



**Public Affairs**

**Arizona Clean and Accountable Elections Act**

The proposed initiative filed by Arizonans for Clean and Accountable Elections (Arizona Advocacy Network) would amend statute to reduce the amount of allowable contributions to privately funded political campaigns while expanding the authority of the Arizona Clean Elections Commission (CECC) among numerous other provisions. Specifically the initiative:

- Reduces the amount privately (traditionally) funded candidates are allowed to receive in an election cycle.
- Implements a matching-funds program for Clean Elections participating candidates.
- Eliminates a provision of SB 1516 (GPCC supported bill) that exempts non-profit entities from registering as political committees.
- Shortens the certification length of MegaPACs from four years to two and prohibits MegaPAC status for PACs that receive any corporate contributions.
- Prohibits ballot committees from making any independent expenditures in support of a ballot issue.
- Prohibits certain employees and officers of businesses from contributing to political campaigns if the company has a contract with the government entity of over \$250,000 in a twelve month period.
- Adds more onerous disclosure obligations for organizations making large independent expenditures.
- Prohibits former public employees and members of the legislature from lobbying or representing anyone for pay before *any* public agency or official for two years after they leave employment.
- Removes certain allowable lobbying expenses.

Arguments from the Proponents	Arguments from the Opposition
Reduces the influence of corporations and other special interests in elections.	Severely limits the business community's First Amendment right to have a voice and participate in the political process.
Makes reforms to lobbying practices to reduce the influence of lobbyists.	Gives increased power to an unelected CCEC body.
Makes it possible for more people to run for office.	Limits the ability of privately funded candidates to run successfully for office.