



---

## Ballot Measures to Watch in 2022

# Who We Are



The Fairness Project is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to advancing social and economic justice via ballot measures. Born out of the labor movement, our organization has won 24 campaigns in more than a dozen states to raise wages, stop predatory lenders, expand health care access, secure paid leave, and other life-changing policies.

**875,000**

Over 875,000 people in America can now access life-saving health care through our work to expand Medicaid.

**\$22 billion**

Our work to increase wages has delivered \$22 billion into the hands of workers as of January 2022.

**18 million**

Our ballot measures have changed the lives of over 18 million people all across America.

**24 wins**

We've won 24 of 25 ballot measures to raise wages, stop predatory lenders, expand health care, secure paid time off, and other life-changing policies.

# Our Areas of Expertise

- How to win ballot measure campaigns on progressive issues in red and purple states
- Strategy and messaging for statewide and municipal ballot measure campaigns
- State-by-state ballot measure laws and processes, from incubation to passage and implementation
- Fighting back against attacks on the ballot measure process
- The role of citizen-initiated ballot measures in the current political landscape and the future of ballot measures
- Building unconventional coalitions between political interests, organizations, stakeholders, and voters

*This year, millions of voters who turn out for the midterm elections will have a chance to vote on ballot measures on a number of key issues. Here are some of the ballot measures to watch through Election Day:*

## REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS



### Michigan Reproductive Freedom for All

The Fairness Project is supporting the Reproductive Freedom for All campaign in Michigan to pass a citizen-initiated ballot measure, Proposal 3, that would enshrine reproductive rights in Michigan's constitution, including the right to have an abortion. Volunteers collected more than 750,000 signatures, a statewide record, in order to qualify the measure for the ballot.



### Vermont for Reproductive Liberty

The Fairness Project is partnering with the Vermont Reproductive Liberty campaign to pass a legislatively referred ballot measure, Proposal 5, that will codify reproductive freedom in Vermont's constitution, including the right to seek an abortion or use contraception.

### Other measures

**California** voters will decide on whether to add a constitutional amendment ensuring the right to have an abortion and to use contraceptives. **Montanans** will decide whether to grant personhood rights to fetuses born at any stage of development. In **Kentucky**, voters will see a proposal similar to the one defeated in **Kansas** earlier this year, which would amend the state constitution to state that there is no right to have an abortion.

## HEALTH CARE



### South Dakotans Decide Healthcare

South Dakota is one of only 12 states that still has not expanded Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act. The Fairness Project has worked to pass Medicaid expansion in six states so far and is now working with a broad coalition of local partners in South Dakota including doctors, teachers, and farmers to support the South Dakotans Decide Healthcare campaign. If passed, Amendment D would expand Medicaid to about 42,000 South Dakotans.

### Other measures

This year, **Oregon** voters will decide whether to amend their state constitution to guarantee every resident access to affordable health care as a fundamental right.

## ECONOMIC JUSTICE



### Raise the Wage Nebraska

The Fairness Project is working with Raise the Wage Nebraska to pass a ballot measure, Initiative 433, that will increase the minimum wage statewide from its current level of \$9/hour to \$15/hour by 2026, adjusting for inflation each subsequent year. This would immediately impact approximately 150,000 workers, or nearly a fifth of Nebraska's workforce.

### Healthcare Rising Arizona

The Fairness Project is supporting Healthcare Rising Arizona to pass its ballot measure, Prop 209, that would limit exploitative practices by medical debt collectors. If passed, the measure will shield more of people's assets, including homes and vehicles, from repossession, and would cap the interest rate on medical debt at 3% and limit wage garnishment for medical debt to a maximum of 10% of earnings.



### Other measures

**Massachusetts** will decide whether to create a 4% state income tax on income over \$1 million on top of the existing 5% income tax, with the revenue going toward education and transportation. **Illinoisans** will vote on guaranteeing the right to collectively bargain for state employees.

## POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY



### Yes on A, Los Angeles County

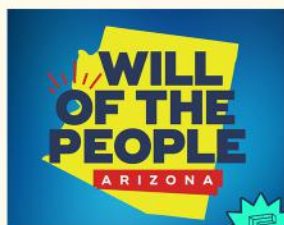
In Los Angeles County, the Fairness Project is working with the Yes on A campaign to pass a county-wide ballot measure that will allow the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to impeach the county's sheriff for cause.

## CANNABIS

Voters in **Arkansas**, **North Dakota**, and **South Dakota** will see citizen-initiated ballot measures this year that would legalize possession and use of cannabis. In **Missouri**, court challenges delayed a ballot measure to legalize cannabis statewide, but a ruling by the state Supreme Court allowed the measure to appear on the ballot in November. Voters in **Maryland** will also vote on a legislatively referred measure that would decriminalize possession of small amounts of cannabis.

## VOTING AND DEMOCRACY

### Arizona



The Fairness Project is working with stakeholders in Arizona to execute “No” campaigns on three anti-democratic proposals. Prop 128 would allow the state legislature to amend or repeal voter-approved ballot measures if any portion has been declared unconstitutional or illegal by the Arizona Supreme Court or U.S. Supreme Court. Prop 129 would limit citizen-initiated ballot measures to a single subject. Prop 132 would require a 60% vote rather than a simple majority for voters to pass certain ballot measures.

### Arkansas



The Fairness Project is also working with stakeholders in Arkansas to defeat Arkansas Issue 2, which would require a 60% supermajority vote to adopt constitutional amendments and citizen-initiated state statutes. The Fairness Project worked with partners to defeat a similar proposal in South Dakota, Amendment C, earlier this year.

### Other measures

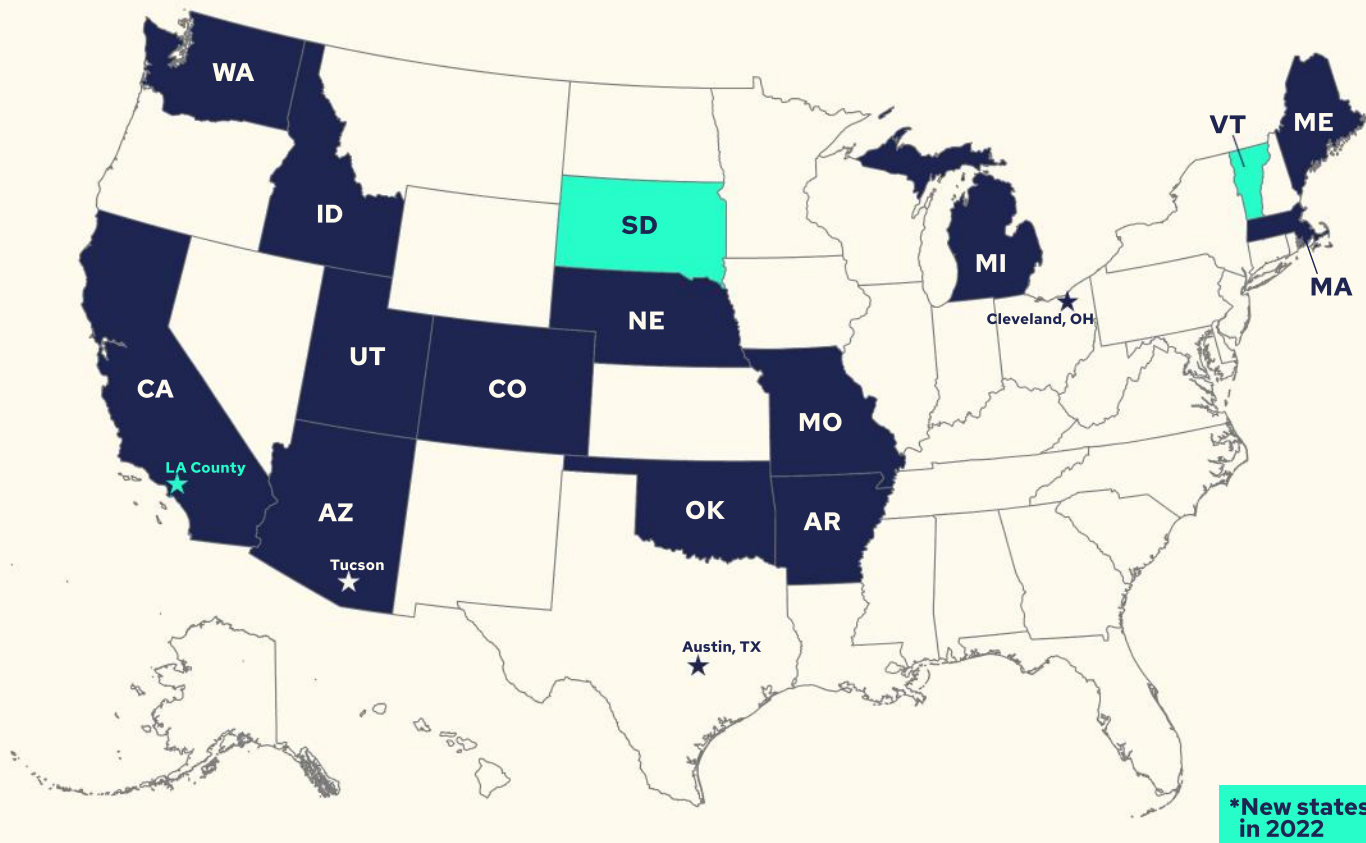
Voters in **Connecticut** will see a question on whether to expand early voting, and voters in **Arizona, Nebraska,** and **Ohio** will see questions on stricter voter ID requirements. Thanks to the Promote the Vote coalition in **Michigan,** voters will have a chance to decide whether to expand early and absentee voting, access to dropboxes, and more. **Nevadans** will vote this year on whether to implement open top-five primaries and ranked-choice voting.

## SLAVERY AND INDENTURED SERVITUDE

Several states this year will have an opportunity to abolish outstanding permissions or exceptions to slavery or forms of indentured servitude. **Alabama** voters will approve or refuse a new state constitution that, among other changes, removes racist language and permissions for involuntary servitude. Voters in **Louisiana, Oregon, Tennessee** and **Vermont** will also decide on whether to amend their state constitutions to repeal language that allows slavery and involuntary servitude as punishment or as repayment for a debt.



# Our Previous Campaigns



## 2021

Austin, TX Police Reform  
Tucson, AZ Minimum Wage  
Cleveland, OH Police Reform

## 2020

Colorado Paid Family and Medical Leave  
Missouri Medicaid Expansion  
Nebraska Predatory Payday Lending  
Oklahoma Medicaid Expansion

## 2018

Arkansas Minimum Wage  
Colorado Predatory Payday Lending  
Idaho Medicaid Expansion  
Massachusetts Minimum Wage  
Michigan Paid Sick Leave  
Missouri Minimum Wage  
Nebraska Medicaid Expansion  
San Antonio, TX Paid Sick Leave  
Utah Medicaid Expansion

## 2017

Maine Medicaid Expansion

## 2016

Arizona Minimum Wage and Paid Leave  
California Minimum Wage  
Maine Minimum Wage  
Colorado Minimum Wage  
Washington Minimum Wage and Paid Leave

**Learn more  
about our ballot  
measure campaigns at  
[thefairnessproject.org](https://thefairnessproject.org)**

# Get in Touch with Us

Experts at the Fairness Project are available to speak on and off the record, in all formats, to give context on local and statewide ballot measures in the upcoming election and beyond. We can also be a resource for connecting you with campaign managers, organizers, and others doing on-the-ground work on ballot measures. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us!



[press@thefairnessproject.org](mailto:press@thefairnessproject.org)

## ***On the Ballot This Year: The Ballot Itself***

**State ballot measures are new abortion battleground**

**Republican states keep refusing to expand Medicaid — until you ask their voters**

**SOUTH DAKOTA COULD BE THE NEXT RED STATE TO EXPAND MEDICAID**

**THE ACTIVISTS GOING STATE BY STATE TO MAKE ABORTION RIGHTS CONSTITUTIONAL LAW**

**Republicans look to restrict ballot measures following a string of progressive wins**

**The Trailer: How grass roots ballot initiatives got caught up in the voting wars**

### **OUR LEADERSHIP**

Kelly Hall is the executive director of the Fairness Project, bringing over 15 years of experience making change in government, with the labor movement, and winning ballot measure campaigns. In addition to being an expert on the ballot measure process, Kelly has spent her career developing and implementing health care policy, having worked on Capitol Hill during the drafting and passage of the Affordable Care Act and in President Barack Obama's administration during implementation of the law.

