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# ARIZONA TAX RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

## **ATRA OPPOSES HB2330**

### **Taxpayers Don't Get to Say No?**

Proponents of the proposed West Coconino Fire Rescue District needed one-half of the property owners and owners with more than 50% of the value to sign a petition for its creation.

### **Circulators failed to receive the appropriate signatures to create the district:**

#### **Assessor's Summary of Report of Findings:**

Of the 515 units (accounts) associated with the proposal of the West Coconino Fire Rescue district, 404 unique owners were identified & **110 valid signatures collected resulting in 27.2% of owners in favor of the district**. Those 110 property owners collectively own property **totaling \$1,014,395 in assessed value or 34.4% of the initial assessed value** of \$2,949,484.

**Please note:** Duplicate petition pages, duplicate owner signatures and signatures affiliated with delinquent real property accounts are considered invalid and were removed from the final calculations.

Source: Coconino County Clerk of the Board memo, 6/14/2022

Based on data provided by the County, circulators failed to get signatures from 95 of the residential property taxpayers who reside within the boundaries of the proposed district.

**HB2330 allows the proponents of this new fire district to do an end-run around the current process despite their failed attempt to receive approval from the property taxpayers.** Now, only the registered voters in the area get to participate in the question whether or not to increase property taxes and the property taxpayers, who may or may not be registered voters in the area, don't get a say.