



ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SB 1054: early ballots; deficiencies; cure period

PRIME SPONSOR: Senator Ugenti-Rita, LD 23

BILL STATUS: [Caucus & COW](#)

ELECT: DPA 10-0-0-0

Overview

Modifies the procedure for handling early ballots and affidavits.

History

Upon the receipt of the envelope containing the early ballot and completed affidavit, the county recorder or officer in charge of elections are required to compare the signature on the affidavit with that on the elector's registration form. If the county recorder or officer in charge of elections is satisfied that the signatures correspond, then they must hold them unopened in accordance with the rules of the Secretary of State. The tallying of the early ballots is prohibited from beginning more than seven days before election day. The county recorder is responsible for sending a list of all voters who were issued early ballots to the election board of the precinct in which the voter is registered ([A.R.S. § 16-550](#)).

Provisions

1. Requires, if the signature on the ballot affidavit and signature on the elector's registration are inconsistent, the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections to make reasonable efforts to contact the voter, advise to voter of the deficiency and allow the voter to correct or the county to confirm the inconsistent signature. (Sec. 1)
2. Stipulates that the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections must allow signatures to be corrected no later than the fifth business day after a primary, general or special election that includes a federal office or the third business day for any other election. (Sec. 1)
3. Authorizes the county recorder to begin tallying early ballots 14 days before election day. (Sec. 1)
4. Stipulates that this section does not apply to a special taxing district that is authorized to conduct its own elections or a special district mail ballot election that is conducted pursuant to statute. (Sec. 1)
5. Makes technical changes. (Sec. 1)

Amendments

Committee on Elections

1. Mandates that the copy of each computer program for vote tabulating devices be filed with the Secretary of State at least 17 days before the date of each election.
2. Requires people representing a candidate for nonpartisan offices or people or groups representing a political committee who are interested in participating in the observation of the proceedings at the counting center to notify the officer in charge of election of their desire no later than 17 days before election day.

Prop 105 (45 votes) Prop 108 (40 votes) Emergency (40 votes) Fiscal Note

3. Specifies that the county officer in charge of elections must draw the names of those who will be allowed to observe the counting center proceedings after the deadline but prior to 14 days before the election.
4. Makes technical changes.