

SUPREME COURT OF ARIZONA

ANN-EVE PEDERSEN, individually) Arizona Supreme Court
and as Chair of the Quality) No. CV-12-0260-AP/EL
Education and Jobs Supporting)
I-16-2012 Committee; and the) Maricopa County
Quality Education and Jobs) Superior Court
Supporting I-6-2012 Committee,) No. CV2012-009618
)
Plaintiffs,)
) **O R D E R**
v.)
)
KEN BENNETT, in his official)
capacity as Secretary of State)
of the State of Arizona,)
)
Defendant.) **FILED 08/14/2012**
_____)

The Court, by a panel consisting of Chief Justice Berch, Vice Chief Justice Bales, and Justice Brutinel, has considered the briefs of the parties and amici curiae and the record in this accelerated election appeal. After consideration, the Court rules as follows:

In filing an application for a serial number for an initiative pursuant to A.R.S. § 19-111(A), Plaintiffs mistakenly submitted to the Secretary of State two different versions of the proposed law: their intended version on a compact disc and a paper copy that omitted fifteen lines of text on the twelfth of fifteen pages. Plaintiffs circulated petitions attached to the version of the proposed law contained on the compact disc, obtained more than 290,000 signatures to place the initiative on

the November 2012 ballot, and tendered the signatures to the Secretary of State to be validated. Under the particular circumstances of this case, we hold that Plaintiffs substantially complied with the statutory requirement that an application for an initiative serial number "set[] forth . . . the text of the proposed law," A.R.S. 19-111(A), and we therefore affirm the judgment of the superior court. See *Feldmeier v. Watson*, 211 Ariz. 444, 123 P.3d 180 (2005). An opinion explaining this order will issue in due course.

DATED this _____ day of August, 2012.

Rebecca White Berch
Chief Justice

TO:

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