

## Arizona Institute for Public Life

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### ***What is the Truth about Proposition 200?***

## Proposition 200: What is the Truth for our State?

### ***Prop 200 will not fix any problems with our immigration system.***

#### Immigration is a complex issue and requires federal legislation

- This ballot initiative has no jurisdiction over federal immigration laws, so it will not fix any of our communities' concerns with immigration.
- Our entire congressional delegation agrees that passage of this initiative may actually delay any constructive immigration reform for several years.

#### Immigrants contribute to the Arizona Economy

- The Thunderbird School of Management, in Glendale, found that in 2001 alone Mexican immigrants contributed \$355.7 million in taxes while they cost Arizona \$250 million, an surplus of \$106 million

### ***Prop 200 will result in increased costs to the State and to you.***

#### All residents of Arizona will be affected

- Everyone will have to prove their *citizenship* to receive state or local services
- It may affect even basic services like libraries, after-school programs, and parks and recreation

#### Implementing and enforcing this law will be very costly

- State agencies estimate a cost of \$27 million the first year; about \$20 million/year thereafter
- With no funding source, it may result in higher taxes or reduced services, like education and healthcare

### ***Prop 200 will expand bureaucracy, affect public employees & crowd the courts***

#### Public employees will take on immigration enforcement duties

- Requires them to file written reports to federal immigration authorities for each potential violation
- Might include employees of any other private agency managing public funds

#### Public employees will face a class 2 misdemeanor

- Failure to file a written report will result in a Class 2 Misdemeanor for employees and supervisors
- Any resident of the State will be able to sue agencies and their employees to force compliance
- Cases filed under this proposition must be given priority in court, delaying all other pending cases

### ***Prop 200 will hurt business and job development***

#### Arizona's tourism industry and other job-creating businesses will suffer

- The Phoenix and Valley of the Sun Convention and Visitors Bureau reported that the MLK Jr. Holiday controversy of the late 80's/early 90's led 166 groups to cancel conventions and meetings here, estimating Arizona lost 165,000 would-be visitors and suffered an economic impact of \$190 million.
- As in the past, such a divisive initiative will taint Arizona's image and hurt the state economy

### ***Prop 200 will radically change our voting procedures***

#### Non-citizens already cannot vote

- County Recorders crosscheck all voter registrations to verify citizenship
- County Elections officials have not reported any cases of voter fraud by undocumented immigrants
- Voter fraud is currently a felony in the state of Arizona.

#### It would raise barriers to Voting

- Door-to-door and on-line voter registration, plus vote-by-mail, may be eliminated
- Additional requirements would burden state and county election officials
- Must present *photo* ID or two forms of other ID at the polls, such as passport or birth certificate
- Arizona ranked sixth lowest in voter turnout in the nation during the 2000 and 2002 elections