

## 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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Funding for the brochure is through a grant from the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD)

# I CAN VOTE!



I want to vote,  
but I am under a  
Limited  
Guardianship.  
What can  
I do?



## 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 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.

### 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.

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

- Keep voting!

### What do I do if I need more help ?

- Contact the Arizona Center for Disability Law at (602) 274-6287, 1-800-927-2260, or [center@azdisabilitylaw.org](mailto:center@azdisabilitylaw.org)

