

**Arizona Institute for Public Life**

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***What is the Truth about Proposition 200?*****Proposition 200: Pros & Cons**

The Arizona Taxpayer and Citizen Protection Act, or “Protect Arizona Now” initiative as it is commonly referred to, has three major provisions:

- Require a valid photo I.D. to receive any public services,
- Require government employees to report any suspected immigration violations to federal authorities, and
- Require a photo I.D. when registering to vote and when voting.

**Those who support Proposition 200 include the following in their arguments:**

- 1) Requiring a photo ID to register to vote and to vote would stop voter fraud.
- 2) Requiring a valid ID to receive public services would save Arizona taxpayers significant amounts of money.
- 3) Requiring government employees to report suspected immigration violations would help enforcement of immigration law.
- 4) This will help stem the flow of undocumented immigration into Arizona.

**Those who oppose Proposition 200 include the following in their arguments:**

- 1) The language in Proposition 200 is vague – it is unclear what constitutes “public benefits” and “valid ID.”
- 2) It is already illegal for non-citizens to vote or receive public benefits such as welfare – this measure does nothing to change existing law.
- 3) Requiring photo IDs to vote will end vote by mail as it currently exists in Arizona.
- 4) Using all public employees to enforce immigration laws will require extensive training and create yet another layer of bureaucracy, costing Arizonans millions of dollars.
- 5) The measure will not fix problems relating to immigration – immigration is a federal issue and must be dealt with at the federal level.
- 6) It will create public health and safety issues for all Arizonans. Immigrants in our communities may hesitate to call upon emergency personnel or seek basic medical services (e.g., immunizations, regular doctor visits).