are citizens or legal immigrants. Common decency requires a no vote on this proposal.

Cyndi Tuell, chair, Sierra Club - Grand Canyon Chapter, Tucson and Jim Vaaler, vice chair, Sierra Club - Grand Canyon Chapter, Phoenix

Proposition 314 (the so-called Secure the Border Act) comes with several unacceptable costs – to our communities, our state's reputation, and notably to our economy. And it does nothing to secure the border.

We must heed lessons learned from SB1070, the "Show Me Your Papers" law that prompted protests and boycotts against Arizona. The anti-immigrant law was overturned in 2010 by the U.S. Supreme Court, which deemed immigration enforcement a federal issue, not a state issue. But by then, the damage was done.

In addition to Arizona's bruised reputation, a study found SB1070 cost \$141 million in lost conference revenue in 2010 – or nearly \$200 million in today dollars, when adjusted for

inflation. Adverse impact on Arizona's tourism industry in SB1070's first year totaled \$253 million in lost economic output, \$9.4 million in lost tax revenues, and the loss of 2,761 jobs. The harm goes beyond lost tourism dollars. Legal and compliance costs related to racial profiling by Maricopa County Sheriff's Office and its immigration crackdowns exceed \$300 million. Harm to families was immeasurably costly on a human level.

Simply put, Prop 314 is not the answer and will only create more problems. We believe the responsibility remains squarely in the hands of the federal government. Congress must fix our antiquated immigration system with comprehensive reform.

Arizona and other states must put more pressure on our leaders in Washington, D.C. This ballot measure does not do that. Instead, it puts the burden on local municipalities to enforce a state mandate with no state dollars allocated for additional police, incarcerations, or court proceedings. Turning police officers into de facto border patrol agents is a bad idea. Arizona, we've gone down this dead-end road before. It's time to find bipartisan avenues for addressing our immigration challenges. Vote NO on Proposition 314.

Alicia Nunez, President and CEO, Chicanos Por La Causa, Phoenix

The League of Women Voters of Arizona strongly opposes proposition 314 which would empower state and local law enforcement agencies to arrest people who have entered the country illegally, and it would impose criminal liability on anyone who sells "lethal fentanyl." Provisions of this proposition include: making it a state crime for noncitizens to enter the state at any location other than the port of entry; allowing state and local police to arrest noncitizens who cross the border unlawfully; allowing state judges to order deportations

This proposition poses a significant threat to those who have been granted Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status before 2021, potentially subjecting them to increased risks of incarceration and deportation. U.S. district courts have ruled that individuals who obtained DACA status on or before July 16, 2021, are protected, yet this proposition attempts to undermine those protections.

In addition, this proposition would have a negative impact on the safety and well-being of minor children, as it would lead to the separation and detention of families arrested on suspicion of legal violations.

This proposition is an attempt to repeat Senate Bill 1070, the 14-year-old law that led to rampant racial profiling, ongoing legal costs, and a significant blow to Arizona's reputation. The legacy of economic damage, law enforcement targeting, and incarceration of members of marginalized communities must not be repeated.

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

As a middle school social studies teacher, my job is to teach American history and civics to the young people who come through my doors. It doesn't matter what my students look like, where their families are from, or how long they've lived in Arizona; all of them deserve to be challenged, supported, and guided to reach their full potential.

And that's why I'm so concerned about the consequences of Proposition 314. Heightened anti-immigrant rhetoric, fears about immigration raids, concerns about the possible detention or deportation of family members—all of these things have an immense impact on kids' well-being and on their ability to learn.

I'm particularly horrified by the possibility that Proposition 314 could allow for immigration raids on school campuses, even during school hours. I remember what it was like to teach during the darkest days of SB1070 and the climate of fear that it created on my school campus. We cannot and will not allow this state to go back.

We need to make sure that schools remain places of learning, not fear. Please vote NO on this hateful and divisive proposal.

Marisol Garcia, President, Arizona Education Association, Phoenix

In the spirit of compassion and justice that guides my faith, I strongly oppose HCR2060, the "Secure the Border Act."

This proposed legislation threatens the inherent dignity of every human being and stands in stark contrast to our call to love and serve our neighbors. As people of faith, we are compelled to uphold the inherent worth of every individual, knowing that God does not declare anyone illegal.

HCR2060 echoes the divisive and harmful rhetoric of past legislation. This bill has the potential to lead to increased racial profiling, which can foster distrust and fear within our communities. It may deter cooperation with law enforcement among mixed-status families, making our neighborhoods less safe. Additionally, the financial and moral costs imposed on our community by this act are substantial and unjustifiable.

Our faith teaches us to embrace the stranger, to provide sanctuary for those in need, and to work for a society where justice and compassion prevail. This legislation stands in direct opposition to these teachings by promoting division and fear rather than unity and understanding.

The impact of HCR2060 extends beyond the immediate effects on individuals; it damages the moral fabric of our society. It undermines the trust and solidarity that are essential for a healthy and just community. As people of faith, we are called to stand against policies that dehumanize and discriminate.

In this critical moment, we must embody our sacred injunction by actively opposing measures that harm our neighbors and violate the principles of justice and compassion. Let us come together to ensure that our laws reflect the love and dignity that every person deserves, as we affirm that no one is illegal in the eyes of God.

Rev. Katie Sexton, Glendale

The U.S. Constitution's Supremacy Clause and Foreign Commerce Clause with the laws addressing unlawful presence and e-verify.

Congress has preempted states from regulating immigration. These issues were previously decided in *Arizona v. US* in 2012. The Court described the U.S. Government's authority to regulate immigration and undocumented as "broad" and "undoubted". It looked to the legislative power of Congress to "establish a uniform Rule of Naturalization", enumerated in Article 1, Section 8, Clause 4 of the Constitution as well as the longstanding interpretation of federal sovereignty in areas pertaining to the control and conduct of relations with foreign nations.

Single Subject under the AZ Constitution:

The Arizona Constitution requires "every act shall embrace but one subject." According to case law, an act should embrace one general subject: and by this is meant, that all matters treated, should fall under one general idea. *Hoffman v. Reagan*, 245 Ariz. 313, 316 ¶ 14, 429 P.3d 70, 73 (2018)

A legislative "subject" entails all matters having a logical or natural connection, and must be essential to the accomplishment of one main objective. Matters should fall under one general idea. The authors of HCR 2060 tried to tie in the fentanyl language. This is a separate crime having largely nothing to do with border security. The court may look to the record the legislature set on this bill to also see if there was a discriminatory intent by those passing the bill. The bill clearly differentiates between foreign made or American made fentanyl. This can be challenged as both having a discriminatory intent, and a discriminatory impact. If the large majority of those prosecuted come from one race or national origin, then there is evidence to say that HCR 2060 now proposition 314 has a discriminatory impact.

Catherine Miranda, Senator, Arizona Senate, Laveen

The Grand Canyon Institute (GCI) is a non-partisan think tank providing fact-based research and education to decision-makers and the public on policies affecting Arizona's economic, fiscal, and social future.

Arizona faced a \$1.4 billion budget shortfall in this last legislative session due to huge tax reductions provided to wealthy Arizonans during the Ducey Administration. As a consequence, investment in affordable housing was slashed from \$200 million to \$15 million, numerous road construction projects were postponed, aid to universities was cut, including the termination of state funding for the Arizona Promise Program which was designed to cover tuition and fees for Arizona students from lower and middle income families at the state's universities.

GCI completed a fiscal analysis of this legislation in May 2024 and found it would cost at least \$325 million annually to enforce, prosecute, and incarcerate the nonviolent offenders that it targets. This measure is likely to hinder law enforcement, both by enlarging its scope, but it will also damage the trust of the communities it tries to serve.

Prop. 314 provides no funding source, so its passage will undermine the state's ability to invest in better schools, quality universities, affordable housing, and necessary roads and infrastructure.

Prop. 314 diverts law enforcement toward nonviolent offenders and imperils mixed legal status families who have lived in Arizona for decades, contributing to our economy.

We do face challenges with immigration in the United States, and it's critical that politicians in Washington work together on a bipartisan basis to address the issue, rather than to continue to play politics with it.

For these reasons, the Grand Canyon Institute urges you to vote "No" on Prop. 314.

Rick DeGraw, Board Chair, Grand Canyon Institute, Phoenix

Planned Parenthood Advocates of Arizona (PPAA) is strongly opposed to Prop 314. PPAA is Planned Parenthood's advocacy arm in Arizona and the state's largest nonpartisan advocacy organization dedicated to protecting access to sexual and reproductive health care. We advocate for everyone in our community, no matter their race, gender, sexuality, disability, or immigration status, so we can ensure access to reproductive healthcare and bodily autonomy for everyone.

Immigrant communities and communities of color already face health disparities that impact quality of life. The challenges these communities are forced to overcome just to access responsive, informed, equitable health care further stigmatize immigration status and isolate these communities, exacerbating these issues.

Prop 314 will create a climate of fear that will harm already marginalized members of our community. It will subject Latinx individuals to racial profiling, subject families to the risk of separation and deportation, and deprive individuals of their Constitutional rights. These issues and more will affect access to services and will exacerbate health inequities by inflicting stress and trauma onto those affected. None of the provisions in Prop 314 will address any of the issues facing Arizona today, and they will only further harm those already facing inequities.

It is vital to protect the rights, health, and safety of all Arizonans. Please join Planned Parenthood Advocates of Arizona in voting NO on Prop 314.

Erika Mach, Chief External Affairs Officer, Planned Parenthood Advocates of Arizona, Phoenix

This harmful and punitive measure, referred to the ballot by Republicans desperately seeking a politically motivated "accomplishment" they could run on, remarkably manages to violate 3 areas of the Arizona and US constitutions all at once:

1. The "single subject rule" (Article 4, Part 2, Section 13 of the Arizona Constitution restricts each piece of legislation to covering only one single subject);
2. The "funding source" rule (Article 9, Section 23 of the Arizona Constitution requires ballot referrals that cost the state money to identify a funding source other than the general fund that is "sufficient to cover the entire immediate and future costs");

3. The Supremacy Clause of the US Constitution, which specifies that federal law takes precedence over state law in the case of a conflict.

If you feel like Republicans are rewinding the clock to the anti-immigrant days of 2010's notorious SB1070, you're not mistaken: brown-skinned people could be stopped and interrogated if merely "suspected" of crossing the border illegally.

A similar law in Texas has cost the state's taxpayers some \$10 billion in its first two years. The cost of enforcing this measure is estimated at \$325 million, which would fall on already-stretched local law enforcement and communities. The cost of defending this measure in court will force the people of Arizona to pay, just as we paid hundreds of millions of dollars in legal fees, lost tourism, and defending Sheriff Joe Arpaio against charges of racist enforcement.

We are enriched by our immigrant community, and most of us trace our roots to courageous immigrants bravely facing enormous odds to build a new and fruitful life in our state and country. Our culture and economy are richer for it. Let's honor them by defeating this sledgehammer measure: vote NO on Proposition 314.

Melinda Iyer, Policy Director, Civic Engagement Beyond Voting, Phoenix and Catherine Sigmon, Co-Founder, Civic Engagement Beyond Voting, Tempe

(Against) Proposition 314

Aliento urges voters to reject Proposition 314. Arizona needs a bipartisan and balanced solution to address the challenges of our outdated immigration system, but Prop. 314's "tough on crime and immigration" approach falls short. It fails to address the root causes of immigration, imposes significant financial burdens, and harms Dreamers and 140,000 United States citizen children living in mixed-status families who contribute positively to our economy and communities.

Prop. 314's broad definition of probable cause provides no meaningful limitation on who may be stopped or arrested for suspected unlawful entry. This jeopardizes Arizona's Dreamers and long-term undocumented families. These individuals pay taxes, work critical jobs, and have built their lives in our Arizona communities. This vague standard for probable cause will lead to increased unjust detentions, disrupting the lives of those integral to our state's social and economic fabric.

In 2022, the American Immigration Council estimated that in Arizona, undocumented immigrants, most of whom have lived in the country for more than five years, paid \$292.3 million in state and local taxes. The DACA-eligible population contributed \$111.9 million in state and local taxes. Prop. 314 tells hardworking families they are not welcome in our state.

This unfunded measure burdens taxpayers with an estimated \$325 million yearly for state-level border enforcement and incarceration costs. Federal authorities currently handle these tasks, and shifting this responsibility to the state is redundant and financially imprudent. Additionally, studies have shown that using deterrence-based policies to address unlawful immigration is ineffective at addressing the root causes of migrants coming to America.

We ask you to stand with Arizona families in advocating for a comprehensive and compassionate approach that truly benefits Arizona and to VOTE NO on Prop—314, which fails to provide a fair, orderly, and humane solution to our immigration challenges.

Reyna Montoya, Founder and CEO, Aliento, Gilbert; Jose Patiño, Vice President of Education and External Affairs, Aliento, Gilbert; Erick Garcia, Director of Digital and Technology, Aliento, Mesa; Ileana Salinas, Cultiva Program Manager, Aliento, Phoenix; Rocio Dorador Madrigal, Arts and Healing Coordinator, Aliento, Phoenix; Aryam Garcia, Arts and Healing Coordinator, Aliento, Mesa; Abril Valenzuela, Leadership Development Coordinator, Aliento, Glendale; Guadalupe Reynoso Jimenez, Leadership Development Coordinator, Phoenix; Sonya Hargrave, Sr. Director of Operations and People Management, Aliento, Tolleson; and Victoria Tenorio Montoya, Arts & Healing Coordinator, Aliento, Phoenix

Sponsored by Aliento

The Arizona Dream Act Coalition represents members with and without DACA and our families that are mainly mixed status. HCR2060 known as Prop 314 will racially profile our community members as it gives the power and discretion to stop anyone with suspicion of being undocumented. Although DACA beneficiaries were taken off as a priority group in the proposition, we know that we will still be targeted and if we are transporting family members that are undocumented we could get felony charges which would prevent us from renewing our DACA employment authorization and remove our protection from deportation as we would be ineligible to renew it.

Prop 314 will not solve any problems at the border. It will only create fear among the immigrant community who will have fear of sending our children to school or going to clinics and hospitals who can question and report to immigration or local authorities our immigration status and lead to deportations causing family separation.

We will not be able to trust local police thus causing abuse and unreported crime and insecurity in our neighborhoods. This will negatively impact the society at large. In addition, law enforcement does not have the budget to stop and detain anyone who they suspect is undocumented including us citizens resulting in racial profiling and costing taxpayers an estimate of \$325 million dollars annually.

Thus we call on voters to vote 'NO' on Prop 314 and call on our state legislature to pass local laws that will benefit the community at large like drivers license for all, regardless of immigration status since this will keep our roads safe. Furthermore, we believe Prop 314 is unconstitutional since states do not have jurisdiction on immigration. This Prop will not secure our border, it will only result in racial profiling.

Karina Ruiz De Diaz, Executive Director, Arizona Dream Act Coalition, Phoenix

Prop 314 is fundamentally anti-Arizonan, reviving SB 1070's era of racial profiling and mass deportations and threatening to undermine our communities' values and safety. What's more, this law would hurt the state's economic climate, further fostering fear and division instead of unity.

Prop 314 puts everyone at risk of unjust harassment from police and disrupts the social fabric of Arizona. This proposition gives broad powers to law enforcement with civil immunity for enforcing this unconstitutional law. It doesn't matter if you are in Flagstaff or Phoenix or whether you are an immigrant or multi-generational Arizonan, no one is immune from being targeted, and all Arizonans will foot the \$325 million+ bill and pay the price of this unconstitutional law enforcement.

Prop 314 is seeping in racism and will open the door for black and brown Arizonans to be unlawfully racially profiled by police. This also means churches, hospitals, and schools will be left unprotected and not historically or legally respected as sanctuaries for communities of color or immigrants.

The economic impact on Arizona will be devastating. State and job losses will follow, but it also will cost the state a minimum of \$325 million annually. Taxpayers in Texas have seen enforcement costs of this copy-cat legislation rise upwards of billions of dollars. As a taxpayer, you will not only be subjected to this law, but also bear the financial responsibility for funding its implementation.

Both sides of the aisle - from cities and towns, sheriffs and law enforcement - have heard voters reject and say 'No' to Prop 314. Yet, ultra-conservative legislators persisted in putting Arizona's economy and communities at risk for their political gain. We urge voters to reject Prop 314, and show that this taxpayer-funded extremist and hateful policy has no place in Arizona.

Alejandra Gomez, Executive Director, Living United for Change in Arizona, Phoenix
Sponsored by Living United for Change in Arizona (LUCHA)

(Against) Proposition 314

We are youth and students part of Aliento's alumni network and community. As Arizona students, we are deeply concerned about the harm Proposition 314 will cause to our friends, families, and loved ones. As youth leaders, we urgently ask you to reject Proposition 314.

Supporters claim that enforcement for arrests under Proposition 314 of those suspected of entering the state from outside a port of entry will occur only at or near our border. Still, there is no geographical limitation in the measure. Proposition 314 doesn't have a clause for sensitive areas such as hospitals, places of worship, and schools. No Arizonan wants to see police officers making arrests outside of schools as parents pick up their children, at hospitals during routine checkups or after church services.

Over 500,000 Arizonans are living in mixed-status families, with 140,000 U.S. citizen children living in Arizona households with at least one undocumented family member. Prop. 314 puts Arizona families at risk of separation. We don't want to see thousands of U.S. citizen children crying for their moms, dads, or siblings for lacking a driver's license.

This measure harms the ability of U.S. citizens like us, who have undocumented parents, to access crucial resources for food security and health services. We should not face additional scrutiny compared to other Americans because of our parents' immigration status. Arizona state law already prohibits access to public benefits for our undocumented community members. Adding a class 6 felony and mandating agencies to use a federal verification program is costly to Arizona, redundant, and impacts U.S. citizens like us.

Proposition 314 hurts Arizona and its communities. We urge you to reject this measure as it is not a fair, effective, or humane solution to addressing the challenges of our outdated immigration systems.

Angel Palazuelos, Leadership Youth Council (LYC) Chair, Aliento, Laveen Village; Araceli Lopez, LYC Member, Aliento, Phoenix; Saul Rascon, LYC Member, Aliento, Buckeye; Nathalya Galvez, LYC Member, Aliento, Buckeye; Nico Hernandez, LYC Member, Aliento, Tolleson; Sergio Cipriano, Student, Aliento, Phoenix; Denise Garcia Ornelas, Fellow Alum, Aliento, Mesa; Deya Garcia, Fellow Alum, Aliento, Mesa; Darril Garcia Soto, Student, Aliento, Laveen; Milagros Heredia, Fellow Alum, Aliento, Phoenix; Zabdi Hernandez, Fellow Alum, Aliento, Tolleson; Maria Leon Pena, Fellow Alum, Aliento, Phoenix; Asareli Lopez, Fellow Alum and Student, Aliento, Phoenix; Cynthia Moran, Student, Aliento, Phoenix; Emely Saenz Gomez, Fellow Alum and Student, Aliento, Mesa; Jessica Saenz Gomez, Student, Aliento, Mesa; Karen Velazquez, Student Hub Leader, Peoria; Alexis Torres Castro, Fellow Alum, Aliento, Phoenix; Priscilla Romero, Fellow Alum, Aliento, Mesa; and Ivette Sosa, Fellow Alum, Aliento, Mesa

Sponsored by Aliento

The ACLU of Arizona is a non-partisan, civil rights and liberties organization committed to protecting the rights of all Arizonans. The ACLU urges a NO vote on Proposition 314, a dangerous ballot referral that would set the state backwards by reviving its dark history of discriminatory and unworkable immigration laws. This extreme proposal would invite racial profiling, harming citizens and immigrants alike. It would also violate the basic human rights of people seeking asylum and other immigrants.

Just like SB1070 – Arizona’s infamous “show me your papers” law enacted fourteen years ago and largely struck down by the Supreme Court – Proposition 314 will open the door to racial profiling and harassment of people of color in Arizona, empowering law enforcement to target individuals based on their assumed immigration status. This will inevitably lead to the detention and separation of families, inflicting trauma and fear upon our communities. Proposition 314 is also a direct assault on the asylum process, disregarding essential safeguards in federal law intended to ensure individuals fleeing persecution in their home countries have a fair chance to seek protection in the United States.

A deeply anti-immigrant measure, Proposition 314 could be enforced anywhere in the state, including against small children and elderly people, and even at sensitive locations like schools, hospitals, or places of worship. When enforced against families, children would be separated from their parents since state and county jails do not allow minors to be detained with adults.

Finally, Proposition 314 is an unfunded mandate projected to cost Arizona taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars annually in court and incarceration costs alone.

A NO vote on Prop 314 ensures that Arizona remains a welcoming place for all our communities, and rejects this cynical attempt to turn back the clock to a darker time.

Scott Greenwood, Executive Director, ACLU of Arizona, Phoenix
Sponsored by ACLU of Arizona

(Against) Proposition 314 -

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Proposition 314 hurts Arizona and its communities. We urge you to reject this measure as it is not a fair, effective, or humane solution to addressing the challenges of our outdated immigration systems.

Marisol Castro, Fellow Alum, Aliento, Phoenix; Helen Sanchez, Fellow Alum, Aliento, Phoenix; Elizabeth Partida, Fellow Alum, Aliento, Mesa; Betsy Arcos Juan, Fellow Alum, Aliento, Mesa; Noelia Flores, Fellow Alum, Aliento, Mesa; Xiomara Flores, Fellow Alum, Aliento, Mesa; Luis Reyes, Fellow Alum, Aliento, Phoenix; Diana Quintana, Fellow Alum, Aliento, Phoenix; Maria Valeria Garcia, Fellow Alum, Aliento, Phoenix; Darian Benitez Sanchez, Fellow Alum, Aliento, Phoenix; Miah Gomez, Fellow Alum, Aliento, Mesa; Esveidy Rodriguez, Fellow Alum, Aliento, Phoenix; Hector Hernandez, Student, Grand Canyon University, Phoenix; Mario Montoya, Fellow Alum, Aliento, Mesa; Karina

Espinoza Rios, Community Member, Aliento, Phoenix; Pedro Gonzalez-Aboyte, Community Member, Aliento, Phoenix; Josephine Medina, Community Member, Aliento, Tempe; Susana Nava, Community Member, Aliento, Queen Creek; Brittany Nava, Community Member, Aliento, Litchfield

Sponsored by Aliento

Opposition to Prop 314 in Arizona is grounded in the state's historical commitment to self-governance and the protection of democratic rights. Arizona has a notable tradition of allowing citizens to enact significant changes through initiatives such as legalizing medical marijuana and addressing predatory medical debt practices. These initiatives have demonstrated the power of grassroots movements to shape state laws and reflect the will of the people.

Prop 314 imposes stringent new requirements on ballot initiatives, potentially preventing popular policies from reaching the ballot. It would significantly increase the cost of qualifying initiatives, making the process financially prohibitive and potentially limiting access to direct democracy to those with substantial financial resources.

Rural and smaller counties in Arizona would be disproportionately affected by Prop 314, as they would face the costly burden of reviewing thousands of signatures each election cycle. This unfunded mandate could strain local budgets, diverting resources from essential services and exacerbating economic challenges in these communities.

Additionally, Prop 314 allows a single legislative district to veto an initiative for the entire state, undermining the principle of statewide representation. This provision gives localized interests undue influence over statewide issues, potentially silencing the voices of Arizonans who support initiatives that enjoy broad public support.

The measure also exposes initiatives to arbitrary decisions by local politicians, who could block measures based on personal or political agendas. This introduces an additional barrier that could prevent initiatives supported by a majority of Arizonans from advancing, further limiting democratic participation.

In conclusion, rejecting Prop 314 is crucial to preserving Arizona's democratic integrity, maintaining local autonomy, and ensuring that the initiative process remains accessible to all citizens. Upholding these principles protects the right of every Arizonan to participate in shaping the state's future and rejects efforts to diminish collective democratic voice.

Ylenia Aguilar, Phoenix

HCR 2060 allows local law enforcement to stop anyone in Arizona and ask for their papers, and to investigate them when applying for jobs or health care. It promises to address the Fentanyl crisis, but instead creates new problems. We all want a safe and healthy Arizona, but this measure is an attack on personal freedoms and ordinary activities in hard-working communities.

It would threaten the civil rights of Arizonans, allowing invasions of privacy to become routine. Anyone could be targeted, but Latinos and other communities of color will bear the brunt, becoming suspects just for going about their lives. Local police officers would be able to racially profile people at the supermarket or gas station, on their way to work, the gym, or picking up their kids at school.

This ballot measure would be a major step backwards, taking us back to 2010's "Show Your Papers" law that the Supreme Court rejected as unconstitutional. And it would give more power to police with a problematic history: Maricopa County is under a court order for racial profiling, and Phoenix's Police Department has been under investigation for three years for discriminatory policing and excessive force.

It is also a shocking waste of money. It could cost taxpayers one billion dollars—the equivalent of 13,000 public school teachers—money spent persecuting people that could otherwise be used for education, hospitals, or healthcare.

We oppose this measure. UnidosUS represents millions of resilient, contributing Latino families, who form part of the bedrock of Arizona's economy, lead the way in business formation, and contribute to every aspect of life. We will not be told we do not belong here by racist extremists. We urge voters to vote down this harmful measure, ensuring that every Arizonan is free and able to work, play, live, and thrive.

Enrique Davis-Mazlum, Arizona State Director, UnidosUS, Phoenix

Proposition 314 would place an unfunded mandate on cities and counties to engage in an immigration enforcement role that has thus far been reserved to the federal government. Whether you are a proponent or opponent of the idea behind this measure, the undeniable fact is that this measure will cost money and likely a lot of it. It was only this past June when the Arizona Legislature had to cut agency budgets and reduce or delay investments in critical programs to successfully fund the government for another year. Yet, in the same year when the state government had to tighten its own belt, it is now asking city and county governments to take on a massive, unfunded immigration enforcement role. If the state does not have revenue to cover the costs of this measure, then it is unlikely that cities and counties will have the finances to do so either.

If this measure is passed, then the very likely reality is that cities and counties will need to raise local sales and property taxes to fund its mandate. These taxes will not be used for schools, delivery of meals to seniors, or to address the rising unaffordability of housing, but to expand the capacity of local jailing systems and cover the daily costs of imprisonment. We should not ask Arizona families to spend a greater portion of their limited budgets to pay for this immigration policy, especially when its total cost could be in the hundreds of millions.

Joseph Palomino, Director, Arizona Center for Economic Progress, Tempe
Sponsored by Arizona Center for Economic Progress

As someone who has seen firsthand the devastating impact of harmful legislation on my family and community, I am deeply concerned about the potential repercussions of Prop 314. This proposition echoes distressing elements of SB1070, past legislation that caused my family immense fear and ultimately led to their relocation from Arizona. The separation and loss we experienced due to such legislation is irreparable, and I fear that Prop 314 will only heighten similar heart-wrenching experiences for thousands of Arizonian families.

This proposition grants local law enforcement extensive authority to enforce this unconstitutional law without accountability across the entire state of Arizona, not just at our border regions. For instance, while driving an officer can stop you for a broken headlight, and the officer will have civil immunity to enforce this law. This proposed legislation would grant local law enforcement the authority to enforce federal immigration laws at the state level. It also expands the use of E-Verify to confirm employment for contractors/subcontractors and eligibility for social service benefits.

On top of that, I believe Prop 314 poses a significant threat to the values and safety of our community. It revives past policies associated with racial profiling and mass deportations. This proposition perpetuates fear and division rather than fostering unity. It will have negative economic repercussions, coupled with the threat of unjust harassment—a disruption of our social fabric. Prop 314 is alarming for all Arizonans, irrespective of their background or origin.

I strongly oppose Prop 314 and urge my fellow voters to join me in rejecting this divisive and harmful proposition. We must send a clear message that extremist and detrimental policies have no place in Arizona.

Vanessa Perez, Civic Engagement Director, Mi Familia Vota, Phoenix

HCR2060 is bad for Arizona! HCR2060 is called Unsecured Border but has nothing to do with the border. It legalizes discrimination & gives law enforcement immunity. Today Arizona is thriving economically. Businesses are happy to move here because of the great jobs & opportunities we provide. But if people are discriminated against they will leave. Many Chamber of Commerce have come out publically against this bill. Arizona does not want to foster an environment of fear, hate, and division. This legislation gives law enforcement an overreach of power by granting them immunity to discriminate. Arizona during the SB1070 days, saw a mass amount of lawsuits taxpayers had to pay out due to discrimination. This year the Department of Justice released evidence to show that Phoenix Police are 12 times more likely to ticket Hispanics over Whites for improper window tinting. Hispanics are 8 times more likely than Whites to be ticketed for squealing tires, and 7 times more likely for improper license plate lights. Black Drivers are 144% more likely to be cited or arrested for low-level moving violations.

The next issue is regarding fentanyl. We all want to tackle the Fentanyl epidemic but in this current language form, it reads that if fentanyl is manufactured in the United States (doesn't matter if it was manufactured legally or illegally) you won't be charged with a class 2 felony however if you bring it across a port of entry, you will. It should not matter who or where this drug is made, why are we differentiating that in this legislation, it should just be illegal.

Please VOTE NO on this poorly written legislation.

Cesar Aguilar, Arizona House of Representatives- Ranking Democrat in Commerce, Self, Phoenix

Chispa Arizona is strongly opposed to Prop 314. Chispa Arizona works to empower Latinx communities to influence policy, protect natural resources, and fight climate change. Through grassroots advocacy and community engagement, we strive for clean air, safe water, and healthy neighborhoods for the communities most impacted by climate change.

Prop 314 is rooted in racism and xenophobia. If passed, it will lead to civil rights violations, increased violence towards communities of color, and harm Arizona's economy, just like SB1070 did. As environmental justice advocates, we are very concerned because the communities affected by racism and xenophobia are the same ones hurt most by environmental injustices and climate change.

Communities of color already struggle to access clean air, water, and safe living conditions, which leads to health disparities. Prop 314 could make people living in areas with poor environmental conditions be afraid to seek medical help, fearing contact with authorities.

In the environmental justice movement, we work to amplify the voices of those most affected by the climate crisis, and these are the voices of our communities of color. Prop 314 will leave our people feeling powerless, not wanting to engage in environmental advocacy or demand justice for issues impacting their neighborhoods.

Please join us in voting NO on Prop 314.

Jose Martinez Jr., Operations Director, Chispa AZ, Buckeye
Sponsored by Chispa AZ

Proposition 314 is harmful to children.

Children's Action Alliance works every day to build an Arizona where all children and families thrive. Proposition 314 is incompatible with this vision. If passed, it will open the door to chaos that makes Arizona less safe than today.

Just six years ago, our country grieved alongside parents and children who were forcibly separated at the border, with a full two-thirds of Americans across political parties opposed to the barbaric actions. A federal task force continues to work to reunify more than 1,000 children who have been deprived of the parents they were separated from. Great trauma was inflicted on children and parents. Proposition 314 opens the door to repeating this shameful chapter.

As a former prosecutor and former attorney for victims of crime, I've seen the sad reality that undocumented victims of abuse, human trafficking, and other crimes will not call local law enforcement for help when they fear that call will lead to deportation. This is backed up by cities that saw declines in reports of domestic violence and sexual assault in Latino communities when anti-immigrant rhetoric was at its most extreme. The crimes were happening, victims were just too afraid to call for help. Proposition 314 will decrease public safety. We cannot allow this for children or any victim of crime no matter their legal status.

Proposition 314 is likely unlawful, certainly unfunded, and deeply harmful for our state. Today, on behalf of the Children's Action Alliance, I urge Arizonans to vote no. We must look to the right authorities for solutions to problems. Here, federal officials must reform and enforce federal

immigration laws in ways that do not leave humanity and public safety behind. This initiative is not the answer, and it invites unbearable harm to children in our state.

January Contreras, President and CEO, Children's Action Alliance, Phoenix
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