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ARIZONA TAX RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

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ATRA SUPPORTS SB1182

School district overrides; bonds; information

SB1182 addresses two important override and bond election issues. The first issue the proposal addresses is the use of public funds to advocate on behalf of the passage of the election in the election publicity pamphlet. To address that problem, SB1182 specifies that any language in an override or bond election publicity pamphlet to explain or justify the request for approval of the question is strictly limited to the pro & con arguments in the pamphlet. This reform is necessary to ensure that publicity pamphlets distributed by local governments are neutral documents designed to inform voters as opposed to taxpayer-financed advocacy pieces.

The second issue the proposal addresses is the current situation in which taxpayers don't get to say no and are subject to repeated override elections. To put a stop to that current practice, SB1182 authorizes a school district to ask voters to renew an existing maintenance & operations override election to only once. If the override fails, the district would be required to exhaust the phase down period before going back to the voters.

ATRA ASKS LAWMAKERS TO SUPPORT THE ELECTION REFORMS IN SB1182!