

# ARIZONA REPUBLIC

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## GOP seeks to deny banking for some

### AZ bill would bar service for undocumented people

Ray Stern

Arizona Republic  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Undocumented immigrants would no longer be able to use banking services or send money to their home countries under a Republican bill that's on the verge of clearing the Arizona Legislature.

Senate Bill 1421 is part of a package of bills introduced this year by conserva-

tive Republican Sen. Wendy Rogers that would make life even tougher for immigrants already coping with President Donald Trump's deportation program.

Under the bill, anyone trying to deposit money, take out a loan, cash a check or send remittances back home would need to display a type of identification proving citizenship or a legal right to be in the country. Rogers noted that would exclude "consular ID cards or municipal or community ID cards."

It would also exclude out-of-state driver's licenses that state "Not for Federal Purposes" or other markings that show no proof of citizenship. According

to the National Conference of State Legislatures, 20 states and the District of Columbia have laws that allow undocumented residents to obtain driver's licenses.

Immigrants also couldn't take out a loan using Individual Taxpayer Identification Numbers issued by the IRS instead of Social Security numbers under Rogers' bill. The state's Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions would be responsible for reviewing transaction orders from international money-sending operations.

The bill passed the state Senate in February and cleared the House Com-

merce Committee on March 11 solely with votes by Republicans, who hold the legislative majority. It's now headed for a full vote in the state House.

### GOP sponsor touts government regulation

"It holds banks accountable," Rogers said of her bill during the hearing. "This is a method to reassert our sovereignty as United States citizens in terms of where the economy and our profits are going. They should not be going back

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## Birthright citizenship under review

Trump attends hearings, first president to do so



Demonstrators rally in support of birthright citizenship outside the Supreme Court on April 1. The court is set to determine if President Trump's executive order ending the practice is constitutional. KENT NISHIMURA/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Maureen Groppe, Bart Jansen, Aysha Bagchi and N'dea Yancey-Bragg  
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – The Supreme Court gave a tough – but not dismissive – review of President Donald Trump's effort to redefine who is an American, debating April 1 as Trump added to the historical significance of the case by becoming the first sitting president to attend high court oral arguments.

It is one of the court's biggest cases this term – perhaps in decades.

The executive order Trump signed on his first day back in office to sharply limit automatic citizenship for U.S.-born babies is central to his efforts to crack down on both legal and illegal immigration – a major campaign promise.

Trump's order challenges the long-standing interpretation of a 19th-century constitutional provision guarantee-



The presidential limousine arrives at the Supreme Court on April 1 in Washington, DC. Trump is the first president to attend arguments for a case in person. WIN MCNAMEE/GETTY IMAGES

ing birthright citizenship to nearly everyone – and every lower court that reviewed Trump's executive order ruled against it.

Justice Elena Kagan, a liberal, asked Solicitor General John Sauer, the Justice Department's attorney, for his rationale to change more than 125 years of Supreme Court interpretation. Chief Justice John Roberts told Sauer that some examples he gave to support Trump's position were "very quirky."

But the conservative justices, who have a 6-3 majority, also had probing questions for the other side, particularly on how to understand the court's landmark 1898 ruling upholding the citizenship of a San Francisco-born man, Wong Kim Ark, whose Chinese parents were barred from becoming citizens under the laws of the time.

Justice Samuel Alito, one of the court's most conservative members, said the amendment's language, which requires citizens to be "subject

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## Mail-in voting did not change AZ

Practice hasn't impacted state's Republican tilt

Ronald J. Hansen

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USA TODAY NETWORK

On the same day the U.S. Supreme Court heard arguments for trimming deadlines for receiving mail-in ballots, President Donald Trump reiterated his view that voting that way allows cheating.

Republicans in Congress are pressing for legislation that would dramatically restrict the practice nationwide. At the Arizona Legislature, the GOP has repeatedly pursued similar measures in a state where most votes are cast by mail.

On March 31, Trump signed an executive order intended to limit mail-in voting to people verified by the U.S. government to be

### Inside

Arizona to challenge Trump mail-in ballot order. **4A**

American citizens. That effort is expected to be challenged in another lawsuit from Arizona's Democratic secretary of state and attorney general, likely deepening the partisan view of mail-in voting.

But the Trump-led attack takes aim at a system that has been around for more than a century in Arizona and helped extend Republican political dominance in the state.

The only significant GOP stumbles in recent history, when mail voting became the preferred method, involved Trump himself and those closely tied to him.

Voting by mail took off in the 21st century, but it didn't change Arizona's reputation as a reliably Republican-leaning state. That reputation was challenged only in the Trump era and came largely because of a handful of prominent and narrow statewide losses in a state that has grown more competitive.

For most of the time since the state first loosened mail-in voting in 1991 and widened it even more in 1997, the GOP has often controlled Arizona government at the local, state and federal levels, just as it had in the years before the changes.

Over that span, mail-in voting went from less than 20% of ballots cast to becoming by 2008 the leading method for filling out ballots, as documented in a 2022 report on voting methods for the Morrison Institute for Public Policy at Arizona State University.

In 2024, the most recent presidential election, 85% of all Arizona votes

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### FINAL FOUR BRINGS DOWNTOWN FUN 1C



The Women's Final Four Fan Fest is a multiday celebration built around the championship weekend, April 2-5.

ROB SCHUMACHER/THE REPUBLIC

### Trump plans Phoenix visit

President Donald Trump will appear at Dream City Church in Phoenix for an April 17 event with Turning Point USA and Turning Point Action, the groups announced. **3A**

### Diamondbacks upset Tigers

The Arizona Diamondbacks ride third baseman Jose Fernandez's homers to rally and shock the Detroit Tigers after trailing 5-0 in the third inning and 5-1 to begin the eighth. **1B**

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