

REFERENCE TITLE: local elections; signature requirements

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Forty-ninth Legislature
First Regular Session
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HB 2048

Introduced by
Representatives Reagan, Ableser, Barnes, Senators Allen C, Burton Cahill:
Tibshraeny

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 16-322, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO NOMINATING
PROCEDURES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 16-322, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 16-322. Number of signatures required on nomination petitions

5 A. Nomination petitions shall be signed:

6 1. If for a candidate for the office of United States senator or for a
7 state office, excepting members of the legislature and superior court judges,
8 by a number of qualified electors who are qualified to vote for the candidate
9 whose nomination petition they are signing equal to at least one-half of one
10 per cent of the voter registration of the party of the candidate in at least
11 three counties in the state, but not less than one-half of one per cent nor
12 more than ten per cent of the total voter registration of ~~his~~ THE CANDIDATE'S
13 party in the state.

14 2. If for a candidate for the office of representative in Congress, by
15 a number of qualified electors who are qualified to vote for the candidate
16 whose nomination petition they are signing equal to at least one-half of one
17 per cent but not more than ten per cent of the total voter registration of
18 the party designated in the district from which such representative shall be
19 elected.

20 3. If for a candidate for the office of member of the legislature, by
21 a number of qualified electors who are qualified to vote for the candidate
22 whose nomination petition they are signing equal to at least one per cent but
23 not more than three per cent of the total voter registration of the party
24 designated in the district from which the member of the legislature may be
25 elected.

26 4. If for a candidate for a county office or superior court judge, by
27 a number of qualified electors who are qualified to vote for the candidate
28 whose nomination petition they are signing equal to at least two per cent but
29 not more than ten per cent of the total voter registration of the party
30 designated in the county or district, provided that in counties with a
31 population of two hundred thousand persons or more, a candidate for a county
32 office shall have nomination petitions signed by a number of qualified
33 electors who are qualified to vote for the candidate whose nomination
34 petition they are signing equal to at least one-half of one per cent but not
35 more than ten per cent of the total voter registration of the party
36 designated in the county or district.

37 5. If for a candidate for a community college district, by a number of
38 qualified electors who are qualified to vote for the candidate whose
39 nomination petition they are signing equal to at least one-half of one per
40 cent but not more than ten per cent of the total voter registration in the
41 precinct as established pursuant to section 15-1441.

42 6. If for a candidate for county precinct committeeman, by a number of
43 qualified electors who are qualified to vote for the candidate whose
44 nomination petition they are signing equal to at least two per cent but not

1 more than ten per cent of the party voter registration in the precinct or ten
2 signatures, whichever is less.

3 7. If for a candidate for justice of the peace or constable, by a
4 number of qualified electors who are qualified to vote for the candidate
5 whose nomination petition they are signing equal to at least two per cent but
6 not more than ten per cent of the party voter registration in the precinct.

7 8. If for a candidate for mayor or other office nominated by a city at
8 large, by a number of qualified electors who are qualified to vote for the
9 candidate whose nomination petition they are signing equal to at least five
10 per cent and not more than ten per cent of the designated party vote in the
11 city, EXCEPT THAT A CITY THAT CHOOSES TO HOLD NONPARTISAN ELECTIONS MAY BY
12 ORDINANCE PROVIDE THAT THE MINIMUM NUMBER OF SIGNATURES REQUIRED FOR THE
13 CANDIDATE BE ONE THOUSAND SIGNATURES OR FIVE PER CENT OF THE VOTE IN THE
14 CITY, WHICHEVER IS LESS, BUT NOT MORE THAN TEN PER CENT OF THE VOTE IN THE
15 CITY.

16 9. If for an office nominated by ward, precinct or other district of a
17 city, by a number of qualified electors who are qualified to vote for the
18 candidate whose nomination petition they are signing equal to at least five
19 per cent and not more than ten per cent of the designated party vote in the
20 ward, precinct or other district.

21 10. If for a candidate for an office nominated by a town at large, by a
22 number of qualified electors who are qualified to vote for the candidate
23 whose nomination petition they are signing equal to at least five per cent
24 and not more than ten per cent of the vote in the town.

25 11. If for a candidate for a governing board of a school district, by a
26 number of qualified electors who are qualified to vote for the candidate
27 whose nomination petition they are signing equal to at least one-half of one
28 per cent of the total voter registration in the school district if the
29 governing board members are elected at large or one per cent of the total
30 voter registration in the single member district if governing board members
31 or joint technological education district board members are elected from
32 single member districts. Notwithstanding the total voter registration in the
33 school district or single member district, the maximum number of signatures
34 required by this paragraph is four hundred.

35 12. If for a candidate for a governing body of a special district as
36 described in title 48 by a number of qualified electors who are qualified to
37 vote for the candidate whose nomination petition they are signing equal to at
38 least one-half of one per cent of the vote in the special district but not
39 more than two hundred fifty and not fewer than five signatures.

40 B. The basis of percentage in each instance referred to in subsection
41 A of this section, except in cities, towns and school districts, shall be the
42 number of voters registered in the designated party of the candidate as
43 reported pursuant to section 16-168, subsection G on March 1 of the year in
44 which the general election is held. In cities, the basis of percentage shall
45 be the vote of the party for mayor at the last preceding election at which a

1 mayor was elected. In towns, the basis of percentage shall be the highest
 2 vote cast for an elected official of the town at the last preceding election
 3 at which an official of the town was elected. In school districts, the basis
 4 of percentage shall be the total number of voters registered in the school
 5 district or single member district, whichever applies. The total number of
 6 voters registered for school districts shall be calculated using the periodic
 7 reports prepared by the county recorder pursuant to section 16-168,
 8 subsection G. The count that is reported on March 1 of the year in which the
 9 general election is held shall be the basis for the calculation of total
 10 voter registration for school districts.

11 C. In primary elections the signature requirement for party nominees,
 12 other than nominees of the parties entitled to continued representation
 13 pursuant to section 16-804, is at least one-tenth of one per cent of the
 14 total vote for the winning candidate or candidates for governor or
 15 presidential electors at the last general election within the district.
 16 Signatures must be obtained from qualified electors who are qualified to vote
 17 for the candidate whose nomination petition they are signing.

18 D. If new boundaries for congressional districts, legislative
 19 districts, supervisorial districts, justice precincts or election precincts
 20 are established and effective subsequent to March 1 of the year of a general
 21 election and prior to the date for filing of nomination petitions, the basis
 22 for determining the required number of nomination petition signatures is the
 23 number of registered voters in the designated party of the candidate in the
 24 elective office, district or precinct on the day the new districts or
 25 precincts are effective.