

PASCUA YAQUI TRIBE

Constitution Amendment Election Information



Constitutional Amendment A: Article I Section 1(g)

Purpose:

To allow people convicted of serious crimes to be sentenced to up to 3 years in prison for each offense, with a maximum sentence of 9 years (currently limited to 1-year).

Comment on Proposed Language:

Changing it to this simplified version without any times imposed will allow the Tribe to impose sentences greater than one-year, but won't limit the Tribe to any specific time-frame in case the federal law changes again in the future. Will help the Tribe fully implement the Tribal Law & Order Act and the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA).

√ **A vote "YES" Means:** the proposed Amendment would replace the current Article I section 1(g) in the Pascua Yaqui Constitution and allow the Tribe to bring greater justice to crime victims.

√ **A vote "NO" Means:** the current Article will remain in full force and effect

Constitutional Amendment B: Article III Membership

Purpose:

To allow the Pascua Yaqui Tribe to determine its own qualifications for membership in the Tribe, without interference from the BIA (currently need BIA approval and the qualifications are set by the former federal law, which is no longer in effect).

Comment on Proposed Language:

This proposal is about fairness. It gives the Tribe the ability to determine our own membership and start the conversation about our future. A vote for changing this part of our Constitution will not change our membership. Any changes to our membership will require another Constitutional election.

√ **A vote "Yes" Means:** The Proposed Amendment would replace the current Article III in the Pascua Yaqui Constitution.

√ **A vote "NO" Means:** The current Article III will remain in full force and effect.

Constitutional Amendment C: Article XX Amendments

Purpose:

To remove the BIA from our election process for future constitutional amendments (*currently constitutional amendments require BIA to hold a Secretarial Election*).

Comments:

Takes BIA out of the process. The Tribe holds the election, and there is no BIA approval required. Upholds sovereign status of tribe. Voting for this change will not impact our Tribal budget or change the relationship between the Tribe and the B.I.A., it simply means that we will hold our own elections and more people will be able to vote in the manner that we hold all of our elections. Currently, the BIA registration process limits participation and polling locations. This does not give Tribal Council more authority. Any additional changes to the Constitution will still require an Election.

√ **A vote "Yes" Means:** The proposed amendment would replace the current Article in the Pascua Yaqui Constitution.

√ **A vote "No" Means:** The current article will remain in full force and effect.