State of Arizona
Senate
Forty-eighth Legislature
First Regular Session
2007

SENATE BILL 1065

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 16-621, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)
Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

Section 1. Section 16-621, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

16-621. Proceedings at the counting center

A. All proceedings at the counting center shall be under the direction of the board of supervisors or other officer in charge of elections and shall be conducted in accordance with the approved instructions and procedures manual provided for in section 16-452 under the observation of representatives of each political party and the public, but no persons except those authorized for the purpose shall touch any ballot or ballot card or return. All persons who are engaged in processing and counting of the ballots shall be deputized in writing and take an oath that they will faithfully perform their assigned duties. There shall be no preferential counting of ballots for the purpose of projecting the outcome of the election. If any ballot is damaged or defective so that it cannot properly be counted by the automatic tabulating equipment, a true duplicate copy shall be made of the damaged ballot in the presence of witnesses and substituted for the damaged ballot. All duplicate ballots shall be clearly labeled "duplicate" and shall bear a serial number which shall be recorded on the damaged or defective ballot.

B. If for any reason it becomes impracticable to count all or a part of the ballots with tabulating equipment, the officer in charge of elections may direct that they be counted manually, following as far as practicable the provisions governing the counting of paper ballots.


Sec. 2. Appropriation; counties

The sum of $750,000 is appropriated from the state general fund in fiscal year 2007-2008 in the amount of $50,000 to each county's officer in charge of elections for the purposes provided in section 16-621, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by this act.

Sec. 3. Exemption from lapsing

The appropriation made in section 2 of this act is exempt from the provisions of section 35-190, Arizona Revised Statutes, relating to lapsing of appropriations.