



Dear Pastor/Administrator:

Each day, lawmakers in Arizona and in Congress make critical moral decisions. These decisions chart the course of our country. Public policy will either lead to stronger marriages, families and communities, or to an immoral, chaotic culture. One of the primary ways Christians can have a positive impact on public policy is to elect government leaders that reflect their values. Many Christians, however, are not even registered to vote.

In recent years, certain advocacy groups have attempted to intimidate pastors, churches and Christian organizations into silence on the great moral issues of our time through misleading information and threats. Many groups wrongly believe they cannot legally influence these debates and have voluntarily removed themselves from the public arena.

At this critical time in our history, Christians must understand the legal role they can play in addressing cultural and moral issues. Although partisan activity, including supporting or opposing any candidate for political office, is prohibited for nonprofits, nonpartisan voter registration and voter education is allowed. There is **no** legal restriction whatsoever on the ability of nonprofits to register voters or provide them nonpartisan candidate survey information.

Suggestions for encouraging voter registration include hosting a table in your lobby, passing out voter registration forms during events or church services, and making the forms available in your office.

It is easy to host voter registration and education efforts while remaining nonpartisan. You should avoid naming or depicting candidates in a way that favors one candidate over another. Voter registration and education services should be made available without regard to voters' political preferences. The focus should be on encouraging people to register to vote and to participate in the political process.

I hope this information will help you as you encourage your members to be a strong voice in our culture. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at 602-424-2525 or pgentala@azpolicy.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter A. Gentala".

Peter A. Gentala
General Counsel