

# #INVESTinAZNOW

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## **ARIZONA VOTERS ANGRY AND PREPARED TO REJECT TAX CUT BILLS AT THE BALLOT BOX**

*New poll shows Arizona voters are extremely frustrated with the state officials, completely committed to funding public schools and infrastructure, and very willing to repeal recently passed tax cuts and attacks on Prop 208. Invest in Arizona also files lawsuit to protect Prop 208 from SB 1783 on grounds of the Voter Protection Act*

(PHOENIX, AZ) – A recent survey conducted by Lake Research Partners (LRP) demonstrates the current attitude of voters after Gov Ducey and the legislature passed laws to undermine Prop 208 Invest in Ed and massively cut state revenues. After numerous polls over the years, one fact remains constant and clear: voters believe public education is in crisis, and they are willing to take matters into their own hands to fund their public schools, including a rejection by referenda of three laws that will cut revenue to education if they go into effect.

According to the poll:

- **62% of voters, including 51% strongly, say they will vote to reject Senate Bill 1827,** which establishes a maximum personal income tax of 4.5%.
- **60% of voters, including 45% strongly, say they will vote to reject Senate Bill 1783,** which creates a new category for certain taxpayers to avoid the Proposition 208 surcharge.
- **53% of voters, including 46% strongly, say they will vote to reject Senate Bill 1828,** which lowered tax rates for the very wealthy.

The Invest in Arizona coalition is running three referenda campaigns that seek to overturn these recently passed bills. Invest in Arizona is made up of multiple Arizona grassroots advocacy and community organizations, already collecting signatures across the state.

The coalition also filed a lawsuit against the Arizona Department of Revenue and the State of Arizona to prevent the implementation of SB 1783 on the grounds that it violates the Voter Protection Act. The goal is to ensure that the will of Arizona voters is carried out regarding Prop 208 – Invest in Ed.

Other findings from the survey include:

- **Voters hold Governor Ducey and the Arizona State Legislature in *extremely* low regard.**

67% of voters believe Ducey is doing a just fair or poor job as governor. More voters believe Ducey is doing a poor job (40%), the lowest possible rating, than believe he is doing an excellent (just six percent) or good job (24%).

- **Voters are just as angry with the legislature.**

Only 27% of voters believe the legislature is doing an excellent (5%) or good (22%) job, while 65% believe its performance is fair (30%) or poor (35%).

"In 2020, a majority of Arizona voters approved Proposition 208 that raised taxes on the very wealthy to restore hundreds of millions of dollars cut by the legislature since 2008. Voters did what politicians refused to do. And now the politicians are so determined to underfund our schools and protect the wealthy, that they passed not one, but three separate bills to undo the will of the voters and cut taxes for the wealthy." Said Joe Thomas, President of the Arizona Education Association.

"The Voter Protection Act was passed for times like these. To protect laws passed by the people from interference from the legislature. Also, the Arizona constitution gives us the right to reject bad bills and put them up for a vote of the people," said Rebecca Gau, Executive Director of Stand for Children Arizona.

**Attached are copies of the survey conducted by Lake Research Partners (LRP) and the Complaint, which was filed this month on behalf of Invest in Arizona.**

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