



What's Happening



This year, you helped us push back against Christian Nationalist bills at the Capitol seeking to:

- Sell women's online data for religious purposes
- Institute "abstinence only" sex education
- Sanction discrimination against transgender students.

But it's not enough to keep fighting bad bills at the Legislature: it's time to build a Legislature where these bills don't even move in the first place.

Early ballots are in the mail for the August 4th primary. Some counties have set up early voting centers. Please join us in supporting candidates who have defended separation of church and state at the Legislature, and strategically holding accountable the worst offenders on the religious right.

[Key Information and FAQs about the August Primary:](#)

Voting deadlines:

- **July 6 (passed):** Last day to register new voters before August primary.
- **July 24:** Last day to request a one-time Ballot-by-Mail or join the Permanent Early Voting List. (See <https://azsos.gov/votebymail> for more info)
- **July 29:** Last recommended day to mail ballots back. (Voters who do not mail their ballot back by July 29, 2020 may drop off their ballot before 7 p.m. on Election Day)
- **August 4:** Primary election date (last day to hand in ballots/participate in person)

Additionally, ballots returned by mail must be received by the voter's county election officials by 7 p.m. on Election Day. To ensure timely delivery, election officials encourage voters to mail ballots by July 29, 2020, or drop off their ballot at any ballot drop-box, drop-off location or voting location in their county. Voters can contact their county recorder's office to learn more.

Voting by mail:

Ballots have been mailed to those already on the Permanent Early Voting List (PEVL). However, there is still time to request a ballot by mail.

Voters who wish to vote by mail this election only or join the Permanent Early Voting List can request to do so by visiting azsos.gov/votebymail. The deadline to request an early ballot is 11 days before Election Day.

Early in-person voting:

If voting by mail is not an option, voters are encouraged to vote early in-person, when crowds tend to be smaller and exposure to others is reduced. Arizona has a generous early voting period that starts 27 days before the election. Voters should contact their county recorder's office for details on early voting locations and days/hours of operation. For a complete contact list of election officials in Arizona, visit <http://go.azsos.gov/InDl>.

Registered independents:

The August 4th Primary Election is a partisan primary wherein Democrats and Republicans select who they want to compete as their party's candidate(s) in the General Election in November.

Unlike with the Presidential Preference Election, the August Election is an open primary, which allows voters registered without a political party ("independents") to choose which primary they want to participate in.

Secular voters are encouraged to think strategically about where their vote can count the most.

Independent voters will need to select which party's ballot they wish to fill out in the Primary Election, even if they are on the Permanent Early Voting List. Voters can contact their [County Recorder's Office](#) or visit azsos.gov/votebymail to request a ballot.

In-person voters can select their choice of ballot when they go to vote on-site on election day or at an early polling place.

Elections and COVID-19:

The State government has not announced any official plans to delay the election due to the pandemic.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has published guidelines for election polling locations [here](#) and recommends early voting and voting by mail when possible.

More election questions:

Visit the [Arizona Secretary of State website](#)

Who should I vote for?

Secular AZ does not endorse candidates. However, we do publish a range of resources to inform constituents which lawmakers performed best and worst on issues of separation of religion and government.

We publish these results in the form of...

- **[The Secular Scorecard](#)**: a report card grading all sitting Legislators on their votes, the bills they introduced, and other actions. Ranked from highest to lowest. (See the full [Legislative Wrap-Up](#) for details on how we arrived at these scores.)
- **[The Candidate Survey](#)**: an opportunity for all running for Legislative office to answer 16 questions important to our community.

As we move closer toward Election Day, we encourage voters to make sure they prepare beforehand and make a plan to vote in a way that is meaningful to them. Voters should turn to their most trusted sources for accurate and up-to-date election information.

Virtual Events



Secular Speaker Series: Sen. Juan Mendez & Rep. Athena Salman

Saturday 7/18 2:00 - 3:00:

Join us for a conversation with Secular Superstars Senator Juan Mendez and Representative Athena Salman, who received the highest scores on our 2020 Secular Scorecard! Hear about the issues that are most important to them and how they handle Christian Nationalism and Project Blitz at the Arizona State Capitol. Bring your questions, it is sure to be an interesting conversation!

Registration required on Zoom [here](#), or watch live on our [Facebook page](#).

Becoming Anti-Racists: A Workshop for White People

Weekly workshops July 14th - August 11th

It is the responsibility of white people to become educated and do the work needed to end systemic racism. We must be led by black folks and other people of color, but we must also relieve the burden of people being oppressed.

[Humanist Society of Greater Phoenix](#) is



making a start by holding a 5-part workshop based on the bestselling book *So You Want to Talk About Race* by Ijeoma Oluo. There will be five weekly sessions on Tuesdays, beginning July 14 and ending August 11 @ 3-4:30PM. Guest facilitators will include activists, communications professionals, humanist spiritual leaders and more.

Find more info and the link to register at HSGP's website [here](#).



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Membership

