Protecting Access to the Ballot Measure Process

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Ballot Measures – Why They Matter

Through ballot initiatives, voters have passed:

- ✓ Medicaid expansion
- ✓ Minimum wage increases
- ✓ Abortion protections
- ✓ Paid leave
- ✓ Voting rights
- ✓ Removing slavery from state constitutions
- $\checkmark\,$ Taxing the wealthy
- ✓ Workers' rights protections
- ✓ Gun safety



South Dakota passed Medicaid expansion. What's next?

Ballot measures on weed and abortion won in 2022. Now they're fueling a backlash

Updated December 17, 2022 · 5:18 PM ET **1** Heard on Morning Edition By Laura Benshoff, Andy Chow

Losing Ballot Issues on Abortion, G.O.P. Now Tries to Keep Them Off the Ballot

After abortion rights supporters swept six ballot measures last year, Republican legislatures seek to make it harder to get on the ballot, and harder to win if there is a vote.



Strategy Areas

Flexible grantmaking to national and state partners

Strategic communications

Groundwork to expand access in new states Engagement of issue-based funders and partners



National and State Partners



National Partners

- Ballot Initiative Strategy Center Foundation
- Fairness Project Education Fund
- New America Foundation

State Partners

- Arkansas Public Policy Panel
- Mississippi Donors Alliance
- Missouri Jobs with Justice
- Missouri Organizing and Voter Engagement Collaborative
- Prairie Action North Dakota Institute

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Reclaim Idaho Fund

Lessons Learned

- Engage legal counsel early and often
- Invest in 501c(3) partners early (and flexibly)
- Ballot measure protection is a year-round effort

