

County of Coconino
County Supervisors

Resolution Regarding Outside Influences in Coconino County Elections

Introduced by

WHEREAS, the issue of election integrity is on the minds of citizens throughout Coconino County, the State of Arizona, and the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, controversy has arisen over the Coconino County Recorder's membership in an organization called the U.S. Alliance for Election Excellence (hereinafter "the Alliance"); and

WHEREAS, the Alliance was launched in 2022 by the Center for Tech and Civic Life (hereinafter "CTCL"), which is funded in part by Mark Zuckerberg and other tech billionaires; and

WHEREAS, the Coconino County Supervisors believes the integrity of our election is fundamental to the survival of our republic; and

WHEREAS, the Coconino County Supervisors opposes the use of private money from sources with potentially partisan motives to fund elections in Coconino County or elsewhere; and

WHEREAS, the Coconino County Supervisors has received requests for it to force the Coconino County Recorder to withdraw from membership in the Alliance; and

WHEREAS, the Coconino County Supervisors allocates the Coconino County Recorder's overall budget, but as an independent entity the Coconino County Recorder exercises control over how these funds are spent; and

WHEREAS, the Coconino County Recorder has stated a need and desire to network with other elections directors for the purpose of sharing best practices; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Coconino County Supervisors strongly encourages the Coconino County Recorder to terminate its membership in the Alliance; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Coconino County Supervisors direct Coconino County staff to work with the Coconino Recorder to identify suitable alternatives to the Alliance and to include reasonable membership dues and travel expenses in the Coconino County Recorder's budget to cover the elections director's participation in a suitable alternative organization; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Coconino County Supervisors supports legislation to prohibit private money from influencing Coconino County elections; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Coconino County Board of Supervisors encourages the Arizona General assembly to appropriate funds to ensure that Arizona elections directors can receive adequate training and best practices from non-partisan sources.