SB 1485: early voting list; eligibility
Sponsor: Senator Ugenti-Rita, LD 23
Transmitted to the Governor

Overview
Outlines the eligibility for a voter to be placed and stay on the active early voting list rather than the permanent early voting list.

History
Any registered voter can request to be included in the permanent early voting list (PEVL) and therefore will receive an early ballot by mail for any election for which the county voter registration roll is used to prepare the election register.

A voter may be removed from the PEVL if:
1) The voter requests in writing to be removed from the PEVL;
2) The voter's registration or eligibility is moved to inactive status or canceled as otherwise provided by law; or
3) The notice sent by the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections is returned undeliverable and the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections is unable to contact the voter to determine the voter's continued desire to remain on the list (A.R.S. § 16-544).

Provisions
1. Removes references to the permanent early voting list and renames this as the active early voting list. (Sec. 1-6)

2. Stipulates that the county recorder must remove a voter from the active early voting list if the voter fails to vote an early ballot in all elections for two consecutive election cycles.
   a) Specifies that this does not apply to a special taxing district that is authorized by statute to conduct its own elections or a special district mail ballot election. (Sec. 6)

3. Specifies that a voter must be removed from the active early voting list if the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections both complies with the notice requirements and the voter fails to vote in all the following elections for two consecutive election cycles:
   a) A regular primary and regular general election for which there was a federal race on the ballot; and
   b) A city or town candidate primary or first election and a city or town candidate second, general or runoff election. (Sec. 6)

4. Requires the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections, on or before January 15 of each odd-numbered year, to send a notice to each voter who is on the active early voting list and those that did not vote in all elections for two consecutive election cycles. (Sec. 6)
5. Allows the county recorder to additionally provide the prescribed notice to the voter by telephone call, text message or email if the voter has provided such information to the county recorder. (Sec. 6)

6. Specifies that the notice must inform the voter that if the voter would like to remain on the active early voting list, the voter must do the following:
   a) Confirm in writing the voter’s desire to remain on the early voting list; and
   b) Return the completed and signed notice that contains the voter’s address and date of birth to the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections within 90 days of receipt of the notice. (Sec. 6)

7. Directs the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections to remove the voter from the active early voting list if the voter does not respond to the notice within the 90-day time period. (Sec. 6)

8. Defines election and election cycle. (Sec. 6)

9. Contains a legislative intent clause declaring a statewide concern to maintain election integrity in all Arizona elections. (Sec. 7)

10. Contains a severability clause. (Sec. 8)

11. Makes technical and conforming changes. (Sec. 1, 3-6)