

Senate Engrossed

~~Arizona national rankings; ranked states~~
(now: elections; counties; tabulation; posting)

State of Arizona
Senate
Fifty-fifth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2022

SENATE BILL 1329

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 16-551, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO ELECTIONS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

2 Section 1. Section 16-551, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 16-551. Early election board; violation; classification

5 A. The board of supervisors or the governing body of the political
6 subdivision shall appoint one or more early election boards to serve at
7 places to be designated by the board of supervisors or the governing body
8 to canvass and tally early election ballots. Members of early election
9 boards shall be selected in accordance with the provisions for selecting
10 members of regular election boards as provided in section 16-531.

11 B. If an electronic voting system is in use for early voting, the
12 early election board shall consist of at least one inspector and two
13 judges who shall perform the processing requirements in accordance with
14 the rules issued by the secretary of state. The inspector and judges
15 shall be appointed in the same manner by party as provided in section
16 16-531.

17 C. All early ballots received by the county recorder or other
18 officer in charge of elections before 7:00 p.m. on election day and the
19 original affidavit of the voter shall be delivered to the early election
20 boards for processing as provided in the rules of the secretary of
21 state. The office of the county recorder or other officer in charge of
22 elections shall remain open until 7:00 p.m. on election day for the
23 purpose of receiving early ballots. ~~in no event shall~~ Partial or complete
24 tallies of the early election board SHALL NOT be released or divulged
25 before all precincts have reported or one hour after the closing of the
26 polls on election day, whichever occurs first. ~~, and~~ Any person who
27 unlawfully releases information regarding vote tallies or who possesses a
28 tally sheet or summary without authorization from the recorder or officer
29 in charge of elections is guilty of a class 6 felony.

30 D. IF PRACTICABLE, THE COUNTY RECORDER OR OTHER OFFICER IN CHARGE
31 OF ELECTIONS SHALL COUNT THE NUMBER OF EARLY BALLOTS THAT ARE RETURNED AT
32 VOTING LOCATIONS ON ELECTION DAY AND SHALL POST ON ITS WEBSITE THOSE
33 TOTALS WITH THE LAST UNOFFICIAL RESULTS THAT ARE RELEASED ON ELECTION
34 NIGHT PURSUANT TO SECTION 16-622. BEGINNING WITH THE DAY FOLLOWING THE
35 ELECTION, THE COUNTY RECORDER OR OTHER OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS
36 SHALL ENTER INTO THE COUNTY'S BALLOT TRACKING SYSTEM, IF ESTABLISHED,
37 EARLY BALLOTS THAT WERE RETURNED AT THE VOTING LOCATION ON ELECTION DAY.

38 ~~D.~~ E. The necessary printed blanks for poll lists, tally lists,
39 lists of voters, ballots, oaths and returns, together with envelopes in
40 which to enclose the returns, shall be furnished by the board of
41 supervisors or the governing body of the political subdivision to the
42 early election board for each election precinct at the expense of the
43 county or the political subdivision.