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ARIZONA TAX RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

PRESS RELEASE

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Arizona Tax Research Association Board of Directors Votes To Support The Majority Rule Initiative

The Arizona Tax Research Association (ATRA) board of directors has voted to support Proposition 105, the Majority Rule initiative on this year's general election ballot. Majority Rule will require any initiative that "establishes, imposes or raises a tax, fee, or other revenue, or mandates a spending obligation, whether on a private person, labor organization, other private legal entity or this state, shall not become law unless the measure is approved by a majority of qualified electors registered to vote in this state."

"ATRA has supported several different efforts that attempted to reform the initiative process and restore some sanity to fiscal policy development at the state level. We believe Majority Rule prescribes a specific initiative reform in an area that is most problematic for Arizona taxpayers," said ATRA President Kevin McCarthy.

ATRA's analysis of Proposition 105 noted the significant damage that has been done to the state's budgeting process as a result of a series of measures that have handcuffed state lawmaker's budgeting authority over the last two decades. ATRA consistently opposed those measures and sounded the alarm that "ballot-box budgeting" was bad public policy that undermined the responsibility of state lawmakers to do comprehensive fiscal planning at the state capitol.

"ATRA believes the practical effect of this initiative, limiting the number of 'ballot-box budgeting' measures placed before voters in the future, promotes sound fiscal policy and is an initiative reform that is desperately needed," said ATRA Chairman of the Board Dick Foreman.

The full text of ATRA's Position on Proposition 105 is attached