

## Arizona Association of County Recorders

February 05, 2024

Apache County Larry Noble

Cochise County David Stevens

Coconino County Patty Hansen

**Gila County** Sadie Jo Bingham

Graham County Polly Merriman

Greenlee County Sharie Milheiro

La Paz County Richard Garcia

Maricopa County Stephen Richer President

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Navajo County Michael Sample

**Pima County** Gabriella Cázares-Kelly Vice President

> Pinal County Dana Lewis

Santa Cruz County Anita Moreno

Yavapai County Michelle Burchill

Yuma County Richard Colwell Jen Marson Executive Director Arizona Association of Counties 1910 W. Jefferson Phoenix, Arizona 85009

Re: Support for the Election Package and the Importance of Immediate Action

Dear Executive Director Marson,

The Arizona Association of County Recorders fully agrees with the January 5, 2024 letter by the County Supervisors Association regarding the need for prompt legislative attention to the forthcoming election timeline. We also agree with the statement made on October 18, 2023 by Senator Wendy Rogers and Representative Jacqueline Parker concerning the "urgency of the situation, with counties potentially falling short of crucial deadlines under the current statutory framework." Finally, we agree with Governor Katie Hobbs's January 10, 2024 statement to 12 News that the solution should be a "clean fix."

Accordingly, we greatly appreciate the work you have done with Senate President Warren Petersen, House Speaker Ben Toma, legislative staff, and staff from the Governor's office to create a package of items (as represented in your January 19, 2024 email) that, together, provide the extra number of days necessary for successful compliance with all state and federal laws.

While not all recorders agree on each item (e.g. some recorders do not support reducing the cure period as part of the package, and others are uneasy about moving the date of the August statewide primary), we, as a body, support the package as a reasonable, negotiated solution among the Governor, state legislature, county supervisors, and county recorders to address the immediate timing issue.

We also look forward to working with you and the state legislature in the future on additional modifications and potential improvements to election laws that fall outside the scope of this 2024 timeline issue. However, we would greatly prefer if the current package would focus exclusively on necessary items for the timeline issue.

Thank you, The Association of County Recorders