



## 2021 Proposed County Government Platform

Items May Change - Subject to Board Approval in

### Fiscal Measures

1. **County Elected Official Salary Adjustment** ([Attorneys/School Superintendents SB1509 last session](#)) - Apply a flat salary increase of \$12,000 to all county elected officials in A.R.S 11-419 and 12-281 (Attorneys, Assessors, Clerks of Superior Court, Recorders, School Superintendents, Sheriffs, Supervisors, and Treasurers), effective after the next election. \*\*No state general fund impact\*\*
2. **Adult Jail Education Funding** ([School Superintendents SB1393 last session](#)) - Increase funding for the education of young adults in the jail system who do not have a GED or high school diploma.
3. **Diversion Funding** ([Attorneys HB2414 last session](#)) - Create a 3-year, statewide pilot program for diversion programs in all 15 counties. The program will require approximately \$11 million each year for the three years.
4. **Re-entry Funding** ([Yavapai County Sheriff HB2422 last session, not an AACo bill](#)) - Creates a 3-year, statewide pilot program for re-entry programming in all 15 county jail systems. The program will require approximately \$8 million each year for three years.
5. **Personal Property Tax Exemptions** ([Assessors SB1575 last session](#)) - Refer to voters a constitutional change to re-authorize the veteran's property tax exemption after it was struck down in 1989 because it had a residency requirement. The exemption includes low-income qualifications.

### Efficiency Measures

6. **Ballot-by-Mail** ([Recorders - AACo bill last session no bill #](#)) - Allow, not require, the county to send out all ballots by mail to potentially defray costs and improve efficiencies of conducting physical polling place elections.
7. **Election Omnibus** ([Election Directors HB2364 last session](#)) -
  - a. General clean-up to eliminate outdated and antiquated processes in election administration;
  - b. During the 2019 legislative session, the Primary date was moved along with relevant related dates. A few dates were missed and need to be updated to conform;
  - c. Allow the 20% random sample for party recognition procedures to apply to all levels (currently only at the state level);

- d. Create parity by including candidates for school districts, community college districts, or joint technical education districts who were inadvertently left off the list of exceptions for the newly created Statement of Interest in SB1451 last year;
  - e. Allow counties to mail ballots using a bulk non-profit rate if they choose;
  - f. Eliminate the statement of interest for school district, community college district, and CTED candidates.
- 8. **Remove Presidential Elector Names from Ballot** ( [Election Directors HB2267 last session](#)) - Remove the list of presidential electors that appears on the General Election ballot, therefore shortening the length of the ballot.
- 9. **Publicity Pamphlet Arguments** ( [Attorneys HB2776 last session, not an AACo bill](#)) - Adjust the date that publicity pamphlet arguments are due to conform to the new primary date.
- 10. **Establish Filing Date for Write-In Candidates** ( [Election Directors](#)) - Establish an official last day and time to file as a write in candidate for partisan and non-partisan elections.
- 11. **Canvas Dates** ( [Election Directors](#)) - Extend the date for AZSOS to canvass by one additional week to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday after the Primary Election instead of the current 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday after election. Allow County BOS 14 days after the election to canvass.
- 12. **Poll Worker Voter Registration** ( [Election Directors](#)) - Clarify that poll workers must be registered to vote in Arizona.
- 13. **E-Equal School Board Candidates** ( [School Superintendents](#)) - Allow school board candidates to use the E-Equal system to collect signatures.
- 14. **School Superintendent Omnibus** ( [School Superintendents HB2678 last session](#))
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  - a. Provide an option for a 5-member school board, to go back down to three if needed;
  - b. Establish a one-year residency requirement for community college and CTED board members to match the requirement that other governing board members have;
- 15. **Expanded Settings for County Detention Officers Serving Warrants** ( [Maricopa Sheriff SB1141 last session](#)) - Expand the settings in which a county detention officer may execute an arrest warrant outside of the jail facility to a hospital and courtroom under specified circumstances.

- 16. ADE Data Access** ([School Superintendents SB1209 last session](#)) - Allow county School Superintendents to directly access student data from ADE.
- 17. Property Tax Deferral Statute Clean-up** ([Treasurers](#)) - Increase income and property value limits to expand deferral program applicability.
- 18. Special District Refund Clean-Up** ([Treasurers](#)) Modify statute to provide financial resources back to counties and local jurisdictions in the event of a centrally valued property case loss by the state.
- 19. Short-Term Rental Commercial Definition** ([Assessors SB1490 last session](#)) - Establish a commercial definition of short-term vacation rentals to provide clear guidance for assessors to equitably and accurately classify these types of properties.
- 20. Confidential Email Address for Address Confidentiality Program** ([Superior Court Clerks](#)) - Establish a confidential email address from participants in the SOS Address Confidentiality Program. The program already has a confidential mailing address.
- 21. Juvenile Records Sealed Not Destroyed** ([Superior Court Clerks](#)) - Allow a juvenile's record to be "sealed" (available only via court order) instead of "destroyed" so that the juvenile has access to them for employment, educational, or military purposes (current "destruction only" eliminates that access).

## **[Public Safety/Criminal Justice Measures](#)**

- 22. Fentanyl Dealers** ([Attorneys HB2036 last session, not an AACo bill](#)) - Modifies statutes related to fentanyl dealing, specifically lowering the number of pills necessary to be convicted of a felony. This was not an AACo bill last year. Senator Steve Pierce ran the bill for Sheila on his own.
- 23. Incompetent and Non-Restorable** ([Attorneys HB2581 last session](#)) - Establishes a procedure to deal with those persons found to pose a threat to public safety as concluded by a psychological evaluation conducted by a mental health professional and incapable of restoration to competency for standing trial for charges of criminal offenses.
- 24. Sex Offender Registration** ([Yavapai County SB1172 last session](#)) - Clarify requirements related to sex offender registration.
- 25. Fingerprinting** ([Attorneys](#)) - Amend A.R.S. 13-607 to allow for the taking of "remote" fingerprints from defendants at a sentencing hearing.

**26. Class 6 Open Designation (Attorneys - AACo bill last session but was pulled before introduction)** - Allow for defendants who plead guilty to a Class 6 felony may be treated as if they have a misdemeanor for the purposes of opening up job and housing opportunities.

**27. Hate Crime Definition (Attorneys)** - Establishes a designation for hate crimes in statute.

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