

Arguments “For” Proposition 315

This referral is about restoring the principles of representative democracy. It returns legislative powers to the legislature and, by extension, to The People of Arizona. Administrative rulemaking by unelected agency officials circumvents this principle, as the power to make laws should be with the legislature, elected by the people to serve the people.

This referral will require the legislature to approve any regulatory costs of more than \$100,000 within five years of implementation. Such regulations may not be implemented or adopted without the approval of the Arizona legislature. If the legislature does not approve the rule, it will be terminated.

Returning these powers to the legislature will ensure that our voices are heard loud and clear and that our public servants are accountable for all decisions made. This referral will not hinder anyone from performing their duties or public safety; it simply prevents unilateral decision-making, a concept that is at the very core of representative democracy.

Stephen Shadegg, State Director, Americans for Prosperity – Arizona, Phoenix

As a Business Consultant and a former Arizona State Senator, I know too well the power of government and have seen it from both perspectives. Unchecked, the administrative state can regulate businesses right out of existence. Since leaving public office, I have pursued my entrepreneurial passions and have first-hand knowledge of the challenges facing small businesses. I work to help them succeed every day.

Businesses and individuals are celebrating the recent Supreme Court ruling in *Chevron vs. Natural Resources Defense Council*. That ruling overturned a 40-year deference to unelected bureaucrats making rules without legislative oversight.

This act benefits all of us by bringing checks and balances. It makes agency rulemaking consistent with virtually every other government function. If the State's Office of Economic Opportunity determines a proposed agency regulation will have an adverse effect on the economy in excess of \$500,000 over 5 years, the rule would require legislative approval before it can go into effect. It is that simple. With the Legislature involved, you will now have a stronger voice against unfair and onerous regulations.

Waiting to litigate rules and regulations choke Arizona's small business. This act will simply prohibit rules from moving ahead without our voices being heard. Call it transparency, call it oversight, I simply call it common sense.

We elect representatives to make laws, so the rules that flow from them should have a review process to ensure consistency, especially if those rules are costly to small business and individuals. I am voting yes on SCR1012 and I ask you to do the same. Let's ensure rules developed by state agencies are consistent with legislative intent and not kill the proverbial goose that laid the golden egg here in Arizona.

Ed Phillips

Small Business Consultant
Former Arizona State Senator

Ed Phillips, Phoenix

Arizona has over 64,000 regulatory restrictions. Regulation is supposed to benefit people and help society function, but needless regulation can hurt small businesses and increase the cost of food, gas, and other services for Arizona families. Currently, when a government agency proposes a regulation that will increase costs, that regulation will move forward unless it is stopped by the governor or by a legal challenge.

This measure would allow your elected representatives in the state legislature to review expensive regulations before they go into effect. If a government agency proposes a regulation that is estimated to increase costs on Arizonan's by \$500,000 within five years, the regulation may not be implemented unless the legislature approves it by a majority vote. This measure would not impact inexpensive regulations or regulations needed to protect public health and safety during an emergency.

Arizonans have their voices heard by electing state legislators to represent their values and priorities. However, unelected bureaucrats in government agencies too often create policy on their own through regulations that have the force of law. This measure will bring more accountability to the government by allowing your elected representative to stop unnecessary regulations that increase costs for Arizona families and small businesses.

Please vote YES on SCR1012.

Allen Cambon, Opportunity Solutions Project, Tallahassee