



A research and advocacy association, supporting efficient, responsive county government in Arizona.

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Thank You for Your Service Veterans!



This weekend we observe the Veterans Day holiday. Veterans Day has its origins in Armistice Day, which was first acknowledged by President Woodrow Wilson in 1919. The first anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Versailles, ending WWI, took place "in the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month." For that reason, Congress made Armistice Day a national holiday on November 11, 1938.

However, in 1968, the signing of the Uniform Holiday Bill ensured three-day weekends for Federal employees by celebrating four national holidays on Mondays: Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and Columbus Day. Many states did not agree with this and continued to celebrate the holidays on their original dates, causing confusion. Therefore, on September 20, 1975 President Gerald Ford signed legislation returning Veterans Day to its original date of November 11, beginning in 1978.

In honor of all the men and woman who served and continue to serve our great country, thank you!

Image Source: [Jp Valery](#) on [Unsplash](#)

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PSPRS Briefs County Managers

Jared Smout, the Administrator for the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSPRS), presented to the county managers on Friday on the impacts of the passage of Prop. 125 and the overall health of the three plans they manage.

Smout noted that the passage of Prop. 125 will continue to provide members with benefit increases, while also improving the funded status of the Corrections Officers Retirement Plan (CORP) and the Elected Officials Retirement Plan (EORP) and providing the plans with more stability. PSPRS has also unanimously named a new CIO, Mark Steed, after conducting a nationwide search for the right candidate.

PSPRS manages three different retirement funds for public safety personnel, elected officials and corrections officers. To learn more about PSPRS and its plans please, click [here](#).

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Proposition 125 – Here's the news

Prop 125 passed by voters

- Applies same reforms to EORP and CORP as Prop 124 provided in 2016 for PSPRS
 - Replaces PBI with COLA based on federal consumer price index
 - COLA capped at 2 percent compared to PBI's 4 percent cap
- Lowers long-term actuarial liabilities of system
 - \$275 million estimated savings
 - Removes problem of PBI following years of low returns or losses
- Supported by PSPRS Board of Trustees, including system members and citizen investment experts

PENSION REFORM FOR CORP AND EORP

General Election Preliminary Results

Voters made their voices heard on Tuesday during the 2018 General Election. There are still a large number of provisional and early ballots to be processed, but most of the races were decided. The results of the election have not yet been canvassed. The board of supervisors have between 6 to 20 days after a general election to canvass and the Secretary of State must canvass the results by the 4th Monday after the election (December 3rd). Some election result highlights include:

Federal Races:

Senate: Kyrsten Sinema is leading Martha McSally in the race for Senator Flake's open seat, but it is still too close to be called with only 9,618 votes separating them.

House: All the congressional incumbents retained their seats. Greg Stanton (D) won in District 9 (Sinema's vacant seat) and Ann Kirkpatrick (D) won in District 2 (McSally's vacant seat). The 9 member congressional delegation is now composed of 4 Republicans and 5 Democrats.

Statewide Races:

Republicans won in the races for governor, attorney general, and treasurer. The race for secretary of state and superintendent of public instruction are still too close to call. In the secretary of state race, Gaynor (R) is leading Hobbs (D) by 19,763 votes and in the school superintendent race Kathy Hoffman (D) is now leading Riggs (R) by 19,450 votes.

State Legislature:

Senate: Republicans retained the majority with a 17/13 split, but Senator Brophy McGee is still in a close race and is leading by 808 votes.

House: Initial results show the Republican majority in the House slipped from 35/25 down to 31/29.

Legislative Leadership:

Senate Majority Leadership

President Karen Fann
Majority Leader Rick Gray
Majority Whip Sonny Borrelli

Senate Minority Leadership

Minority Leader David Bradley
Assistant Minority Leader Lupe Contreras
Co-Whips Lisa Otondo and Jamescita Peshlakai

House Majority Leadership

Speaker Rusty Bowers
Majority Leader Warren Peterson
Majority Whip Becky Nutt

House Minority Leadership

Minority Leader Charlene Fernandez
Assistant Minority Leader Randall Friese
Co-Whips Athena Salman & Reginald Bolding

Ballot Measures:

Three statewide ballot measures passed, including Prop. 125 (EORP, CORP Retirement), Prop. 126 (Service Tax Prohibition) and Prop. 306 (Clean Elections Amendment).

Two countywide measures passed including Coconino County's Merit Selection and Judicial Retention of Superior Court Judges and La Paz County's Permanent Base Adjustment Expenditure Limit Increase. Two others did not secure sufficient voter support: Apache County's property tax levy override and Pima County's infrastructure bond. In Navajo County, the jail district tax (Prop. 419) is still too close to call.

Board of Supervisor Race:

The Mohave County District 5 Supervisor race went to former Arizona State Senator Ron Gould.

Please see the below for the preliminary general election results for both candidates and ballot propositions:

- [Federal, State & Legislative Candidates](#)
- [Ballot Propositions](#)

For more information on the 2018 elections, please visit the [Arizona Secretary of State's](#) website.

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APA Arizona State Planning Conference

The APA Arizona Board of Directors and Conference Committee held their 2018 State Planning Conference this week in Flagstaff, Arizona. The annual conference provides opportunities to network, share accomplishments, discuss challenges in the planning and development profession, and broaden the planning knowledge base.

To view more details, please visit the [2018 State Planning Conference](#) page.

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