

Let YOUR Voice Be Heard

In 2012, Clinton Gode, an individual with Down Syndrome under limited guardianship, fought for his right to vote.

On August 2, 2012, Arizona passed a law to help you fight for your right to vote too.



Pictured above: Clinton Gode at the Arizona State Legislature



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VOTING UNDER LIMITED GUARDIANSHIP



WHAT DOES THE LAW SAY?

A person for whom a limited guardian is appointed shall retain the right to vote if the person files a ***petition***, has a ***hearing***, and the judge determines by clear and convincing evidence that the person retains sufficient understanding to exercise the right to vote.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

If you have a guardian and you want to vote, go to court and talk to a judge.

The judge will decide if you can vote.

What is a *petition*?

A petition is a piece of paper that tells the judge you want to vote.



How do I file a *petition*?

- The courthouse in your county will have a form for you to fill out.
- Ask a friend, family member, case manager, or provider for help.

What is a *hearing*?

A hearing is a chance for you to explain to the judge why you should be able to vote.

Why do I have to talk to a judge?

When you have a guardian, a judge can make decisions about your right to vote.

What will the judge ask me at the *hearing*?

- The judge wants to make sure you are ready to vote.
- Tell the judge about yourself. For example:
 - I am interested in politics, or
 - I read the newspaper everyday.

What if I lost my right to vote?

- You can ask the judge to give back your right to vote.
- A petition to ask the judge is available on this website:

<https://www.azcourts.gov/probate/Probate-Forms/Petition-to-Restore-Wards-Right-to-Vote>

What if a judge already said I have the right to vote?

Keep voting!

