

Coconino Must Protect Voters from Outside Election Interference

Coconino County Must Withdraw from the US Alliance for Election Excellence

In an era where integrity of the electoral process is more scrutinized than ever, the actions and affiliations of those responsible for conducting our elections are - and should be - under the microscope.

Coconino County's decision to join the ideologically and politically driven US Alliance for Election Excellence (USAEE) has sparked significant debate, touching on the very heart of our democratic principles.

Joining the USAEE does not enhance electoral security, but instead tramples over a delicate line drawn by Arizona law designed to shield our elections from one-sided, third-party influences.

The USAEE is the project of a leftwing nonprofit, funded by progressive billionaires. The goal of the USAEE is to influence election administration with a biased agenda, and, according to the membership agreement, to share non-sensitive, non-commercial technical data and usage statistics and provide feedback about any Standards-related digital tools offered by USAEE partners and implemented by the member.

Arizona's law is clear: the administration of elections should remain insulated and protected from external entities that could, intentionally or not, exert influence over the electoral process. This legislation was born of a growing concern that third-party involvement compromises the neutrality and integrity of our elections. It's a safeguard for democracy, ensuring that the foundational act of voting remains untainted by outside interests.

It is imperative that Coconino County reassess its membership in the US Alliance for Election Excellence. Withdrawal from the USAEE is not an admission of failure but a reaffirmation of our commitment to upholding the spirit and letter of Arizona's laws. It is a testament to the county's dedication to ensuring that its elections are conducted with the utmost integrity, free from external influences.

It's time for Coconino County to follow the lead of the four USAEE members who have recently canceled their membership, two in North Carolina and two in Utah, and reaffirm its dedication to conducting elections that are beyond reproach, in both appearance and reality.

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