



---

# MEMORANDUM

---

Date: April 24, 2020

To: The Honorable Chairman and Members  
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry  
County Administrator

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C.H. Huckelberry", is written over the printed name of the County Administrator.

Re: **Unnecessary Exposure of Vulnerable Population Election Workers**

The Legislature, before their most recent adjournment, was considering legislation regarding allowing counties to conduct all mail elections. This effort was one that would allow the County Board of Supervisors to provide this option at their discretion. The legislation appears to be stalled.

The data and information should make this decision fairly easy. The data that clearly supports an all-mail election is as follows:

- In the 2016 primary election, the number of ballots cast on Election Day was 15.1 percent of the total ballots cast.
- In the 2016 General Election the number of ballots cast on Election Day were 24.1 percent of all ballots were cast.
- For the most recent Presidential Preference Election that occurred on March 17, 2020, one week after our first COVID-19 case, the data indicated 10.4 percent were cast on Election Day.

To conduct an Election Day vote activity requires the employment of 2,400 intermittent poll workers. The average age of these poll workers is 67 years old – those who should be most protected from COVID-19.

We also have begun to have polling place issues where we are beginning to hear reluctance to lease locations for polling places because of public gathering. In addition, many of our polling locations will not be able to easily meet social distancing standards. This simply will make it more confusing for voters.

If we were to conduct an all-mail election provisional ballots would be eliminated and 98 percent, plus of all ballots cast, would be reported at 7:00 pm on Election Day. The only uncounted ballots would be those turned in on Election Day or post marked in the mail before the polls would close.

The Honorable Chairman and Members, Pima County Board of Supervisors  
Re: **Unnecessary Exposure of Vulnerable Population Election Workers**  
April 24, 2020  
Page 2

I have asked our state lobbyist to continue to press for the option of contracting an all-mail election for the upcoming election cycle.

CHH/mp

c: The Honorable F. Ann Rodriguez, Pima County Recorder  
Brad Nelson, Director, Elections Department  
Michael Racy, Racy Associates, Inc.