

County Updates

Apache County

If you are interested in helping establish an Apache County Libertarian Party, please reach out to Alex Flores at alex.flores@azlp.org.

Cochise County

By Eli Webb,
CCLP Chair

CCLP successfully collected ballot access signatures at the Labor Day Rodeo in Sonoita this past weekend. We will be hosting a booth at the Sierra Vista Oktoberfest at the Veteran's Memorial Park at the end of the month and are still looking for volunteers. Please contact us at contact@cochiselp.org if you are interested in volunteering.

Coconino County

If you are interested in helping establish a Coconino County Libertarian Party, please reach out to Alex Flores at alex.flores@azlp.org.

Gila County

By Larry Hoffenberg,
GCLP Sec/Treasurer
GCLP will be meeting Wednesday, September 15 at 6PM at the Denny's in Payson. We also offer Zoom participation. The Zoom link can be found a few days prior to the meeting at gilaazlp.org



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AZLP on the Texas Heartbeat Law

By Andi De Bellis & Lauren Snyder

Two and a half hours' drive -- 165 miles -- that's how close we are to the strictest abortion policy in the nation. On Wednesday, September 1, 2021 we witnessed Texas Senate Bill 8 go into effect as five justices of the U.S. Supreme Court voted against issuing an injunction on the new Texas law. We understand this subject is not an easy one to navigate; however, as this issue has overtaken social and broadcast media, we wanted to utilize this month's newsletter to present the facts and implications of this law occurring so close to home.

The Basics on TX S.B. 8

Simply summarized, the law states that a physician cannot perform an abortion once a "fetal heartbeat" has been detected.

According to University of Texas researchers, ultrasounds can pick up these kinds of signals around five to six weeks of gestation — but that occurs "before the fetus' heart has actually developed," they added.

According to the abortion providers who are suing to block S.B. 8, at least 85% of abortions in Texas take place after the sixth week of pregnancy.

S.B. 8 also includes an "unprecedented provision" that allows anyone to sue anyone who performs or aids in an abortion. It

doesn't matter if the plaintiff has any connection to the defendants or if they live outside Texas.

The language of S.B. 8 says people who perform the abortion — as well as anyone who "knowingly engages in conduct that aids or abets the performance or inducement of an abortion" — can be legally liable. S.B. 8's language is so broad that anyone who offers information or referrals for abortion care, drives the patient to a facility, helps them pay for their abortion, or intends to do so, could face a civil suit and fines up to \$10,000. So, any person in Texas who uses Venmo to send cash to a friend who needs to pay for an abortion or any Uber driver transporting a patient to an abortion appointment could be sued under S.B. 8.

Implications for Arizona

Although significantly less restrictive, on April 27, Governor Doug Ducey signed SB1457, banning abortions sought solely due to genetic abnormalities. The bill also bans mail delivery of abortion-inducing medication, and restricts organizations that provide abortion care from receiving state funds. Much like TX S.B. 8,

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Graham County

If you are interested in helping establish a Graham County Libertarian Party, please reach out to Alex Flores at alex.flores@azlp.org.

Greenlee County

If you are interested in helping establish a Greenlee County Libertarian Party, please reach out to Alex Flores at alex.flores@azlp.org.

La Paz County

If you are interested in helping establish a La Paz County Libertarian Party, please reach out to Alex Flores at alex.flores@azlp.org.

Maricopa County By Brandon Slayton, MCLP Chair

For upcoming MCLP events and opportunities visit lpmaricopa.org.

Mohave County

No updates this month! Please check back with us in October!

Santa Cruz County

If you are interested in helping establish a Santa Cruz County Libertarian Party, please reach out to Alex Flores at alex.flores@azlp.org.

Pinal County By Sean Stinson, PCLP Secretary

We are still looking for volunteers to help grow the Pinal County LP. We are also looking for volunteers to help with our Ballot access initiative. Please reach out to us at pinalcylp@gmail.com!



Candidate's Corner



Calling All LP Candidates! By Andi De Bellis

If you are a LP candidate running for political office within the state, we'd love to showcase you! To be featured next month's newsletter, please send an email to Andi De Bellis at newsletter@azlp.org.

SB1457 grants civil rights to fetuses, embryos and fertilized human eggs allowing physicians, physician's assistants, nurses, counselors, other medical and mental health professionals who knowingly do not report patients suspected of being in violations of the law to be fined up to \$10,000. It is also unclear whether healthcare providers can be criminally prosecuted for endangerment or child abuse when they provide or assist with an abortion, regardless of whether the treatment was necessary to protect the pregnant patient's health.

SB1457 also incorporates a "personhood" provision that "alters the meaning of large swaths of the Arizona Revised Statutes in a manner that is unconstitutionally vague" and has the potential to make an array of activities that endanger fetuses illegal, including gynecological care, contraceptive care, hormone therapy, cancer screening and treatment, and substance use treatment.

Set to take effect September 29th, a lawsuit has been filed in U.S. District Court is asking for a temporary injunction on the Arizona law. As the nation currently is looking to see how the Supreme Court is currently

responding, and continues to respond, to TX S.B. 8, Arizona is on the precipice of following the lead of Texas in allowing the government to once again expand its overreach.

The Libertarian Stance

The Libertarian platform states, "Recognizing that abortion is a sensitive issue and that people can hold good-faith views on all sides, we believe that government should be kept out of the matter, leaving the question to each person for their conscientious consideration."

Aside from the Libertarian stance directly regarding abortion, the LP's stance on Crime and Justice is also applicable on this issues. As Texas has empowered anyone, regardless of connection to the defendant, to sue, individuals whose rights have not been violated by the defendant are essentially able to make a claim to a "crime" having been committed without being a victim.

Breaking It Down

Regardless of personal beliefs, TX S.B. 8 sets a dangerous precedent for governmental overreach. Allowing anyone to sue anyone who performs or aids in an abortion is an

emerging trend in Republican-dominated governments that find it difficult to constitutionally govern morality. So, they are essentially empowering and deputizing civilians to sue for civil remedies to the tune of a \$10,000 reward. This is putting a \$10,000 bounty on the head of anyone who thinks about having an abortion, or anyone who might have been asked to help a friend or family member through the tough decision. The law is a clear attack on an individual's constitutional rights, and here are a few examples of the most glaring constitutional infringements:

Freedom of Religion

The First Amendment states, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech."

The Roe v. Wade decision also set precedent for respecting the varying religious views on when life begins. Many in the Jewish faith, for example, believe that life begins at birth, but the prevailing view in the Catholic faith is that life begins at conception. Ultimately, the Court found, it is not up to the states to decide when life

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begins: "[W]e do not agree that, by adopting one theory of life, Texas may override the rights of the pregnant woman that are at stake."

I Plead the 5th...and 4th

The Fourth Amendment reads, "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized." Additionally, the 5th Amendment states, "No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation." Respectively, these amendments protect an individual's rights not to disclose private healthcare records or disclose incriminating information against themselves. With S.B. 8's language being so broad that anyone who offers information or referrals for abortion care, drives the patient to a facility, helps them pay for their abortion, or intends to do so being personally liable to face civil suit, TX S.B. 8 forces the public and incriminating disclosure of private healthcare records and private conversations.

Right to Privacy

Going back to *Roe v. Wade*, the constitutional right to privacy comes from the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. The Due Process Clause states, "All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." While it does not explicitly state that Americans have a right to privacy, the Supreme Court

recognized such a right going all the way back to 1891. Just one year before *Roe v. Wade*, the Supreme Court held that "in a Constitution for a free people, there can be no doubt that the meaning of 'liberty' must be broad indeed." In *Roe v. Wade*, the Court decided that this right to privacy extends to a woman's control over a pregnancy within the first 12-week trimester.

What Can Arizona Libertarians Do?

Over the past year and a half, amidst mask and vaccine mandates, it has become abundantly clear that Arizona Libertarians are fierce advocates for medical freedom and bodily autonomy. The AZLP recognized that medical freedom and bodily autonomy isn't a "pick-and-choose" issue; it is all or nothing. Individuals are entitled to decide, for themselves and their children, what goes into their bodies and what medical procedures they consent to undergo; bodily autonomy is a fundamental human right and the government does not own our bodies, our minds, or those of our children.

Over the past week, several ways to support Texans have been circulated. While we encourage everyone to support the efforts of Texans' to reclaim their right to bodily autonomy and medical freedom here, are some ways you can thwart a similar affront to our rights here in Arizona:

1) Educate yourself about what Arizonans are up against.

Information on, and the full text of, SB 1457 can be found on azleg.gov. Additionally, the court docket for *Isaacson et al v. Brnovich et al* (the case filed against Arizona on SB 1457) can be tracked and followed on sites such as Bloomberg Law.

2) Donate to support Arizona abortion funds and providers over national organizations.

Instead of donating to or lifting up high-profile national organizations, consider supporting Arizona-based funds, providers, and organizers who have been doing the work and battling the State in our community for years.

3) Share resources on how people can safely get abortion care options online.

Websites like Plan C and Abortion On Demand were created to help anyone safely and legally find a way to access abortion pills. The doctor-run M+A Hotline is a confidential, private and secure hotline to seek expert advice on self-managing your abortion or miscarriage. If/When/How's Legal Defense Fund is available to offer legal or financial support to anyone who has legal concerns about their pregnancy or using medication abortion. If you or anyone you know is trying to self-manage an abortion, these resources and hotlines are vital to keep on hand.

4) Add your name to a petition.

Keep an on Initiative, Referendum and Recall Applications that have been submitted for the 2022 election cycle on the AZ Secretary of State website and reach out to the contacts listed to find out how to add your signature to applicable petitions!

5) Take political action.

Consider running for State or Local office! For more information on how to run for office, reach out to the AZLP Candidate Recruitment Committee Chair, Tyler Smith, at candidates@azlp.org.

AZLP Spotlight

Members of the community joined the Pima County Libertarian Party, for a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the opening of its new headquarters, Friday, August 13th in Tucson.

The opening of the new Pima County Libertarian Party headquarters in Tucson marks a momentous achievement as it is the first county affiliate in the state to secure its own base of operations.

Additionally, the PCLP hosted its first meeting in the new headquarters Tuesday, August 19, 2021 and had unprecedented attendance.

As the AZLP continues its work to establish and grow county affiliates, facilities such as these will afford AZ Libertarians the opportunity to convene and shape the Liberty movement in the Grand Canyon State. Congratulations Pima County Libertarian Party!



County Updates

Navajo County

By Alex Flores,
NCLP Chair

NCLP meetups are held the last Saturday of every month, 6pm, at Licano's in Show Low. Business meetings are held electronically on a quarterly basis, the next being through zoom on Sunday September 26th at 6pm. Links are provided for all those expressing an interest to attend, either through social media or by email.

Navajo County needs 26 more registered Libertarians to qualify to petition for continued ballot access.

The Navajo County Fair will be held Sept. 15th-18th at the Holbrook Fair Grounds. Be sure to look for Navajo County Libertarians out wandering the grounds registering people to vote!

Pima County

By Dru Heaton,
PCLP Chair

The PCLP hosted its largest meeting in recent history (80) a few short days after its ribbon cutting at its new HQ as residents have growing concerns over health mandates. The PCLP started and will soon host a weekly breakfast for Law Enforcement centered on the libertarian message of the Thick Red Line Project. A Free-Market Education Fair is hosted monthly, and our adopt a road project begins in November.

AZLP Welcomes New Members to the Board

By Andi De Bellis

August 5th the AZLP welcomed two new members to the board: Sheila Shaver was elected to fill the vacancy of Assistant Secretary and Tyler Smith was appointed Chair of the Candidate Recruitment Committee. Sheila and Tyler both bring a unique set of experiences and a great deal of talent, and enthusiasm to the board that will make them prime advocates for liberty; we could not be more excited to have them join the team as we continue to see Libertarianism grow and expand in Arizona. The newest members of our board can be reached at sheila.shaver@azlp.org and tyler.smith@azlp.org respectively.



Sheila Shaver

AZLP Assistant Secretary

Sheila moved to AZ over a decade ago after living in CA and NV. She is a wife and mother of two, a professional educator, homeschool mom, and PCM. She earned a bachelor's degree in Liberal Studies from California State University, Fullerton and a master's degree in Education from University Nevada, Las Vegas. Her professional career in the field of education has spanned three states and students of all ages from preschool to the university level in both public and private institutions. She remains committed to promoting a peaceful and prosperous Arizona through libertarian philosophy.



Tyler Smith

Candidate Recruitment Chair

Tyler was born in WV, and has lived in several states and two countries fighting for Liberty. Currently, he also works as outreach for the Libertarian Party Radical Caucus, and studied psychology as well as criminal justice at both the University of Mount Olive and Central Florida University. He currently lives in Peoria, Arizona where he continues his activism in terms of recruitment for the LP and running for office. He and his partner, Jordan, have also made strides to build bridges with GSM groups in the greater Phoenix area in order to bridge the gap between libertarianism and the GSM community.

The Ever Growing Need for Volunteers!

As we increase our presence and involvement at various events and engagements across the state, our need for volunteers is rapidly growing. Please consider signing up to volunteer with us at one of our upcoming event.

Signing up to volunteer is easy! You can register at tinyurl.com/azlpvolunteer and then select the volunteer opportunity that matches your availability, interests, skills, and passions! New volunteer opportunities are being added weekly!

This upcoming Saturday afternoon, we will be hosting the the End the Damn Wars! Peaceful Anti-War Rally at Eldorado Park in Scottsdale and are still in desperate need of volunteers. Please consider signing up to help us out!

Thank you!

Have an idea or want to contribute to the next issue?

Reach out to us at newsletter@azlp.org

County Updates

Yavapai County By Timothy Benjamin, YCLP Chair

Our monthly meeting for Yavapai county will be held Sunday, Sept. 19, at 2:30pm at the Road Kill Cafe' in Seligman.

Yuma County By Howard Blitz, YCLP Chair

The YCLP will be meeting Monday, September 13 at 5pm. Discussion will center around how best to promote the YCLP and how to get more Libertarian Party registrations. On September 17th, we will be supporting the Freedom Library's Statue of Liberty Replica Dedication.

Upcoming Events

- **End the Damn Wars! Rally**
Saturday, September 11th, 12PM
Eldorado Park, Scottsdale, AZ
- **Gila County Monthly Meeting**
Wednesday, September 15th, 6PM
Denny's, 312 S. Beeline Hwy, Payson, AZ
- **9th Annual Constitution Day Open House**
Friday, September 17th, 6PM
The Freedom Library, 2035 S. Arizona Ave, Yuma, AZ
- **Yavapai County Monthly Meeting**
Sunday, September 19th, 2:30PM
Road Kill Café, 22830 W Old Hwy 66, Seligman, AZ
- **Pima County Monthly Meeting**
Tuesday, September 21st, 7PM
PCLP HQ, 5546 E 4th St, Tucson, AZ
- **AZLP Gubernatorial Candidate Debate**
Sunday, October 10th, 6:30PM
Tucson, AZ

To see more events and
upcoming volunteer opportunities
please visit:

Events Calendar-
azlp.org/get-involved/events

Volunteer Portal-
tinyurl.com/azlpvolunteer

