

YAVAPAI COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

RESOLUTION NO. 2099

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF YAVAPAI COUNTY, ARIZONA URGING THE GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATURE TO WORK WITH COUNTIES TO IMPROVE THE STATUTORY ELECTION PROCESS TO ENSURE FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS

WHEREAS, the United States was founded upon the principle of self-government in which the right to vote is a fundamental right of the people; and

WHEREAS, the authority of our government derives from the will of the people as expressed in genuine, free and fair elections; and

WHEREAS, our Founding Fathers thought that the right to vote was critical to our form of government, and viewed it as a virtually sacred act, with free and secure elections the only way to preserve faith in government and individual freedom; and

WHEREAS, counties are required by State law to conduct elections in the State of Arizona; and

WHEREAS, the Yavapai County Board of Supervisors received input from their constituents regarding the length of time it takes to finalize election results, and the security and effectiveness of election processes and systems; and

WHEREAS, election officials are bound to uphold state and federal ethical standards and election laws, and to conduct elections in an impartial and professional manner; and

WHEREAS, to address concerns regarding election integrity, additional measures are needed to increase voter confidence in free and fair elections; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature and Governor are responsible for enacting laws to ensure that elections are conducted in a secure, fair and efficient manner; and

WHEREAS, the early determination of election results following election day could enhance the public's trust in the election process and allow results from Arizona elections to be promptly reported statewide and nationally; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Yavapai County Board of Supervisors will coordinate with the County Elections Department, the County Recorder, and the Information Technology Department to ensure that Yavapai County utilizes election equipment and processes that safeguard the integrity of our elections.

2. The Yavapai County Board of Supervisors urges the Governor and Legislature to work with County Boards of Supervisors, Recorders, and Election Directors in a collaborative manner to establish new or amended statutes to ensure free and fair elections that protect an individual's right to vote and ensure access, accuracy and integrity in elections; and that establish the determination of election results and canvassing in a more timely manner than current statutes prescribe.

Approved and Adopted by the Yavapai County Board of Supervisors this 4th day of January 2023.

James Gregory, Chairman

Yavapai County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Kim Kapin, Clerk of the Board Yavapai County

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Thomas M. Stoxen, Deputy County Attorney