State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-fourth Legislature
First Regular Session
2019

HOUSE BILL 2616

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 16, CHAPTER 1, ARTICLE 3, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY
ADDING SECTION 16-132; AMENDING SECTIONS 16-134 AND 16-184, ARIZONA
REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO VOTER REGISTRATION.

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

Section 1. Title 16, chapter 1, article 3, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended by adding section 16-132, to read:

16-132. Voter registration payments; prohibition; exception; violation; classification

A. A person shall not pay or receive money or any other thing of value based on the number of voter registration forms submitted. This section does not apply to an employee of a political party.

B. A person who violates this section is guilty of a class 1 misdemeanor.

Sec. 2. Section 16-134, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

16-134. Return of registrations made outside office of county recorder; incomplete or illegible forms; violation

A. A county recorder shall authorize persons to accept registration forms, shall designate places for receipt of registration forms and shall designate additional locations for distribution of voter registration forms. Public assistance agencies and disabilities agencies as defined in section 16-140 shall return or mail completed voter registrations to the county recorder of the county in which the applicant resides within five days after receipt of those registrations.

B. Groups and individuals who receive voter registration forms pursuant to section 16-131, subsection E shall return or mail completed voter registrations to the county recorder of the county in which the applicant resides, the secretary of state’s office or the county recorder that provided the forms pursuant to section 16-131, subsection E, postmarked within ten business days after receipt of those registrations, or received by the applicant’s county by the registration deadline for the next upcoming election, whichever is earlier.

C. If the information on the registration form is incomplete or illegible and the county recorder is not able to process the registration form, the county recorder shall notify the applicant within ten business days of receipt of the registration form, shall specify the missing or illegible information and, if the missing or illegible information includes any of the information prescribed by section 16-121.01, subsection A, shall state that the registration cannot be completed until the information is supplied. If the missing or illegible information is supplied before 7:00 p.m. on election day, that person is deemed to have been registered on the date the registration was first received.

D. In the case of registration by mail, a voter registration is valid for an election if it complies with either of the following:

1. The form is postmarked twenty-nine days or more before an election and is received by the county recorder by 7:00 p.m. on the day of that election.
2. The registration is dated twenty-nine days or more before an election and is received by the county recorder by first class mail within five days after the last day to register to vote in that election.

E. The date of registration entered for registration forms that are received by the county recorder from persons, groups or agencies that are not authorized to accept registrations pursuant to subsection A of this section and that do not bear a legible postmark date or an otherwise reliable date shall be the date that those forms are received by the county recorder.

F. A VIOLATION OF SUBSECTION B OF THIS SECTION IS SUBJECT TO A CIVIL PENALTY OF UP TO TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS PER DAY FOR EACH COMPLETED VOTER REGISTRATION FORM WITHHELD FROM SUBMITTAL. ANY PERSON WHO RECEIVES VOTER REGISTRATION FORMS PURSUANT TO SECTION 16-131, SUBSECTION E AND KNOWINGLY FAILS TO SUBMIT A COMPLETED VOTER REGISTRATION FORM BY THE DEADLINES ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION B OF THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A CLASS 2 MISDEMEANOR.

Sec. 3. Section 16-184, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

16-184. Additional violations; classification

A. Any person who knowingly swears falsely to an affidavit required under the provisions of this chapter is guilty of a class 5 felony unless another classification is specifically prescribed in this chapter.

B. An officer of an election who knowingly fails or refuses to perform any duty required of him under this chapter is guilty of a class 2 misdemeanor unless another classification is specifically prescribed in this chapter.

C. ANY PERSON WHO KNOWINGLY ALTERS A VOTER REGISTRATION FORM WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF THE PERSON WHO IS THE REGISTRANT ON THAT FORM IS GUILTY OF A CLASS 6 FELONY.