

REFERENCE TITLE: primary; identification; canvass; recounts; ballots

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-sixth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2024

HB 2785

Introduced by
Representative Kolodin

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 15-801, 16-201, 16-204, 16-206, 16-322, 16-341, 16-411, 16-412, 16-461, 16-510, 16-542, 16-547 AND 16-550, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; AMENDING TITLE 16, CHAPTER 4, ARTICLE 8, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 16-550.01; AMENDING SECTIONS 16-551, 16-552, 16-579, 16-584, 16-622, 16-642, 16-645, 16-646, 16-648, 16-662, 16-663, 16-664, 16-804 AND 16-821, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; APPROPRIATING MONIES; RELATING TO CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

2 Section 1. Section 15-801, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 15-801. Holidays

5 A. When July 4, Veterans' Day, December 25 or Thanksgiving Day
6 occurs within the school week, the schools shall be closed and the
7 compensation of the teachers shall not be diminished on that account.
8 School district governing boards may declare a recess during the Christmas
9 holiday season of not to exceed two school weeks, and teachers shall
10 receive compensation during the recess.

11 B. BEGINNING IN 2026, ON EVERY REGULAR PRIMARY AND GENERAL ELECTION
12 DAY AS PRESCRIBED BY SECTIONS 16-201 AND 16-211, HIGH SCHOOLS THAT ARE
13 OPERATED BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT SHALL BE CLOSED, EXCEPT THAT TEACHERS AND
14 STAFF SHALL RECEIVE OR CONDUCT IN-SERVICE TRAINING OR DEVELOPMENT
15 ACTIVITIES ON THOSE ELECTION DAYS. TEACHERS AND STAFF MAY NOT USE
16 PERSONAL, VACATION OR OTHER LEAVE TIME ON THOSE ELECTION DAYS BUT SHALL
17 RECEIVE COMPENSATION. THIS SUBSECTION DOES NOT PROHIBIT A SCHOOL DISTRICT
18 FROM PROVIDING AN EMPLOYEE TIME OFF TO VOTE PURSUANT TO SECTION 16-402.

19 Sec. 2. Section 16-201, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
20 read:

21 16-201. Primary elections

22 THROUGH 2025, a primary election shall be held on the first Tuesday
23 in August in any year in which a general election or special election is
24 held and at which candidates for public office are to be elected.
25 BEGINNING IN 2026, A PRIMARY ELECTION SHALL BE HELD ON THE SECOND TUESDAY
26 IN MAY IN ANY YEAR IN WHICH A GENERAL ELECTION OR SPECIAL ELECTION IS HELD
27 AND AT WHICH CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC OFFICE ARE TO BE ELECTED.

28 Sec. 3. Section 16-204, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
29 read:

30 16-204. Declaration of statewide concern; consolidated
31 election dates; definition

32 A. The legislature finds and determines that for the purposes of
33 increasing voter participation and for decreasing the costs to the
34 taxpayers it is a matter of statewide concern that all elections in this
35 state be conducted on a limited number of days and, therefore, the
36 legislature finds and declares that the holding of all elections on
37 certain specific consolidated days is a matter of statewide concern. This
38 section preempts all local laws, ordinances and charter provisions to the
39 contrary.

40 B. For elections held before 2014 and notwithstanding any other law
41 or any charter or ordinance of any county, city or town to the contrary,
42 an election held for or on behalf of a county, city or town, a school
43 district, a community college district or special districts organized
44 pursuant to title 48, chapters 5, 6, 8, 10, 13 through 16 and 33 may only
45 be held on the following dates:

1 1. Except for regular elections for candidates in a city or town
2 with a population of one hundred seventy-five thousand or more persons,
3 all elections, including recall elections and special elections to fill
4 vacancies, shall be held on:

5 (a) The second Tuesday in March.

6 (b) The third Tuesday in May.

7 (c) The tenth Tuesday before the first Tuesday after the first
8 Monday in November.

9 (d) The first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.
10 Notwithstanding any other law, an election must be held on this date for
11 the approval of an obligation or other authorization requiring or
12 authorizing the assessment of secondary property taxes by a county, city,
13 town, school district, community college district or special taxing
14 district, except as provided by title 48.

15 2. For regular elections that are only for candidates in a city or
16 town with a population of one hundred seventy-five thousand or more
17 persons and not including recall elections and special elections to fill
18 vacancies in those cities or towns, elections shall be held on:

19 (a) The tenth Tuesday before the first Tuesday after the first
20 Monday in November.

21 (b) The first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

22 C. For elections held before 2014, for any city or town, including
23 a charter city, that holds its regularly scheduled candidate elections in
24 even-numbered years pursuant to subsection B, paragraph 2 of this section,
25 the term of office for a member of the city council or for the office of
26 mayor begins on or after the second Tuesday in January in the year
27 following the election.

28 D. Subsections B and C of this section do not apply to an election
29 regarding a county or city charter committee or county or city charter
30 proposal that is conducted pursuant to article XIII, section 2 or 3 or
31 article XII, section 5, Constitution of Arizona.

32 E. Beginning with elections held in 2014 ~~and later~~ and
33 notwithstanding any other law or any charter or ordinance to the contrary,
34 a candidate election held for or on behalf of any political subdivision of
35 this state other than a special election to fill a vacancy or a recall
36 election may only be held on the following dates and only in even-numbered
37 years:

38 1. ~~Through 2019, the tenth Tuesday before the first Tuesday after~~
39 ~~the first Monday in November.~~ Beginning in 2020 ~~and later~~ **AND THROUGH**
40 **2025**, the election shall be held on the first Tuesday in August.
41 **BEGINNING IN 2026, THE ELECTION SHALL BE HELD ON THE SECOND TUESDAY IN**
42 **MAY.** If the political subdivision holds a primary or first election and a
43 general or runoff election is either required or optional for that
44 political subdivision, the first election shall be held on this date,
45 without regard to whether the political subdivision designates the

1 election a primary election, a first election, a preliminary election or
2 any other descriptive term.

3 2. The first Tuesday after the first Monday in November. If the
4 political subdivision holds a general election or a runoff election, the
5 second election held shall be held on this date. If the political
6 subdivision holds only a single election and no preliminary or primary or
7 other election is ever held for the purpose of reducing the number of
8 candidates, or receiving a partisan nomination or designation or for any
9 other purpose for that political subdivision, the single election shall be
10 held on this date.

11 F. Beginning with elections held in 2014 and later that are not
12 candidate elections, an election held for or on behalf of any political
13 subdivision of this state, and including a special election to fill a
14 vacancy or a recall election, may only be held on the following dates:

15 1. The second Tuesday in March.

16 2. The third Tuesday in May. BEGINNING IN 2026, AN ELECTION MAY
17 NOT BE HELD ON THIS DATE.

18 3. ~~Through 2019, the tenth Tuesday before the first Tuesday after~~
19 ~~the first Monday in November.~~ Beginning in 2020 ~~and later~~ AND THROUGH
20 2025, the election shall be held on the first Tuesday in August.
21 BEGINNING IN 2026, THE ELECTION SHALL BE HELD ON THE SECOND TUESDAY IN
22 MAY.

23 4. The first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.
24 Notwithstanding any other law, an election must be held on this date for
25 the approval of an obligation or other authorization requiring or
26 authorizing the assessment of secondary property taxes by a county, city,
27 town, school district, community college district or special taxing
28 district, except as provided by title 48. Notwithstanding any other law,
29 an election must be held on the date specified in this paragraph and only
30 in even-numbered years for the approval of or authorizing the assessment
31 of transaction privilege taxes by a county, city or town.

32 G. Notwithstanding any other law, for an election administered by a
33 county recorder or other officer in charge of elections on behalf of a
34 city, town or school district and that is an all mail ballot election for
35 that city, town or school district, the county recorder or other officer
36 in charge of elections may use a unified ballot format that combines all
37 of the issues applicable to the voters in the city, town or school
38 district requesting the all mail ballot election.

39 H. For the purposes of this section, "political subdivision" means
40 any governmental entity operating under the authority of this state and
41 governed by an elected body, including a city, town, county, school
42 district or community college district or any other district organized
43 under state law but not including a special taxing district.

1 Sec. 4. Section 16-206, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
2 read:

3 16-206. Election day

4 A. ~~THROUGH 2025~~, the biennial primary election day on the first
5 Tuesday in August in the year the general election is held and the
6 biennial general election day on the first Tuesday after the first Monday
7 in November of every even-numbered year are not legal holidays.

8 B. BEGINNING IN 2026, THE BIENNIAL PRIMARY ELECTION DAY ON THE
9 SECOND TUESDAY IN MAY IN THE YEAR THE GENERAL ELECTION IS HELD AND THE
10 BIENNIAL GENERAL ELECTION DAY ON THE FIRST TUESDAY AFTER THE FIRST MONDAY
11 IN NOVEMBER OF EVERY EVEN-NUMBERED YEAR ARE NOT LEGAL HOLIDAYS.

12 ~~B.~~ C. Every public officer or employee is entitled to absence from
13 service or employment for the purpose of voting pursuant to section 16-402
14 on the biennial primary and general election days.

15 Sec. 5. Section 16-322, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
16 read:

17 16-322. Number of signatures required on nomination petitions

18 A. Nomination petitions shall be signed by a number of qualified
19 signers equal to:

20 1. If for a candidate for the office of United States senator or
21 for a state office, excepting members of the legislature and superior
22 court judges, at least one-fourth of one percent but not more than ten
23 percent of the total number of qualified signers in ~~the~~ THIS state.

24 2. If for a candidate for the office of representative in Congress,
25 at least one-half of one percent but not more than ten percent of the
26 total number of qualified signers in the district from which the
27 representative shall be elected except that if for a candidate for a
28 special election to fill a vacancy in the office of representative in
29 Congress, at least one-fourth of one percent but not more than ten percent
30 of the total number of qualified signers in the district from which the
31 representative shall be elected.

32 3. If for a candidate for the office of member of the legislature,
33 at least one-half of one percent but not more than three percent of the
34 total number of qualified signers in the district from which the member of
35 the legislature may be elected.

36 4. If for a candidate for a county office or superior court judge,
37 at least one percent but not more than ten percent of the total number of
38 qualified signers in the county or district, except that if for a
39 candidate from a county with a population of two hundred thousand persons
40 or more, at least one-fourth of one percent but not more than ten percent
41 of the total number of qualified signers in the county or district.

42 5. If for a candidate for a community college district, at least
43 one-quarter of one percent but not more than ten percent of the total
44 voter registration in the precinct as established pursuant to section
45 15-1441. Notwithstanding the total voter registration in the community

1 college district, the maximum number of signatures required by this
2 paragraph is one thousand.

3 6. If for a candidate for county precinct committeeman, at least
4 two percent but not more than ten percent of the party voter registration
5 in the precinct or ten signatures, whichever is less.

6 7. If for a candidate for justice of the peace or constable, at
7 least one percent but not more than ten percent of the number of qualified
8 signers in the precinct.

9 8. If for a candidate for mayor or other office nominated by a city
10 at large, at least five percent and not more than ten percent of the
11 designated party vote in the city, except that a city that chooses to hold
12 nonpartisan elections may provide by ordinance that the minimum number of
13 signatures required for the candidate be one thousand signatures or five
14 percent of the vote in the city, whichever is less, but not more than ten
15 percent of the vote in the city.

16 9. If for an office nominated by ward, precinct or other district
17 of a city, at least five percent and not more than ten percent of the
18 designated party vote in the ward, precinct or other district, except that
19 a city that chooses to hold nonpartisan elections may provide by ordinance
20 that the minimum number of signatures required for the candidate be two
21 hundred fifty signatures or five percent of the vote in the district,
22 whichever is less, but not more than ten percent of the vote in the
23 district.

24 10. If for a candidate for an office nominated by a town at large,
25 by a number of qualified electors who are qualified to vote for the
26 candidate whose nomination petition they are signing equal to at least
27 five percent and not more than ten percent of the vote in the town, except
28 that a town that chooses to hold nonpartisan elections may provide by
29 ordinance that the minimum number of signatures required for the candidate
30 be one thousand signatures or five percent of the vote in the town,
31 whichever is less, but not more than ten percent of the vote in the town.

32 11. If for a candidate for a governing board of a school district
33 or a career technical education district, at least one-half of one percent
34 of the total voter registration in the school district or career technical
35 education district if the board members are elected at large or one
36 percent of the total voter registration in the single member district if
37 governing board members are elected from single member districts or
38 one-half of one percent of the total voter registration in the single
39 member district if career technical education district board members are
40 elected from single member districts. Notwithstanding the total voter
41 registration in the school district, career technical education district
42 or single member district of the school district or career technical
43 education district, the maximum number of signatures required by this
44 paragraph is four hundred.

1 12. If for a candidate for a governing body of a special district
 2 as described in title 48, at least one-half of one percent of the vote in
 3 the special district but not more than two hundred fifty and not fewer
 4 than five signatures.

5 B. The basis of percentage in each instance referred to in
 6 subsection A of this section, except in cities, towns and school
 7 districts, shall be the number of qualified signers as determined from the
 8 voter registration totals as reported pursuant to section 16-168,
 9 subsection ~~G~~ H on ~~January 2~~ OCTOBER 1 of the year ~~in which~~ BEFORE the
 10 general election is held. In cities, the basis of percentage shall be the
 11 vote of the party for mayor at the last preceding election at which a
 12 mayor was elected. In towns, the basis of percentage shall be the highest
 13 vote cast for an elected official of the town at the last preceding
 14 election at which an official of the town was elected. In school
 15 districts or career technical education districts, the basis of percentage
 16 shall be the total number of active registered voters in the school
 17 district or career technical education district or single member district,
 18 whichever applies. The total number of active registered voters for
 19 school districts or career technical education districts shall be
 20 calculated using the periodic reports prepared by the county recorder
 21 pursuant to section 16-168, subsection ~~G~~ H. The count that is reported
 22 on ~~January 2~~ OCTOBER 1 of the year ~~in which~~ BEFORE the general election is
 23 held shall be the basis for the calculation of total voter registration
 24 for school districts or career technical education districts.

25 C. In primary elections the signature requirement for party
 26 nominees, other than nominees of the parties entitled to continued
 27 representation pursuant to section 16-804, is at least one-tenth of one
 28 percent of the total vote for the winning candidate or candidates for
 29 governor or presidential electors at the last general election within the
 30 district. Signatures must be obtained from qualified electors who are
 31 qualified to vote for the candidate whose nomination petition they are
 32 signing.

33 D. If new boundaries for congressional districts or legislative
 34 districts are established and effective subsequent to ~~January 2~~ OCTOBER 1
 35 of the year ~~of~~ BEFORE a general election and before the first date for
 36 filing of nomination petitions, the basis for determining the required
 37 number of nomination petition signatures is the number of qualified
 38 signers in the elective office or district that was effective on ~~January 2~~
 39 OCTOBER 1 of the year ~~of~~ BEFORE a general election. If new boundaries for
 40 supervisorial districts, justice precincts or election precincts are
 41 adopted after ~~January 2~~ OCTOBER 1 of the year ~~of~~ BEFORE a general election
 42 and before the last date for filing of nomination petitions for the
 43 elective office, district or precinct, the basis for determining the
 44 required number of nomination petition signatures is the number of

1 qualified signers in the elective office, district or precinct on the
2 effective date of the new district or precinct.

3 Sec. 6. Section 16-341, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
4 read:

5 16-341. Nomination petition; method and time of filing; form;
6 qualifications and number of petitioners required;
7 statement of interest

8 A. Any qualified elector who is not a registered member of a
9 political party that is recognized pursuant to this title may be nominated
10 as a candidate for public office otherwise than by primary election or by
11 party committee pursuant to this section.

12 B. This article shall not be used to place on the general election
13 ballot the name of a political party that fails to meet the qualifications
14 specified in section 16-802 or 16-804, or the name of any candidate
15 representing such party or the name of a candidate who has filed a
16 nomination petition in the immediately preceding primary election and has
17 failed to qualify as the result of an insufficient number of valid
18 signatures.

19 C. A nomination petition stating the name of the office to be
20 filled, the name and residence of the candidate, or, if the candidate does
21 not have an actual residence address, a description of place of residence
22 and post office address, or, if the person's actual residence address is
23 protected pursuant to section 16-153, a post office box or private mailbox
24 address in the candidate's district, precinct or municipality, as
25 applicable for a district, precinct or municipal office, and other
26 information required by this section shall be filed with the same officer
27 with whom primary nomination papers and petitions are required to be filed
28 as prescribed in section 16-311. Except for candidates for the office of
29 presidential elector filed pursuant to this section, the petition shall be
30 filed not less than one hundred twenty days nor more than one hundred
31 fifty days before the primary election. The petition shall be signed only
32 by voters who have not signed the nomination petitions of a candidate for
33 the office to be voted for at that primary election.

34 D. The nomination petition shall be in substantially the following
35 form, except that if the candidate does not have an actual residence
36 address, the candidate may use a description of place of residence and
37 post office address, or, if the candidate's actual residence address is
38 protected pursuant to section 16-153, a post office box or private mailbox
39 address in the candidate's district, precinct or municipality, as
40 applicable for a district, precinct or municipal office, is sufficient:

41 The undersigned, qualified electors of _____
42 county, state of Arizona, do hereby nominate _____, who
43 resides at _____ in the county of _____, as a
44 candidate for the office of _____ at the general (or

1 special, as the case may be) election to be held on the
2 _____ day of _____, ____.

3 I hereby declare that I have not signed the nomination
4 petitions of any candidate for the office to be voted for at
5 this primary election, and I do hereby select the following
6 designation under which name the said candidate shall be
7 placed on the official ballot (here insert such designation
8 not exceeding three words in length as the signers may
9 select).

10 E. The nomination petition shall conform as nearly as possible to
11 the provisions relating to nomination petitions of candidates to be voted
12 for at primary elections and shall be signed by at least the number of
13 persons who are registered to vote determined by calculating three percent
14 of the persons who are registered to vote of the state, county,
15 subdivision or district for which the candidate is nominated who are not
16 members of a political party that is qualified to be represented by an
17 official party ballot at the next ensuing primary election and accorded
18 representation on the general election ballot.

19 F. The percentage of persons who are registered to vote necessary
20 to sign the nomination petition shall be determined by the total number of
21 registered voters from other than political parties that are qualified to
22 be represented by an official party ballot at the next ensuing primary
23 election and accorded representation on the general election ballot in the
24 state, county, subdivision or district on ~~January 2~~ **OCTOBER 1** of the year
25 ~~in which~~ **BEFORE** the general election is held. Notwithstanding the method
26 prescribed by subsection E of this section and this subsection for
27 calculating the minimum number of signatures necessary, any person who is
28 registered to vote in the state, county, subdivision or district for which
29 the candidate is nominated is eligible to sign the nomination petition
30 without regard to the signer's party affiliation.

31 G. A nomination petition for any candidate may be circulated by a
32 person who is not a resident of this state but who is otherwise eligible
33 to register to vote in this state if that person registers as a circulator
34 with the secretary of state before circulating petitions. The nomination
35 petition for the office of presidential elector shall include a group of
36 names of candidates equal to the number of United States senators and
37 representatives in Congress from this state instead of separate nomination
38 petitions for each candidate for the office of presidential elector. A
39 valid signature on a petition containing a group of presidential electors
40 candidates is counted as a signature for the nomination of each of the
41 candidates. The presidential candidate whom the candidates for
42 presidential elector will represent shall designate in writing to the
43 secretary of state the names of the candidates who will represent the
44 presidential candidate before any signatures for the candidate can be
45 accepted for filing. A nomination petition for the office of presidential

1 elector shall be filed not less than eighty nor more than one hundred days
2 before the general election. The petition shall be signed only by
3 qualified electors who have not signed the nomination petitions of a
4 candidate for the office of presidential elector to be voted for at that
5 election.

6 H. The secretary of state shall require in the instructions and
7 procedures manual issued pursuant to section 16-452 that persons who
8 circulate nomination petitions pursuant to this section and who are not
9 residents of this state but who are otherwise eligible to register to vote
10 in this state shall register as circulators with the office of the
11 secretary of state before circulating petitions. The secretary of state
12 shall provide for a method of receiving service of process for those
13 petition circulators who are registered.

14 I. Not later than the date of the first petition signature on a
15 nomination petition, a person who may be a candidate for office pursuant
16 to this section shall file a statement of interest with the appropriate
17 filing officer for that office. The statement of interest shall contain
18 the name of the person, the political party, if any, and the name of the
19 office that may be sought. Any nomination petition signatures collected
20 before the date the statement of interest is filed are invalid and subject
21 to challenge. This subsection does not apply to:

22 1. Candidates for elected office for special taxing districts that
23 are established pursuant to title 48.

24 2. Candidates for precinct committeeman.

25 3. Candidates for president or vice president of the United States.

26 J. A person who files a nomination paper pursuant to this section
27 for the office of president of the United States shall designate in
28 writing to the secretary of state at the time of filing the name of the
29 candidate's vice presidential running mate, the names of the presidential
30 electors who will represent that candidate and a statement that is signed
31 by the vice presidential running mate and the designated presidential
32 electors and that indicates their consent to be designated. A nomination
33 paper for each presidential elector designated shall be filed with the
34 candidate's nomination paper. The number of presidential electors shall
35 equal the number of United States senators and representatives in Congress
36 from this state.

37 K. A candidate who does not file a timely nomination petition that
38 complies with this section is not eligible to have the candidate's name
39 printed on the official ballot for that office. The filing officer shall
40 not accept the nomination paper of a candidate for state or local office
41 unless the candidate provides or has provided all of the following:

42 1. The financial disclosure statement as prescribed for candidates
43 for that office.

44 2. The declaration of qualification and eligibility as prescribed
45 in section 16-311.

1 L. Not later than sixty days before the date of the general
2 election, a candidate for governor who files a nomination petition
3 pursuant to this section shall submit to the secretary of state the name
4 of the person who will be the joint candidate for lieutenant governor with
5 that gubernatorial candidate and whose name will appear on the general
6 election ballot jointly with the candidate for governor.

7 M. Except in cases where the liability is being appealed, the
8 filing officer shall not accept the nomination paper of a candidate for
9 state or local office if the person is liable for an aggregation of \$1,000
10 or more in fines, penalties, late fees or administrative or civil
11 judgments, including any interest or costs, in any combination, that have
12 not been fully satisfied at the time of the attempted filing of the
13 nomination paper and the liability arose from failure to comply with or
14 enforcement of chapter 6 of this title.

15 N. The secretary of state may authorize for statewide and
16 legislative offices the creation, use and submission of petitions
17 prescribed by this section in electronic form if those petitions provide
18 for an appropriate method to verify signatures of petition circulators and
19 signers. The secretary of state may require use of a unique marking
20 system for petition pages, including a bar code, a quick response code or
21 another similar marking system.

22 Sec. 7. Section 16-411, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
23 read:

24 16-411. Designation of election precincts and polling places;
25 voting centers; electioneering; wait times

26 A. The board of supervisors of each county, on or before ~~October~~
27 ~~JULY~~ 1 of each year preceding the year of a general election, by an order,
28 shall establish a convenient number of election precincts in the county
29 and define the boundaries of the precincts as follows:

30 1. The election precinct boundaries shall be established so as to
31 be included within election districts prescribed by law for elected
32 officers of the state and its political subdivisions, including community
33 college district precincts, except those elected officers provided for in
34 titles 30 and 48.

35 2. If after ~~October~~ ~~JULY~~ 1 of the year preceding the year of a
36 general election the board of supervisors must further adjust precinct
37 boundaries due to the redistricting of election districts as prescribed by
38 law and to comply with this subsection, the board of supervisors shall
39 adjust these precinct boundaries as soon as is practicable.

40 B. At least twenty days before a general or primary election, and
41 at least ten days before a special election, the board shall designate one
42 polling place within each precinct where the election shall be held,
43 except that:

44 1. On a specific finding of the board, included in the order or
45 resolution designating polling places pursuant to this subsection, that no

1 suitable polling place is available within a precinct, a polling place for
2 that precinct may be designated within an adjacent precinct.

3 2. Adjacent precincts may be combined if boundaries so established
4 are included in election districts prescribed by law for state elected
5 officials and political subdivisions including community college districts
6 but not including elected officials prescribed by titles 30 and 48. The
7 officer in charge of elections may also split a precinct for
8 administrative purposes. The polling places shall be listed in separate
9 sections of the order or resolution.

10 3. On a specific finding of the board that the number of persons
11 who are listed as early voters pursuant to section 16-544 and who are not
12 expected to have their ballots tabulated at the polling place as
13 prescribed in section 16-579.02 is likely to substantially reduce the
14 number of voters appearing at one or more specific polling places at that
15 election, adjacent precincts may be consolidated by combining polling
16 places and precinct boards for that election. The board of supervisors
17 shall ensure that a reasonable and adequate number of polling places will
18 be designated for that election. Any consolidated polling places shall be
19 listed in separate sections of the order or resolution of the board.

20 4. On a specific resolution of the board, the board may authorize
21 the use of voting centers in place of or in addition to specifically
22 designated polling places. A voting center shall allow any voter in that
23 county to receive the appropriate ballot for that voter on election day
24 after presenting identification as prescribed in section 16-579 and to
25 lawfully cast the ballot. Voting centers may be established in
26 coordination and consultation with the county recorder, at other county
27 offices or at other locations in the county deemed appropriate.

28 5. On a specific resolution of the board of supervisors that is
29 limited to a specific election date and that is voted on by a recorded
30 vote, the board may authorize the county recorder or other officer in
31 charge of elections to use emergency voting centers as follows:

32 (a) The board shall specify in the resolution the location and the
33 hours of operation of the emergency voting centers.

34 (b) A qualified elector voting at an emergency voting center shall
35 provide identification as prescribed in section 16-579, except that
36 notwithstanding section 16-579, subsection A, paragraph 2, for any voting
37 at an emergency voting center, the county recorder or other officer in
38 charge of elections may allow a qualified elector to update the elector's
39 voter registration information as provided for in the secretary of state's
40 instructions and procedures manual adopted pursuant to section 16-452.

41 (c) If an emergency voting center established pursuant to this
42 section becomes unavailable and there is not sufficient time for the board
43 of supervisors to convene to approve an alternate location for that
44 emergency voting center, the county recorder or other officer in charge of
45 elections may make changes to the approved emergency voting center

1 location and shall notify the public and the board of supervisors
2 regarding that change as soon as practicable. The alternate emergency
3 voting center shall be as close in proximity to the approved emergency
4 voting center location as possible.

5 C. If the board fails to designate the place for holding the
6 election, or if it cannot be held at or about the place designated, the
7 justice of the peace in the precinct, two days before the election, by an
8 order, copies of which the justice of the peace shall immediately post in
9 three public places in the precinct, shall designate the place within the
10 precinct for holding the election. If there is no justice of the peace in
11 the precinct, or if the justice of the peace fails to do so, the election
12 board of the precinct shall designate and give notice of the place within
13 the precinct of holding the election. For any election in which there are
14 no candidates for elected office appearing on the ballot, the board may
15 consolidate polling places and precinct boards and may consolidate the
16 tabulation of results for that election if all of the following apply:

17 1. All affected voters are notified by mail of the change at least
18 thirty-three days before the election.

19 2. Notice of the change in polling places includes notice of the
20 new voting location, notice of the hours for voting on election day and
21 notice of the telephone number to call for voter assistance.

22 3. All affected voters receive information on early voting that
23 includes the application used to request an early voting ballot.

24 D. The board is not required to designate a polling place for
25 special district mail ballot elections held pursuant to article 8.1 of
26 this chapter, but the board may designate one or more sites for voters to
27 deposit marked ballots until 7:00 p.m. on the day of the election.

28 E. Except as provided in subsection F of this section **AND THROUGH**
29 **2025**, a public school shall provide sufficient space for use as a polling
30 place for any city, county or state election when requested by the officer
31 in charge of elections.

32 F. **THROUGH 2025**, the principal of the school may deny a request to
33 provide space for use as a polling place for any city, county or state
34 election if, within two weeks after a request has been made, the principal
35 provides a written statement indicating a reason the election cannot be
36 held in the school, including any of the following:

37 1. Space is not available at the school.

38 2. The safety or welfare of the children would be jeopardized.

39 **G. BEGINNING IN 2026, A HIGH SCHOOL THAT IS OPERATED BY A SCHOOL**
40 **DISTRICT AND A SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICE SHALL PROVIDE SUFFICIENT SPACE FOR**
41 **USE AS A POLLING PLACE FOR ANY CITY, COUNTY OR STATE ELECTION WHEN**
42 **REQUESTED BY THE OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS.**

1 ~~G.~~ H. The board shall make available to the public as a public
2 record a list of the polling places for all precincts in which the
3 election is to be held.

4 ~~H.~~ I. Except in the case of an emergency, any facility that is
5 used as a polling place on election day or that is used as an early voting
6 site during the period of early voting shall allow persons to electioneer
7 and engage in other political activity outside of the seventy-five foot
8 limit prescribed by section 16-515 in public areas and parking lots used
9 by voters. This subsection does not allow the temporary or permanent
10 construction of structures in public areas and parking lots or the
11 blocking or other impairment of access to parking spaces for voters. The
12 county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall post on its
13 website at least two weeks before election day a list of those polling
14 places in which emergency conditions prevent electioneering and shall
15 specify the reason the emergency designation was granted and the number of
16 attempts that were made to find a polling place before granting an
17 emergency designation. If the polling place is not on the website list of
18 polling places with emergency designations, electioneering and other
19 political activity shall be allowed outside of the seventy-five foot
20 limit. If an emergency arises after the county recorder or other officer
21 in charge of elections' initial website posting, the county recorder or
22 other officer in charge of elections shall update the website as soon as
23 is practicable to include any new polling places, shall highlight the
24 polling place location on the website and shall specify the reason the
25 emergency designation was granted and the number of attempts that were
26 made to find a polling place before granting an emergency designation.

27 ~~I.~~ J. For the purposes of this section, a county recorder or other
28 officer in charge of elections shall designate a polling place as an
29 emergency polling place and thus prohibit persons from electioneering and
30 engaging in other political activity outside of the seventy-five foot
31 limit prescribed by section 16-515 but inside the property of the facility
32 that is hosting the polling place if any of the following occurs:

33 1. An act of God renders a previously set polling place as
34 unusable.

35 2. A county recorder or other officer in charge of elections has
36 exhausted all options and there are no suitable facilities in a precinct
37 that are willing to be a polling place unless a facility can be given an
38 emergency designation.

39 ~~J.~~ K. The secretary of state shall provide through the
40 instructions and procedures manual adopted pursuant to section 16-452 the
41 maximum allowable wait time for any election that is subject to section
42 16-204 and provide for a method to reduce voter wait time at the polls in
43 the primary and general elections. The method shall consider at least all
44 of the following for primary and general elections in each precinct:

- 1 1. The number of ballots voted in the prior primary and general
2 elections.
- 3 2. The number of registered voters who voted early in the prior
4 primary and general elections.
- 5 3. The number of registered voters and the number of registered
6 voters who cast an early ballot for the current primary or general
7 election.
- 8 4. The number of registered voters whose early ballots were
9 tabulated on-site as prescribed in section 16-579.02 in the prior primary
10 and general elections.
- 11 5. The number of election board members and clerks and the number
12 of rosters that will reduce voter wait time at the polls.
- 13 Sec. 8. Section 16-412, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
14 read:
- 15 16-412. Effective date of new precincts
- 16 A. After establishing precincts as provided in section 16-411, the
17 board of supervisors of each county shall deliver to the county recorder a
18 complete description of these precincts immediately after adoption.
- 19 B. If new precinct boundaries are established as provided in
20 section 16-411, the county recorder shall transfer all the voters who
21 reside in a new precinct as the result of this adoption by ~~January 2~~
22 **OCTOBER 1** of the year ~~of~~ **BEFORE** the next general election. The county
23 recorder shall mail the notice of the precinct change to each household
24 containing a registered voter, unless a sample ballot containing the
25 precinct name or number is mailed before the primary election. For the
26 purpose of conducting any election called pursuant to the laws of this
27 state, precincts adopted on or before October 1 of the year preceding the
28 year of a general election under the provisions of section 16-411 become
29 effective not later than ~~January 2~~ **OCTOBER 1** of the year ~~of~~ **BEFORE** the
30 next general election.
- 31 C. If redistricting requires adjustment of precinct boundaries
32 after October 1 of the year preceding the year of a general election, the
33 county recorder shall transfer to the new precinct within sixty days after
34 adoption of the new precinct boundaries all voters who reside in a new
35 precinct as the result of the adjustment of precinct boundaries. The
36 county recorder shall mail the notice of the precinct change to each
37 household containing a registered voter unless a sample ballot containing
38 the precinct name or number is mailed before the primary election. For
39 the purpose of conducting any election called pursuant to the laws of this
40 state, precincts adopted after October 1 of the year preceding the year of
41 a general election become effective not later than the first date for
42 filing of nomination petitions in the year of the next general election.

1 Sec. 9. Section 16-461, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
2 read:

3 16-461. Sample primary election ballots; submission to party
4 chairmen for examination; preparation, printing and
5 distribution of ballot

6 A. At least forty-five days before a primary election, the officer
7 in charge of that election shall:

8 1. Prepare a proof of a sample ballot.

9 2. Submit the sample ballot proof of each party to the county
10 chairman or in city or town primaries to the city or town chairman.

11 3. Mail a sample ballot proof to each candidate for whom a
12 nomination paper and petitions have been filed.

13 B. Within ~~five~~ TWO CALENDAR days after receipt of the sample
14 ballot, the county chairman of each political party AND ANY CANDIDATE IN
15 THAT ELECTION WHO HAS SUBMITTED AND CONFIRMED AN EMAIL ADDRESS shall
16 suggest to the election officer any change the chairman considers should
17 be made in the chairman's party ballot, and if on examination the election
18 officer finds an error or omission in the ballot, the officer shall
19 correct it. The election officer shall ~~cause~~ PRINT AND DISTRIBUTE the
20 sample ballots ~~to be printed and distributed~~ as required by law, shall
21 maintain a copy of each sample ballot and shall post a notice indicating
22 that sample ballots are available on request. The official sample ballot
23 shall be printed on colored paper or white paper with a different colored
24 stripe for each party that is represented on that ballot. For voters who
25 are not registered with a party that is entitled to continued
26 representation on the ballot pursuant to section 16-804, the election
27 officer may print and distribute the required sample ballots in an
28 alternative format, including a reduced size format.

29 C. Not later than forty days before a primary election, the county
30 chairman of a political party may request one sample primary election
31 ballot of the chairman's party for each election precinct.

32 D. The board of supervisors shall have printed mailer-type sample
33 ballots for a primary election and shall mail at least eleven days before
34 the election one sample ballot of a political party to each household
35 containing a registered voter of that political party unless that
36 registered voter is on the active early voting list established pursuant
37 to section 16-544. Each sample ballot shall contain the following
38 statement: "This is a sample ballot and cannot be used as an official
39 ballot under any circumstances". A certified claim shall be presented to
40 the secretary of state by the board of supervisors for the actual cost of
41 printing, labeling and postage of each sample ballot actually mailed, and
42 the secretary of state shall direct payment of the authenticated claim
43 from funds of the secretary of state's office.

1 E. For city and town elections, the governing body of a city or
2 town may have printed mailer-type sample ballots for a primary election.
3 If the city or town has printed such sample ballots, the city or town
4 shall provide for the distribution of such ballots and shall bear the
5 expense of printing and distributing ~~of~~ such sample ballots.

6 F. The return address on the mailer-type sample ballots shall not
7 contain the name of an appointed or elected public officer nor may the
8 name of an appointed or elected public officer be used to indicate who
9 produced the sample ballot.

10 G. The great seal of the state of Arizona shall be imprinted along
11 with the words "official voting materials" on the mailing face of each
12 sample ballot. In county, city or town elections the seal of such
13 jurisdiction shall be substituted for the state seal.

14 Sec. 10. Section 16-510, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
15 read:

16 16-510. Sample ballots; preparation and distribution

17 A. Before printing the sample ballots for the general election the
18 board of supervisors shall send to each candidate whose name did not
19 appear on the preceding primary election ballot **AND TO THE COUNTY**
20 **CHAIRPERSON OF EACH POLITICAL PARTY** a ballot proof of the sample ballot
21 for the candidate's **AND CHAIRPERSON'S** review. **WITHIN TWO CALENDAR DAYS**
22 **AFTER RECEIPT OF THE SAMPLE BALLOT, THOSE CANDIDATES AND THE COUNTY**
23 **CHAIRPERSON OF EACH POLITICAL PARTY SHALL SUGGEST TO THE ELECTION OFFICER**
24 **ANY CHANGE THE CANDIDATE OR CHAIRPERSON CONSIDERS SHOULD BE MADE TO THE**
25 **BALLOT, AND IF ON EXAMINATION THE ELECTION OFFICER FINDS AN ERROR OR**
26 **OMISSION IN THE BALLOT, THE OFFICER SHALL CORRECT THE ERROR OR OMISSION.**

27 B. The board of supervisors shall print and distribute, for the
28 information of voters at each polling place, a number of sample ballots as
29 it deems necessary.

30 C. The board of supervisors shall have printed mailer-type sample
31 ballots for a general election and shall mail at least eleven days before
32 the election one such sample ballot to each household in the county
33 containing a registered voter unless that registered voter is on the
34 active early voting list established pursuant to section 16-544. Each
35 sample ballot shall contain the following statement: "This is a sample
36 ballot and cannot be used as an official ballot under any
37 circumstances". A certified claim shall be presented to the secretary of
38 state by the board of supervisors for the actual cost of printing,
39 labeling and postage of each sample ballot actually mailed, and the
40 secretary of state shall direct payment of the authenticated claim from
41 funds of the secretary of state's office.

1 D. For city and town elections, the governing body of a city or
2 town may have printed mailer-type sample ballots for a general
3 election. If the city or town has printed such sample ballots, the city
4 or town shall provide for the distribution of such ballots and shall bear
5 the expense of printing and distributing such sample ballots.

6 E. For special district elections, the governing body of a special
7 district may have printed mailer-type sample ballots. If the special
8 district has printed such sample ballots, the special district shall
9 provide for the distribution of such ballots and shall bear the expense of
10 printing and distributing such sample ballots.

11 Sec. 11. Section 16-542, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
12 read:

13 16-542. Request for ballot; civil penalties; violation;
14 classification

15 A. Within ninety-three days before any election called pursuant to
16 the laws of this state, an elector may make a verbal or signed request to
17 the county recorder, or other officer in charge of elections for the
18 applicable political subdivision of this state in whose jurisdiction the
19 elector is registered to vote, for an official early ballot. In addition
20 to name and address, the requesting elector shall provide the date of
21 birth and state or country of birth or other information that if compared
22 to the voter registration information on file would confirm the identity
23 of the elector. If the request indicates that the elector needs a primary
24 election ballot and a general election ballot, the county recorder or
25 other officer in charge of elections shall honor the request. For any
26 partisan primary election, if the elector is not registered as a member of
27 a political party that is entitled to continued representation on the
28 ballot pursuant to section 16-804, the elector shall designate the ballot
29 of only one of the political parties that is entitled to continued
30 representation on the ballot and the elector may receive and vote the
31 ballot of only that one political party, which also shall include any
32 nonpartisan offices and ballot questions, or the elector shall designate
33 the ballot for nonpartisan offices and ballot questions only and the
34 elector may receive and vote the ballot that contains only nonpartisan
35 offices and ballot questions. The county recorder or other officer in
36 charge of elections shall process any request for an early ballot for a
37 municipal election pursuant to this subsection. The county recorder may
38 establish on-site early voting locations at the recorder's office, which
39 shall be open and available for use beginning the same day that a county
40 begins to send out the early ballots. The county recorder may also
41 establish any other early voting locations in the county the recorder
42 deems necessary. Any on-site early voting location or other early voting
43 location shall require each elector to present identification as
44 prescribed in section 16-579 before receiving a ballot. Notwithstanding
45 section 16-579, subsection A, paragraph 2, at any on-site early voting

1 location or other early voting location the county recorder or other
 2 officer in charge of elections may provide for a qualified elector to
 3 update the elector's voter registration information as provided for in the
 4 secretary of state's instructions and procedures manual adopted pursuant
 5 to section 16-452.

6 B. Notwithstanding subsection A of this section, a request for an
 7 official early ballot from an absent uniformed services voter or overseas
 8 voter as defined in the uniformed and overseas citizens absentee voting
 9 act ~~of 1986~~ (P.L. 99-410; 52 United States Code section 20310) or a voter
 10 whose information is protected pursuant to section 16-153 that is received
 11 by the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections more than
 12 ninety-three days before the election is valid. If requested by the
 13 absent uniformed services or overseas voter, or a voter whose information
 14 is protected pursuant to section 16-153, the county recorder or other
 15 officer in charge of elections shall provide to the requesting voter early
 16 ballot materials through the next regularly scheduled general election for
 17 federal office immediately following receipt of the request unless a
 18 different period of time, which does not exceed the next two regularly
 19 scheduled general elections for federal office, is designated by the
 20 voter.

21 C. The county recorder or other officer in charge of elections
 22 shall mail the early ballot and the envelope for its return postage
 23 prepaid to the address provided by the requesting elector within five days
 24 after receipt of the official early ballots from the officer charged by
 25 law with the duty of preparing ballots pursuant to section 16-545, except
 26 that early ballot distribution shall not begin more than twenty-seven days
 27 before the election. If an early ballot request is received on or before
 28 the thirty-first day before the election, the early ballot shall be
 29 distributed not earlier than the twenty-seventh day before the election
 30 and not later than the twenty-fourth day before the election.

31 D. Only the elector may be in possession of that elector's unvoted
 32 early ballot. If a complete and correct request is made by the elector
 33 within twenty-seven days before the election, the mailing must be made
 34 within forty-eight hours after receipt of the request. Saturdays, Sundays
 35 and other legal holidays are excluded from the computation of the
 36 ~~forty-eight hour~~ FORTY-EIGHT-HOUR period prescribed by this subsection.
 37 If a complete and correct request is made by an absent uniformed services
 38 voter or an overseas voter before the election, the regular early ballot
 39 shall be transmitted by mail, by fax or by other electronic format
 40 approved by the secretary of state within twenty-four hours after the
 41 early ballots are delivered pursuant to section 16-545, subsection B,
 42 excluding Sundays.

43 E. In order to be complete and correct and to receive an early
 44 ballot by mail, an elector's request that an early ballot be mailed to the
 45 elector's residence or temporary address must include all of the

1 information prescribed by subsection A of this section and must be
2 received by the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections ~~no~~
3 NOT later than 5:00 p.m. on the eleventh day preceding the election. An
4 elector who appears personally ~~no~~ NOT later than ~~5:00~~ 7:00 p.m. on the
5 Friday preceding the election at an on-site early voting location that is
6 established by the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections
7 shall be given a ballot after presenting identification as prescribed in
8 section 16-579 and shall be ~~permitted~~ ALLOWED to vote at the on-site
9 location. Notwithstanding section 16-579, subsection A, paragraph 2, at
10 any on-site early voting location the county recorder or other officer in
11 charge of elections may provide for a qualified elector to update the
12 elector's voter registration information as provided for in the secretary
13 of state's instructions and procedures manual adopted pursuant to section
14 16-452. If an elector's request to receive an early ballot is not
15 complete and correct but complies with all other requirements of this
16 section, the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall
17 attempt to notify the elector of the deficiency of the request.

18 F. Unless an elector specifies that the address to which an early
19 ballot is to be sent is a temporary address, the recorder may use the
20 information from an early ballot request form to update voter registration
21 records.

22 G. The county recorder or other officer in charge of early
23 balloting shall provide an alphabetized list of all voters in the precinct
24 who have requested and have been sent an early ballot to the election
25 board of the precinct in which the voter is registered not later than the
26 day before the election.

27 H. As a result of experiencing an emergency between ~~5:00~~ 7:00 p.m.
28 on the Friday preceding the election and 5:00 p.m. on the Monday preceding
29 the election, qualified electors may request to vote in the manner
30 prescribed by the board of supervisors of their respective county. Before
31 voting pursuant to this subsection, an elector who experiences an
32 emergency shall provide identification as prescribed in section 16-579 and
33 shall sign a statement under penalty of perjury that states that the
34 person is experiencing or experienced an emergency after ~~5:00~~ 7:00 p.m. on
35 the Friday immediately preceding the election and before 5:00 p.m. on the
36 Monday immediately preceding the election that would prevent the person
37 from voting at the polls. Signed statements received pursuant to this
38 subsection are not subject to inspection pursuant to title 39, chapter 1,
39 article 2. For the purposes of this subsection, "emergency" means any
40 unforeseen circumstances that would prevent the elector from voting at the
41 polls.

42 I. Notwithstanding section 16-579, subsection A, paragraph 2, for
43 any voting pursuant to subsection H of this section, the county recorder
44 or other officer in charge of elections may allow a qualified elector to
45 update the elector's voter registration information as provided for in the

1 secretary of state's instructions and procedures manual adopted pursuant
2 to section 16-452.

3 J. A candidate, political committee or other organization may
4 distribute early ballot request forms to voters. If the early ballot
5 request forms include a printed address for return, the addressee shall be
6 the political subdivision that will conduct the election. Failure to use
7 the political subdivision as the return addressee is punishable by a civil
8 penalty of up to three times the cost of the production and distribution
9 of the request.

10 K. All original and completed early ballot request forms that are
11 received by a candidate, political committee or other organization shall
12 be submitted within six business days after receipt by a candidate,
13 political committee or other organization or eleven days before the
14 election day, whichever is earlier, to the political subdivision that will
15 conduct the election. Any person, political committee or other
16 organization that fails to submit a completed early ballot request form
17 within the prescribed time is subject to a civil penalty of up to \$25 per
18 day for each completed form withheld from submittal. Any person who
19 knowingly fails to submit a completed early ballot request form before the
20 submission deadline for the election immediately following the completion
21 of the form is guilty of a class 6 felony.

22 L. Except for a voter who is on the active early voting list
23 prescribed by section 16-544, a voter who requests a onetime early ballot
24 pursuant to ~~THIS section 16-542~~ or for an election conducted pursuant to
25 section 16-409 or article 8.1 of this chapter, a county recorder, city or
26 town clerk or other election officer may not deliver or mail an early
27 ballot to a person who has not requested an early ballot for that
28 election. An election officer who knowingly violates this subsection is
29 guilty of a class 5 felony.

30 Sec. 12. Section 16-547, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
31 read:

32 16-547. Ballot affidavit: form

33 A. The early ballot shall be accompanied by an envelope bearing on
34 the front the name, official title and post office address of the recorder
35 or other officer in charge of elections and on the other side a printed
36 affidavit in substantially the following form:

37 I declare the following under penalty of perjury: I am
38 a registered voter in _____ county Arizona, I have not
39 voted and will not vote in this election in any other county
40 or state, I understand that knowingly voting more than once in
41 any election is a class 5 felony and I voted the enclosed
42 ballot and signed this affidavit personally unless noted
43 below.

1 If the voter was assisted by another person in marking
2 the ballot, complete the following:

3 I declare the following under penalty of perjury: At
4 the registered voter's request I assisted the voter identified
5 in this affidavit with marking the voter's ballot, I marked
6 the ballot as directly instructed by the voter, I provided the
7 assistance because the voter was physically unable to mark the
8 ballot solely due to illness, injury or physical limitation
9 and I understand that there is no power of attorney for voting
10 and that the voter must be able to make the voter's selection
11 even if the voter cannot physically mark the ballot.

12 Name of voter assistant: _____

13 Address of voter assistant: _____

14 B. The face of each envelope in which a ballot is sent to a federal
15 postcard applicant or in which a ballot is returned by the applicant to
16 the recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall be in the form
17 prescribed in accordance with the uniformed and overseas citizens absentee
18 voting act (P.L. 99-410; 52 United States Code section 20301). Otherwise,
19 the envelopes shall be the same as those used to send ballots to, or
20 receive ballots from, other early voters.

21 C. The officer charged by law with the duty of preparing ballots at
22 any election shall ensure that the early ballot is sent in an envelope
23 that states substantially the following:

24 If the addressee does not reside at this address, mark
25 the unopened envelope "return to sender" and deposit it in the
26 United States mail.

27 D. The county recorder or other officer in charge of elections
28 shall supply printed instructions to early voters that direct them to sign
29 the affidavit, mark the ballot and return both in the enclosed
30 self-addressed envelope that complies with section 16-545, ~~AND~~:

31 1. THROUGH 2025, the instructions shall include the following
32 statement:

33 In order to be valid and counted, the ballot and MAIL
34 affidavit must be delivered to the office of the county
35 recorder or other officer in charge of elections or may be
36 deposited at any polling place in the county not later than
37 7:00 p.m. on election day. The ballot will not be counted
38 without the voter's signature on the envelope.

39 (WARNING – It is a felony to offer or receive any compensation
40 for a ballot.)

41 2. BEGINNING IN 2026, THE INSTRUCTIONS SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING
42 STATEMENT:

43 IN ORDER TO BE VALID AND COUNTED, THE BALLOT AND MAIL
44 AFFIDAVIT MUST BE DELIVERED TO THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY
45 RECORDER OR OTHER OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS OR MAY BE

1 DEPOSITED AT ANY POLLING PLACE IN THE COUNTY NOT LATER THAN
2 7:00 P.M. ON ELECTION DAY. THE BALLOT WILL NOT BE COUNTED
3 WITHOUT THE VOTER'S SIGNATURE ON THE ENVELOPE. THE BALLOT
4 SHALL BE COUNTED IF THE VOTER HAS PRESENTED A VALID FORM OF
5 IDENTIFICATION THAT COMPLIES WITH SECTION 16-579, SUBSECTION
6 A, PARAGRAPH 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES.
7 (WARNING – IT IS A FELONY TO OFFER OR RECEIVE ANY COMPENSATION
8 FOR A BALLOT.)

9 E. The printed instructions prescribed by subsection D of this
10 section shall also include the following information regarding section
11 16-1005, subsections H and I in substantially the following form:

12 A person may only handle or return their own ballot or
13 the ballot of family members, household members or persons for
14 whom they are a caregiver. It is unlawful under section
15 16-1005 to handle or return the ballot of any other person.

16 Sec. 13. Section 16-550, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
17 read:

18 16-550. Receipt of voter's ballot; cure period; tracking
19 system

20 A. Except for early ballots tabulated as prescribed in section
21 16-579.02 OR, BEGINNING IN 2026, RECEIVED AT A VOTING LOCATION AFTER A
22 VOTER'S IDENTIFICATION IS CONFIRMED AS PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 16-579,
23 SUBSECTION A, PARAGRAPH 3, on receipt of the envelope containing the early
24 ballot and the ~~ballot~~ MAIL affidavit, the county recorder or other officer
25 in charge of elections shall compare the ~~signatures thereon~~ SIGNATURE ON
26 THE ENVELOPE with the signature of the elector on the elector's
27 registration record AS PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 16-550.01. If the signature
28 is inconsistent with the elector's signature on the elector's registration
29 record, the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall
30 make reasonable efforts to contact the voter, advise the voter of the
31 inconsistent signature and allow the voter to correct or the county to
32 confirm the inconsistent signature. The county recorder or other officer
33 in charge of elections shall allow signatures to be corrected not later
34 than the fifth ~~business~~ CALENDAR day after a primary, general or special
35 election that includes a federal office or the third business day after
36 any other election. IF THE ELECTION IS A PRIMARY, GENERAL OR SPECIAL
37 ELECTION THAT INCLUDES A FEDERAL OFFICE, IN ADDITION TO THE COUNTY
38 RECORDER'S REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS, THE COUNTY RECORDER'S OFFICES SHALL BE
39 OPEN TO ALLOW FOR CURING SIGNATURES DURING THE WEEKEND BEFORE AND THE
40 WEEKEND AFTER THE ELECTION. If the signature is missing, the county
41 recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall make reasonable
42 efforts to contact the elector, advise the elector of the missing
43 signature and allow the elector to add the elector's signature not later
44 than 7:00 p.m. on election day. If satisfied that the signatures
45 correspond, the recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall

1 hold the envelope containing the early ballot and the completed MAIL
2 affidavit unopened in accordance with the rules of the secretary of state.
3 SIGNATURES THAT CANNOT BE CURED OR VERIFIED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION OR
4 SECTION 16-550.01 SHALL BE REJECTED. BEGINNING WITH THE FIRST MISSING OR
5 MISMATCHED SIGNATURE THAT IS IDENTIFIED AFTER THE PERIOD OF EARLY VOTING
6 BEGINS THROUGH THE MONDAY IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE ELECTION, THE COUNTY
7 RECORDER OR OTHER OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS SHALL SUBMIT DAILY TO THE
8 TWO LARGEST POLITICAL PARTIES IN THIS STATE AN UPDATED LIST OF ALL VOTERS
9 WHOSE SIGNATURES ARE MISSING OR INCONSISTENT WITH THE VOTER'S SIGNATURE ON
10 THE VOTER'S REGISTRATION RECORD. BEGINNING ON THE WEDNESDAY IMMEDIATELY
11 FOLLOWING THE ELECTION THROUGH THE FIFTH CALENDAR DAY AFTER A PRIMARY,
12 GENERAL OR SPECIAL ELECTION THAT INCLUDES A FEDERAL OFFICE, OR THE THIRD
13 BUSINESS DAY AFTER THE ELECTION FOR ANY OTHER ELECTION, THE COUNTY
14 RECORDER OR OTHER OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS SHALL SUBMIT DAILY TO THE
15 TWO LARGEST POLITICAL PARTIES IN THIS STATE AN UPDATED LIST OF ALL VOTERS
16 WHOSE SIGNATURES ARE INCONSISTENT WITH THE VOTER'S SIGNATURE ON THE
17 VOTER'S REGISTRATION RECORD. THIS LIST OF VOTERS WHOSE SIGNATURE REQUIRE
18 CURING SHALL INCLUDE FOR THOSE VOTERS ALL VOTER INFORMATION THAT IS
19 PROVIDED TO THE TWO MAJOR POLITICAL PARTIES AS PRESCRIBED BY SECTION
20 16-168.

21 B. The recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall
22 thereafter safely keep the MAIL affidavits and early ballots in the
23 recorder's or other officer's office and may deliver them for tallying
24 pursuant to section 16-551. ~~Tallying~~

25 C. PROCESSING AND TABULATION of INDIVIDUAL ballots may begin
26 immediately after the envelope and completed MAIL affidavit are processed
27 pursuant to this section and delivered to the early election board AND
28 SHALL CONTINUE WITHOUT DELAY UNTIL COMPLETED. UNTIL ELECTION DAY, THE
29 EARLY ELECTION BOARD AND THE COUNTY RECORDER OR OTHER OFFICER IN CHARGE OF
30 ELECTIONS SHALL:

31 1. NOT ACCESS AN AGGREGATED COMPLETE RESULTS FILE OF EARLY VOTING
32 AND VOTE BY MAIL BALLOTS THAT WERE PROCESSED AND TABULATED BY THE END OF
33 THE EARLY VOTING PERIOD.

34 2. NOT PRODUCE FOR INTERNAL OR EXTERNAL USE AN AGGREGATED RESULTS
35 REPORT OR ASSOCIATED FILES OF COMPLETE RESULTS.

36 3. ONLY PRODUCE A PARTIAL RESULTS REPORT OR ASSOCIATED FILES IF IT
37 IS PART OF THE INTERNAL PREPARATION FOR THE HAND COUNT PURSUANT TO SECTION
38 16-602 OR FOR THE LOGIC AND ACCURACY TESTING REQUIRED PURSUANT TO SECTION
39 16-449.

40 4. NOT PUBLICLY RELEASE COMPLETE OR PARTIAL RESULTS, WHETHER FOR
41 INTERNAL OR EXTERNAL USE, UNTIL ALL PRECINCTS HAVE REPORTED OR ONE HOUR
42 AFTER THE CLOSING OF THE POLLS ON ELECTION DAY, WHICHEVER IS EARLIER.

43 D. THE COUNTY RECORDER OR OTHER OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS
44 SHALL POST ON ITS WEBSITE WITHIN FORTY-EIGHT HOURS AFTER THE END OF BALLOT
45 TABULATION ALL SYSTEM LOG FILES AND OTHER SIMILAR FILES FROM THE ELECTION

1 MANAGEMENT SYSTEM THAT VERIFY COMPLIANCE WITH SUBSECTION C OF THIS
2 SECTION.

3 ~~E.~~ E. The county recorder shall send a list of all voters who were
4 issued early ballots to the election board of the precinct in which the
5 voter is registered.

6 ~~F.~~ F. For a county that uses early ballots, the county recorder or
7 other officer in charge of elections shall provide an early ballot
8 tracking system that indicates whether the voter's early ballot has been
9 received and whether the early ballot has been verified and sent to be
10 tabulated or rejected. The county recorder or other officer in charge of
11 elections shall provide voters with access to the early ballot tracking
12 system on the county's website.

13 ~~G.~~ G. This section does not apply to:

14 1. A special taxing district that is authorized pursuant to section
15 16-191 to conduct its own elections.

16 2. A special district mail ballot election that is conducted
17 pursuant to article 8.1 of this chapter.

18 Sec. 14. Title 16, chapter 4, article 8, Arizona Revised Statutes,
19 is amended by adding section 16-550.01, to read:

20 16-550.01. Signature verification; procedures; exemption;
21 intent; definitions

22 A. EXCEPT FOR EARLY BALLOTS TABULATED AS PRESCRIBED IN SECTION
23 16-579.02, ON RECEIPT OF THE ENVELOPE CONTAINING THE EARLY BALLOT AND THE
24 BALLOT AFFIDAVIT, THE COUNTY RECORDER OR OTHER OFFICER IN CHARGE OF
25 ELECTIONS SHALL CONDUCT SIGNATURE VERIFICATION AS PRESCRIBED BY THIS
26 SECTION.

27 B. THE EVALUATOR SHALL EXAMINE ALL THE BROAD CHARACTERISTICS OF THE
28 SIGNATURE. IF THE BROAD CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SIGNATURE ON THE BALLOT
29 AFFIDAVIT ARE CLEARLY CONSISTENT WITH THE BROAD CHARACTERISTICS OF THE
30 VOTER'S SIGNATURE IN THE VOTER'S REGISTRATION RECORD, THE EVALUATOR MAY
31 ACCEPT THE SIGNATURE AS VALID.

32 C. IF THE EVALUATOR FINDS DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN THE SIGNATURE ON
33 THE BALLOT AFFIDAVIT AND THE VOTER'S SIGNATURE IN THE VOTER'S REGISTRATION
34 RECORD, THE EVALUATOR SHALL EXAMINE THE LOCAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE
35 SIGNATURE. IF THE LOCAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SIGNATURE ON THE BALLOT
36 AFFIDAVIT ARE CLEARLY CONSISTENT WITH THE LOCAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE
37 VOTER'S SIGNATURE IN THE VOTER'S REGISTRATION RECORD, THE EVALUATOR MAY
38 ACCEPT THE SIGNATURE AS VALID.

39 D. IF THE EVALUATOR FINDS A COMBINATION OF BROAD AND LOCAL
40 CHARACTERISTIC DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE SIGNATURE ON THE BALLOT AFFIDAVIT
41 AND THE VOTER'S SIGNATURE IN THE VOTER'S REGISTRATION RECORD, THE
42 EVALUATOR SHALL DENOTE THE SIGNATURE FOR A SECOND REVIEW THAT SHALL BE
43 CONDUCTED BY AN EVALUATOR USING THE SAME STANDARDS PRESCRIBED BY THIS
44 SECTION.

1 E. ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES SHALL BE EVALUATED AS PRESCRIBED BY THIS
2 SECTION, EXCEPT THAT ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES THAT USE A TYPED FONT SHALL BE
3 REJECTED.

4 F. A BALLOT AFFIDAVIT IS EXEMPT FROM THE SIGNATURE VERIFICATION
5 PROCESS IF THE BALLOT AFFIDAVIT CONTAINS A VOTER'S MARK AND IS ACCOMPANIED
6 BY THE SIGNATURE OF A VOTER ASSISTANT.

7 G. THE LEGISLATURE INTENDS THAT THE ILLUSTRATIONS OF BROAD AND
8 LOCAL CHARACTERISTICS IN THE 2020 SECRETARY OF STATE'S SIGNATURE
9 VERIFICATION GUIDE BE USED AS REFERENCE.

10 H. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION:

11 1. "BROAD CHARACTERISTICS" MEANS ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

- 12 (a) THE TYPE OF WRITING.
- 13 (b) THE SPEED OF WRITING.
- 14 (c) OVERALL SPACING.
- 15 (d) OVERALL SIZE AND PROPORTIONS.
- 16 (e) POSITION OF THE SIGNATURE.
- 17 (f) SPELLING AND PUNCTUATION.

18 2. "EVALUATOR" MEANS THE INDIVIDUAL WHO IS DESIGNATED BY THE COUNTY
19 RECORDER OR OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS AND WHO CONDUCTS SIGNATURE
20 VERIFICATION.

21 3. "LOCAL CHARACTERISTICS" MEANS ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

- 22 (a) INTERNAL SPACING.
- 23 (b) THE SIZE OR PROPORTIONS OF A LETTER OR LETTER COMBINATION.
- 24 (c) CURVES, LOOPS AND CROSS POINTS.
- 25 (d) THE PRESENCE OR ABSENCE OF PEN LIFTS.
- 26 (e) BEGINNING AND ENDING STROKES.

27 4. "SIGNATURE VERIFICATION" MEANS THE PROCESS OF MANUALLY COMPARING
28 THE SIGNATURE ON A VOTER'S AFFIDAVIT ENVELOPE OR BALLOT AFFIDAVIT WITH THE
29 VOTER'S SIGNATURE IN THE VOTER'S REGISTRATION RECORD.

30 Sec. 15. Section 16-551, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
31 read:

32 16-551. Early election board; violation; classification

33 A. The board of supervisors or the governing body of the political
34 subdivision shall appoint one or more early election boards to serve at
35 places to be designated by the board of supervisors or the governing body
36 to canvass and tally early election ballots. Members of early election
37 boards shall be selected in accordance with the provisions for selecting
38 members of regular election boards as provided in section 16-531.

39 B. If an electronic voting system is in use for early voting, the
40 early election board shall consist of at least one inspector and two
41 judges who shall perform the processing requirements in accordance with
42 the rules issued by the secretary of state. The inspector and judges
43 shall be appointed in the same manner by party as provided in section
44 16-531.

1 C. All early ballots received by the county recorder or other
 2 officer in charge of elections before 7:00 p.m. on election day **AND,**
 3 **BEGINNING IN 2026, FROM A VOTER WHOSE IDENTIFICATION COULD NOT BE**
 4 **CONFIRMED AT A VOTING LOCATION** and the original MAIL affidavit of the
 5 voter shall be delivered to the early election boards for processing as
 6 provided in the rules of the secretary of state. The office of the county
 7 recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall remain open until
 8 7:00 p.m. on election day for the purpose of receiving early
 9 ballots. Partial or complete tallies of the early election board shall
 10 not be released or divulged before all precincts have reported or one hour
 11 after the closing of the polls on election day, whichever occurs
 12 first. Any person who unlawfully releases information regarding vote
 13 tallies or who possesses a tally sheet or summary without authorization
 14 from the recorder or officer in charge of elections is guilty of a class 6
 15 felony.

16 D. ~~If practicable,~~ The county recorder or other officer in charge
 17 of elections shall count the number of early ballots that are returned at
 18 voting locations on election day and shall post on its website those
 19 totals with the last unofficial results that are released on election
 20 night pursuant to section 16-622. Beginning with the day following the
 21 election, the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections
 22 shall enter into the county's ballot tracking system, if established,
 23 early ballots that were returned at the voting location on election day.

24 E. The necessary printed blanks for poll lists, tally lists, lists
 25 of voters, ballots, oaths and returns, together with envelopes in which to
 26 enclose the returns, shall be furnished by the board of supervisors or the
 27 governing body of the political subdivision to the early election board
 28 for each election precinct at the expense of the county or the political
 29 subdivision.

30 Sec. 16. Section 16-552, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
 31 read:

32 **16-552. Early ballots; processing; challenges**

33 A. In a jurisdiction that uses optical scan ballots, the officer in
 34 charge of elections may use the procedure prescribed by this section or
 35 may request approval from the secretary of state for a different method
 36 for processing early ballots. The request shall be made in writing at
 37 least ninety days before the election for which the procedure is intended
 38 to be used. After the election official has confirmed with the secretary
 39 of state that all election equipment passes the logic and accuracy test,
 40 the election official may begin to count early ballots. No early ballot
 41 results may be released except as prescribed by section 16-551.

42 B. The early election board shall check the voter's MAIL affidavit
 43 on the envelope containing the early ballot. If it is found to be
 44 sufficient, the vote shall be allowed. If the MAIL affidavit is
 45 insufficient, the vote shall not be allowed. **BEGINNING IN 2026, FOR AN**

1 EARLY BALLOT THAT IS RECEIVED AND VERIFIED AS PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 16-
2 579, SUBSECTION A, PARAGRAPH 3, ADDITIONAL SIGNATURE VERIFICATION IS NOT
3 REQUIRED.

4 C. The county chairman of each political party represented on the
5 ballot, by written appointment addressed to the early election board, may
6 designate party representatives and alternates to act as early ballot
7 challengers for the party. No party may have more than the number of such
8 representatives or alternates that were mutually agreed on by each
9 political party to be present at one time. If such agreement cannot be
10 reached, the number of representatives shall be limited to one for each
11 political party.

12 D. An early ballot may be challenged on any grounds set forth in
13 section 16-591. All challenges shall be made in writing with a brief
14 statement of the grounds before the early ballot is placed in the ballot
15 box. A record of all challenges and resulting proceedings shall be kept
16 in substantially the same manner as provided in section 16-594. If an
17 early ballot is challenged, it shall be set aside and retained in the
18 possession of the early election board or other officer in charge of early
19 ballot processing until a time that the early election board sets for
20 determination of the challenge, subject to the procedure in subsection E
21 of this section, at which time the early election board shall hear the
22 grounds for the challenge and shall decide what disposition shall be made
23 of the early ballot by majority vote. If the early ballot is not allowed,
24 it shall be handled pursuant to subsection G of this section.

25 E. Within twenty-four hours of receipt of a challenge, the early
26 election board or other officer in charge of early ballot processing shall
27 mail, by first class mail, a notice of the challenge including a copy of
28 the written challenge, and also including the time and place at which the
29 voter may appear to defend the challenge, to the voter at the mailing
30 address shown on the request for an early ballot or, if none was provided,
31 to the mailing address shown on the registration rolls. Notice shall also
32 be mailed to the challenger at the address listed on the written challenge
33 and provided to the county chairman of each political party represented on
34 the ballot. The board shall meet to determine the challenge at the time
35 specified by the notice but, in any event, not earlier than ninety-six
36 hours after the notice is mailed, or forty-eight hours if the notifying
37 party chooses to deliver the notice by overnight or hand delivery, and not
38 later than 5:00 p.m. on the Monday following the election. The board
39 shall provide the voter with an informal opportunity to make, or to
40 submit, brief statements regarding the challenge. The board may decline
41 to permit comments, either in person or in writing, by anyone other than
42 the voter, the challenger and the party representatives. The burden of
43 proof is on the challenger to show why the voter should not be permitted
44 to vote. The fact that the voter fails to appear shall not be deemed to
45 be an admission of the validity of the challenge. The early election

1 board or other officer in charge of early ballot processing is not
 2 required to provide the notices described in this subsection if the
 3 written challenge fails to set forth at least one of the grounds listed in
 4 section 16-591 as a basis for the challenge. In that event, the challenge
 5 will be summarily rejected at the meeting of the board. Except for
 6 election contests pursuant to section 16-672, the board's decision is
 7 final and may not be appealed.

8 F. If the vote is allowed, the board shall open the envelope
 9 containing the ballot in such a manner that the MAIL affidavit thereon is
 10 not destroyed, take out the ballot without unfolding it or permitting it
 11 to be opened or examined and show by the records of the election that the
 12 elector has voted.

13 G. If the vote is not allowed, the MAIL affidavit envelope
 14 containing the early ballot shall not be opened and the board shall mark
 15 across the face of such envelope the grounds for rejection. The MAIL
 16 affidavit envelope and its contents shall then be deposited with the
 17 opened MAIL affidavit envelopes and shall be preserved with official
 18 returns. If the voter does not enter an appearance, the board shall send
 19 the voter a notice stating whether the early ballot was disallowed and, if
 20 disallowed, providing the grounds for the determination. The notice shall
 21 be mailed by first class mail to the voter's mailing address as shown on
 22 the registration rolls within three days after the board's determination.

23 H. Party representatives and alternates may be appointed as
 24 provided in subsection C of this section to be present and to challenge
 25 the verification of questioned ballots pursuant to section 16-584 on any
 26 grounds ~~permitted~~ ALLOWED by this section. Questioned ballots that are
 27 challenged shall be presented to the early election board for decision
 28 under the provisions of this section.

29 Sec. 17. Section 16-579, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
 30 read:

31 16-579. Procedure for obtaining ballot by elector

32 A. Every qualified elector, before receiving a ballot, shall
 33 announce the elector's name and place of residence in a clear, audible
 34 tone of voice to the election official in charge of the signature roster
 35 or present the elector's name and residence in writing. The election
 36 official in charge of the signature roster shall comply with the following
 37 and the qualified elector shall be allowed within the voting area:

- 38 1. The elector shall present any of the following:
 - 39 (a) A valid form of identification that bears the photograph, name
 40 and address of the elector that reasonably appear to be the same as the
 41 name and address in the precinct register, including an Arizona driver
 42 license, an Arizona nonoperating identification license, a tribal
 43 enrollment card or other form of tribal identification or a United States
 44 federal, state or local government issued identification. Identification

1 is deemed valid unless it can be determined on its face that it has
2 expired.

3 (b) Two different items that contain the name and address of the
4 elector that reasonably appear to be the same as the name and address in
5 the precinct register, including a utility bill, a bank or credit union
6 statement that is dated within ninety days of the date of the election, a
7 valid Arizona vehicle registration, an Arizona vehicle insurance card, an
8 Indian census card, tribal enrollment card or other form of tribal
9 identification, a property tax statement, a recorder's certificate, a
10 voter registration card, a valid United States federal, state or local
11 government issued identification or any mailing that is labeled as
12 "official election material". Identification is deemed valid unless it
13 can be determined on its face that it has expired.

14 (c) A valid form of identification that bears the photograph, name
15 and address of the elector except that if the address on the
16 identification does not reasonably appear to be the same as the address in
17 the precinct register or the identification is a valid United States
18 military identification card or a valid United States passport and does
19 not bear an address, the identification must be accompanied by one of the
20 items listed in subdivision (b) of this paragraph.

21 2. If the elector does not present identification that complies
22 with paragraph 1 of this subsection, the elector is only eligible to vote
23 a provisional ballot as prescribed by section 16-584 or a conditional
24 provisional ballot as provided for in the secretary of state's instruction
25 and procedures manual adopted pursuant to section 16-452.

26 3. THROUGH 2025, if the voter surrenders the early ballot to the
27 precinct inspector and the voter is not otherwise required to be issued a
28 provisional ballot, the voter shall be issued a standard ballot after
29 presenting identification pursuant to this subsection. The precinct
30 inspector shall retain the surrendered early ballot, unopened in its
31 affidavit envelope.

32 4. BEGINNING IN 2026, AT ANY VOTING LOCATION THE VOTER MAY CHOOSE
33 TO PROVIDE IDENTIFICATION WHEN PRESENTING THE VOTER'S MAILED EARLY BALLOT,
34 AND IF SO THE ELECTION OFFICIAL SHALL:

35 (a) REQUIRE THE VOTER TO PRESENT IDENTIFICATION THAT COMPLIES WITH
36 PARAGRAPH 1 OF THIS SUBSECTION.

37 (b) CONFIRM THAT THE NAME AND ADDRESS ON THE IDENTIFICATION
38 REASONABLY APPEAR TO BE THE SAME NAME AND ADDRESS SHOWN ON THE VOTER'S
39 REGISTRATION RECORD.

40 (c) PLACE THE EARLY BALLOT AND AFFIDAVIT IN THE SECURED BALLOT BOX
41 LABELED FOR VERIFIED EARLY BALLOTS OR STAMP THE SIGNED AFFIDAVIT WITH A
42 STAMP THAT READS ID VERIFIED. THE MAILED AFFIDAVIT ENVELOPE IS NOT
43 REQUIRED TO BE REVIEWED AT THE VOTING LOCATION, THE VOTER'S EARLY BALLOT
44 IS DEEMED READY FOR TABULATING AND ADDITIONAL SIGNATURE VERIFICATION OF

1 THE COMPLETED AFFIDAVIT ENVELOPE AS PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 16-550 IS NOT
2 REQUIRED.

3 (d) MAINTAIN A TALLY OF THE NUMBER OF BALLOTS THAT HAVE BEEN
4 DEPOSITED IN THE SECURED BALLOT BOX AND SIGN AN AFFIDAVIT THAT INCLUDES
5 THE ELECTION OFFICIAL'S NAME, THE POLLING LOCATION, THE TIME AND DATE, THE
6 NUMBER OF EARLY BALLOTS DEPOSITED ACCORDING TO THE TALLY MAINTAINED BY THE
7 ELECTION OFFICIAL AND A STATEMENT SUFFICIENT TO RECORD AND MAINTAIN THE
8 CHAIN OF CUSTODY FOR THOSE BALLOTS.

9 B. Any qualified elector who is listed as having applied for an
10 early ballot but who states that the elector has not voted and will not
11 vote an early ballot for this election or surrenders the early ballot to
12 the precinct inspector on election day shall be allowed to vote pursuant
13 to the procedure set forth in section 16-584, except that for elections
14 conducted using an electronic pollbook or similar system with continuous
15 voter usage updates, the following apply:

16 1. If the electronic pollbook or other system indicates that the
17 voter's early ballot has not been returned or accepted by the county
18 recorder and the voter is not otherwise required to be issued a
19 provisional ballot, the voter may be issued a standard ballot after
20 presenting identification pursuant to subsection A of this section.

21 2. If the electronic pollbook or other system indicates that the
22 voter's early ballot has been received or accepted by the county recorder,
23 the voter may not be issued a standard ballot and may only be issued a
24 provisional ballot as prescribed in section 16-584.

25 C. Each qualified elector's name shall be numbered consecutively by
26 the clerks and in the order of applications for ballots. The judge shall
27 give the qualified elector only one ballot and a ballot privacy folder,
28 and the elector's name shall be immediately checked on the precinct
29 register. Notwithstanding any provision of this subsection, an elector
30 shall not be required to accept or use a ballot privacy folder.

31 D. For precincts in which a paper signature roster is used, each
32 qualified elector shall sign the elector's name in the signature roster
33 before receiving a ballot, but an inspector or judge may sign the roster
34 for an elector who is unable to sign because of physical disability, and
35 in that event the name of the elector shall be written with red ink, and
36 no attestation or other proof shall be necessary. The provisions of this
37 subsection relating to signing the signature roster ~~shall~~ DO not apply to
38 electors casting a ballot using early voting procedures.

39 E. For precincts in which an electronic poll book system is used,
40 each qualified elector shall sign the elector's name as prescribed in the
41 instructions and procedures manual adopted by the secretary of state
42 pursuant to section 16-452 before receiving a ballot, but an inspector or
43 judge may sign the roster for an elector who is unable to sign because of
44 physical disability, and in that event the name of the elector shall be

1 written with the inspector's or judge's attestation on the same signature
2 line.

3 F. A person offering to vote at a special district election for
4 which no special district register has been supplied shall sign an
5 affidavit stating the person's address and that the person resides within
6 the district boundaries or proposed district boundaries and swearing that
7 the person is a qualified elector and has not already voted at the
8 election being held.

9 Sec. 18. Section 16-584, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
10 read:

11 16-584. Qualified elector not on precinct register;
12 recorder's certificate; verified ballot; procedure

13 A. A qualified elector whose name is not on the precinct register
14 and who presents a certificate from the county recorder showing that the
15 elector is entitled by law to vote in the precinct shall be entered on the
16 signature roster on the blank following the last printed name and shall be
17 given the next consecutive register number, and the qualified elector
18 shall sign in the space provided.

19 B. A qualified elector whose name is not on the precinct register,
20 on presentation of identification verifying the identity of the elector
21 that includes the voter's given name and surname and the complete
22 residence address that is verified by the election board to be in the
23 precinct or on signing an affirmation that states that the elector is a
24 registered voter in that jurisdiction and is eligible to vote in that
25 jurisdiction, shall be allowed to vote a provisional ballot.

26 C. If a voter has moved to a new address within the county and has
27 not notified the county recorder of the change of address before the date
28 of an election, the voter shall be ~~permitted~~ ALLOWED to correct the voting
29 records for purposes of voting in future elections at the appropriate
30 polling place for the voter's new address. The voter shall be ~~permitted~~
31 ALLOWED to vote a provisional ballot. The voter shall present a form of
32 identification that includes the voter's given name and surname and the
33 voter's complete residence address. The residence address must be within
34 the precinct in which the voter is attempting to vote, and the voter shall
35 affirm in writing that the voter is registered in that jurisdiction and is
36 eligible to vote in that jurisdiction.

37 D. On completion of the ballot, the election official shall place
38 the ballot in a provisional ballot envelope and shall deposit the envelope
39 in the ballot box. Within ~~ten~~ FIVE calendar days after a PRIMARY, general
40 OR SPECIAL election that includes an election for a federal office and
41 within ~~five~~ THREE business days after any other election or ~~no~~ NOT later
42 than the time at which challenged early voting ballots are resolved, the
43 signature shall be compared to the precinct signature roster of the former
44 precinct where the voter was registered. If the voter's name is not
45 signed on the roster and if there is no indication that the voter voted an

1 early ballot, the provisional ballot envelope shall be opened and the
 2 ballot shall be counted. If there is information showing the person did
 3 vote, the provisional ballot shall remain unopened and shall not be
 4 counted. When provisional ballots are confirmed for counting, the county
 5 recorder shall use the information supplied on the provisional ballot
 6 envelope to correct the address record of the voter.

7 E. When a voter is allowed to vote a provisional ballot, the
 8 elector's name shall be entered on a separate signature roster page at the
 9 end of the signature roster. Voters' names shall be numbered
 10 consecutively beginning with the number V-1. The elector shall sign in
 11 the space provided. The ballot shall be placed in a separate envelope,
 12 the outside of which shall contain the precinct name or number, a sworn or
 13 attested statement of the elector that the elector resides in the
 14 precinct, is eligible to vote in the election and has not previously voted
 15 in the election, the signature of the elector and the voter registration
 16 number of the elector, if available. The ballot shall be verified for
 17 proper registration of the elector by the county recorder before being
 18 counted. The verification shall be made by the county recorder within ten
 19 calendar days after a general election that includes an election for a
 20 federal office and within five business days following any other
 21 election. Verified ballots shall be counted by depositing the ballot in
 22 the ballot box and showing on the records of the election that the elector
 23 has voted. If registration is not verified the ballot shall remain
 24 unopened and shall be retained in the same manner as voted ballots.

25 F. For any person who votes a provisional ballot, the county
 26 recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall provide for a
 27 method of notifying the provisional ballot voter at no cost to the voter
 28 whether the voter's ballot was verified and counted and, if not counted,
 29 the reason for not counting the ballot. The notification may be in the
 30 form of notice by mail to the voter, establishment of a ~~toll-free~~
 31 TOLL-FREE telephone number, internet access or other similar method to
 32 allow the voter to have access to this information. The method of
 33 notification shall provide reasonable restrictions that are designed to
 34 limit transmittal of the information only to the voter.

35 Sec. 19. Section 16-622, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
 36 read:

37 16-622. Official canvass; unofficial results

38 A. At any time following the close of the polls, except as provided
 39 in SECTION 16-550 AND section 16-551, subsection C, unofficial returns may
 40 be released during the counting of the ballots by vote tabulating
 41 equipment, and ~~upon~~ ON completion of the count the unofficial results
 42 shall be open to the public. The result printed by the vote tabulating
 43 equipment, to which have been added write-in and early votes, ~~shall~~, when
 44 certified by the board of supervisors or other officer in charge, SHALL
 45 constitute the official canvass of each precinct or election district.

1 B. In any election for a federal office, a statewide office or a
2 member of the legislature or in any election for a statewide ballot
3 measure, all unofficial returns that are released during the counting of
4 the ballots and all unofficial results that are open to the public shall
5 when released to the public be transmitted by telephone, by ~~telefacsimile~~
6 FAX or by other electronic means to the secretary of state.

7 Sec. 20. Section 16-642, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
8 read:

9 16-642. Canvass of election; postponements

10 A. The governing body holding an election shall meet and canvass
11 the election ~~not less than six days nor more than twenty days following~~
12 ~~the election~~ AS FOLLOWS:

13 1. THE GOVERNING BOARD OF A COUNTY SHALL MEET AND CANVASS AS
14 FOLLOWS:

15 (a) FOR THE PRIMARY ELECTION, THE SECOND MONDAY AFTER THE ELECTION.

16 (b) FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION, THE THIRD THURSDAY AFTER THE
17 ELECTION.

18 2. THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL CANVASS AS FOLLOWS:

19 (a) FOR THE PRIMARY ELECTION, THE THIRD THURSDAY AFTER THE
20 ELECTION.

21 (b) FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION, THE THIRD MONDAY AFTER THE ELECTION.

22 B. The governing body of a special district as defined in title 48
23 shall present to the board of supervisors a certified copy of the official
24 canvass of the election at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the
25 board of supervisors. For purposes of contesting a special district
26 election as described in section 16-673, the canvass is not complete until
27 the presentation to the board of supervisors is made.

28 C. If, at the time of the meeting of the governing body, the
29 returns from any polling place in the election district where the polls
30 were opened and an election held are found to be missing, the canvass
31 shall be postponed from day to day until all the returns are received or
32 until six postponements have been had. ~~THE SUBSECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO~~
33 ~~THE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' CANVASS OF THE PRIMARY AND GENERAL~~
34 ~~ELECTION.~~

35 Sec. 21. Section 16-645, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
36 read:

37 16-645. Canvass and return of precinct vote; declaring
38 nominee of party; certificate of nomination;
39 write-in candidates

40 A. When the board of supervisors, or the governing body of a city
41 or town, has completed its canvass of precinct returns, the person having
42 the largest number of votes, or if more than one candidate is necessary,
43 those candidates to the required number who have received the largest
44 number of votes for the nomination for an office in the political party of
45 which the person was set forth on the ballot as a candidate for the

1 nomination, shall be declared the nominee of the party for that office and
 2 shall be given a certificate of nomination for that office by the board or
 3 governing body, which shall entitle the person to have the person's name
 4 placed on the official ballot at the ensuing election as the nominee of
 5 the party for the office. When canvassing write-in votes the apparent
 6 intent of the voter shall be taken into consideration to the extent
 7 possible and the standard prescribed for federal write-in candidates in
 8 section 16-543.02, subsection C applies.

9 B. The board of supervisors shall deliver the OFFICIAL canvass BY
 10 ELECTRONIC MEANS to the secretary of state within ~~fourteen~~ THIRTEEN
 11 CALENDAR days after the primary election, and the secretary of state shall
 12 on or before the third ~~Monday~~ THURSDAY following the primary election
 13 canvass the return and issue a letter declaring nomination as provided in
 14 this section to the nominees who filed nominating petitions and papers
 15 with the secretary of state pursuant to section 16-311, subsection D. For
 16 any partisan primary election, the governing body or officer in charge of
 17 elections shall prepare and transmit to the secretary of state along with
 18 the official canvass the total by party of partisan ballots selected in
 19 that primary election by voters who registered as no party preference, as
 20 independents or as members of a political party that is not qualified for
 21 representation on the ballot.

22 C. A certificate of election shall not be issued to a write-in
 23 candidate for precinct committeeman or a write-in candidate for a
 24 nonpartisan office unless the candidate receives a number of votes
 25 equivalent to at least the same number of signatures required by section
 26 16-322 for nominating petitions for the same office.

27 D. Except as provided in subsection C of this section, a letter
 28 declaring nomination shall not be issued to a write-in candidate of a
 29 party that has not qualified for continued representation on the official
 30 ballot pursuant to section 16-804 unless the candidate receives a
 31 plurality of the votes of the party for the office for which the candidate
 32 is a candidate.

33 E. Except as provided by subsection C of this section, a letter
 34 declaring nomination shall not be issued to a write-in candidate of a
 35 party qualified for continued representation on the official ballot unless
 36 the candidate receives a number of votes equivalent to at least the same
 37 number of signatures required by section 16-322 for nominating petitions
 38 for the same office.

39 F. A certificate of election shall not be issued to presidential
 40 electors who are pledged to a write-in candidate for president unless that
 41 candidate received the highest number of votes cast for the office of
 42 president.

1 Sec. 22. Section 16-646, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
2 read:

3 16-646. Statement, contents and mailing of official canvass

4 A. When the result of the canvass is determined, a statement, known
5 and designated as the official canvass, shall be entered on the official
6 record of the election district that shall show:

7 1. The number of ballots cast in each precinct and in the county.

8 2. The number of ballots rejected in each precinct and in the
9 county.

10 3. The titles of the offices voted for and the names of the
11 persons, together with the party designation, if any, of each person voted
12 for to fill the offices.

13 4. The number of votes by precincts and county received by each
14 candidate.

15 5. For each candidate race in each political subdivision prescribed
16 by section 16-204.01, the number of ballots cast and the number of active
17 registered voters in each political subdivision and portion of a political
18 subdivision for which a candidate may be elected.

19 6. The numbers and a brief title of each proposed constitutional
20 amendment and each initiated or referred measure voted on.

21 7. The number of votes by precincts and county for and against such
22 proposed amendment or measure.

23 B. The certified permanent copy of the official canvass for all
24 offices and ballot measures, except offices and ballot measures in a city
25 or town election and nonpartisan election returns, shall be mailed
26 immediately to the secretary of state who shall maintain and preserve it
27 as a permanent public record.

28 C. The board of supervisors shall **FIRST MAIL WITH A POSTMARK OR**
29 **OTHER SIMILAR DATE AND TIME INDICATOR, THEN** deliver **ELECTRONICALLY** a copy
30 of the official canvass for all offices and ballot measures in the primary
31 and general elections to the secretary of state in a uniform electronic
32 computer media format that shall be agreed on between the secretary of
33 state and all county election officials. The uniform format shall be
34 designed to facilitate the computer analysis of election results for
35 offices and ballot measures that are statewide or are common to more than
36 one county. **THE ELECTRONIC COPY OF THE OFFICIAL CANVASS FROM THE BOARD OF**
37 **SUPERVISORS IS SUFFICIENT FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO CONDUCT AND ISSUE**
38 **THE STATEWIDE CANVASS IF THE ELECTRONIC COPY INCLUDES A SCAN OR OTHER**
39 **SIMILAR EVIDENCE THAT THE PAPER OFFICIAL CANVASS WAS MAILED BEFORE THE**
40 **ELECTRONIC VERSION WAS SENT.**

41 D. The certified permanent copy of the official canvass for all
42 offices and ballot measures in a city or town election shall be filed with
43 the appropriate city or town clerk, or in a special district election with
44 the clerk of the board of supervisors, who shall maintain and preserve it
45 as a permanent public record.

1 Sec. 23. Section 16-648, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
2 read:

3 16-648. Canvass for state offices, amendments and measures

4 A. On the ~~fourth~~ THIRD MONDAY following a general election, the
5 secretary of state, in the presence of the governor and the attorney
6 general, shall canvass all offices for which the nominees filed nominating
7 petitions and papers with the secretary of state pursuant to section
8 16-311, subsection E.

9 B. The secretary of state, in the presence of the governor and the
10 chief justice of the supreme court, shall canvass all proposed
11 constitutional amendments and initiated or referred measures, as shown by
12 the ELECTRONIC OR certified copies of THE official canvass received from
13 the several counties, and forthwith certify the result to the governor.

14 ~~C. If the official canvass of any county has not been received on~~
15 ~~the fourth Monday following the general election, the canvass shall be~~
16 ~~postponed from day to day, not to exceed thirty days from the date of the~~
17 ~~election, until canvasses from all counties are received.~~

18 Sec. 24. Section 16-662, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
19 read:

20 16-662. Certification to superior court of facts requiring
21 recount

22 A. When the ~~canvass shows~~ COUNTY CANVASSES SHOW that a recount is
23 required, the secretary of state, WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS AFTER THE LAST
24 COUNTY CANVASS OR THE LAST DAY FOR COUNTY CANVASSES PRESCRIBED BY SECTION
25 16-642, WHICHEVER IS EARLIER, shall, in the case of an office to be filled
26 by electors of the entire state, a congressional district, a legislative
27 district or a subdivision of the state greater than a county, initiated or
28 referred measures or proposals to amend the constitution, certify the
29 facts requiring the recount to the superior court in Maricopa county. In
30 the case of an office to be filled by the electors of a county or
31 subdivision of a county or precinct, the board of supervisors of such
32 county or in the case of an office to be filled by the electors of a city
33 or town, the city or town council of that city or town shall certify the
34 facts requiring a recount to the superior court in the county in which the
35 canvass was conducted.

36 B. ANY CANDIDATE WHOSE ELECTION RESULTS ARE WITHIN THE MARGIN FOR
37 AN AUTOMATIC RECOUNT AS PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 16-661 MAY SUBMIT TO THE
38 FILING OFFICER FOR THAT OFFICE BEFORE THE TIME OF THE POSTELECTION LOGIC
39 AND ACCURACY TESTING A SIGNED STATEMENT THAT THE CANDIDATE DECLINES TO
40 PURSUE A RECOUNT OF THE ELECTION RESULTS, IN WHICH CASE THE SECRETARY OF
41 STATE, COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OR CITY OR TOWN COUNCIL, AS
42 APPROPRIATE, SHALL NOT CERTIFY TO THE SUPERIOR COURT THE FACTS REQUIRING
43 THE RECOUNT AND A RECOUNT SHALL NOT OCCUR.

1 Sec. 25. Section 16-663, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
2 read:

3 16-663. Recount of votes; method

4 A. The superior court to which the facts requiring a recount are
5 certified shall ~~forthwith~~ PROMPTLY make and enter an order requiring a
6 recount of the votes cast for such office, measure or proposal. The
7 recount shall be conducted in accordance with the laws pertaining to
8 contests of elections.

9 B. ~~When the court orders~~ A COURT-ORDERED recount of votes ~~which~~
10 THAT were cast and tabulated on electronic voting equipment, ~~such recount~~
11 shall be pursuant to section 16-664. ~~On completion of~~ WHILE the recount
12 IS BEING CONDUCTED, and for legislative, statewide and federal candidate
13 races only, the county ~~chairmen~~ CHAIRPERSONS of the political parties
14 entitled to continued representation on the ballot or the ~~chairman's~~
15 CHAIRPERSON'S designee shall select at random without the use of a
16 computer five ~~per cent~~ PERCENT of the precincts for the recounted race for
17 a hand count, and if the results of that hand count when compared to the
18 electronic tabulation of that same race are less than the designated
19 margins calculated pursuant to section 16-602, the recount is complete and
20 the electronic tabulation is the official result. If the hand count
21 results in a difference that is equal to or greater than the designated
22 margin for that race, the ~~procedure~~ PROCEDURES established in section
23 16-602, subsections C, D, E and F ~~applies~~ APPLY. THE HAND COUNT CONDUCTED
24 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL BE CONDUCTED WHILE THE COURT-ORDERED
25 RECOUNT IS BEING CONDUCTED.

26 Sec. 26. Section 16-664, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
27 read:

28 16-664. Recount of votes by automatic tabulating system

29 A. In the event of a court-ordered recount of votes that were cast
30 and tabulated on electronic voting equipment for a state primary, state
31 general or state special election, the secretary of state shall order the
32 ballots recounted on an automatic tabulating system to be furnished and
33 programmed under the supervision of the secretary of state. In the event
34 of a court-ordered recount for elections other than for the office of
35 supervisor, the secretary of state may designate the county board of
36 supervisors to perform the duties assigned to the secretary of state.

37 B. If the office of secretary of state is contested, the governor
38 shall order the ballots recounted on an automatic tabulating system to be
39 furnished and programmed under the supervision of the governor.

40 C. The programs to be used in the recount of votes pursuant to this
41 section shall differ from the programs prescribed by section 16-445 and
42 used in the initial tabulation of the votes.

43 D. THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL CONDUCT LOGIC AND ACCURACY TESTING
44 ON THE AUTOMATED TABULATING SYSTEM TO BE USED IN THE RECOUNT OF VOTES
45 WITHIN TWO CALENDAR DAYS AFTER THE COURT ORDERS A RECOUNT. IN ORDER TO

1 COMPLY WITH THE TWO-CALENDAR-DAY REQUIREMENT, THE SECRETARY OF STATE MAY
2 USE CONTRACT STAFF TO ASSIST IN CONDUCTING LOGIC AND ACCURACY TESTING ON
3 THE AUTOMATED TABULATING SYSTEM TO BE USED IN THE RECOUNT OF VOTES. ANY
4 CONTRACTED STAFF SHALL HAVE EXPERTISE IN SYSTEM OPERATIONS OR VOTING
5 SYSTEMS. A PERSON IS NOT ELIGIBLE TO SERVE AS CONTRACT STAFF FOR LOGIC
6 AND ACCURACY TESTING ON THE AUTOMATED TABULATING SYSTEM TO BE USED IN A
7 RECOUNT OF VOTES IF THAT PERSON HAS BEEN AFFILIATED WITH OR RECEIVED ANY
8 INCOME IN THE PRECEDING FIVE YEARS FROM ANY PERSON OR ENTITY THAT PROVIDES
9 ELECTION EQUIPMENT OR SERVICES IN THIS STATE. THE SECRETARY OF STATE MAY
10 REQUEST ASSISTANCE FROM THE ELECTIONS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION FIELD SERVICES
11 PROGRAM STAFF TO REVIEW LOGIC AND ACCURACY TESTING PROGRAMS AND RESULTS.

12 Sec. 27. Section 16-804, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
13 read:

14 16-804. Continued representation on basis of votes cast at
15 last preceding general election or registered
16 electors

17 A. A political organization that at the last preceding general
18 election cast for governor or presidential electors or for county attorney
19 or for mayor, whichever applies, not less than five ~~per cent~~ PERCENT of
20 the total votes cast for governor or presidential electors, in the state
21 or in such county, city or town, is entitled to representation as a
22 political party on the official ballot for state officers or for officers
23 of such county or local subdivision.

24 B. In lieu of subsection A, a political organization is entitled to
25 continued representation as a political party on the official ballot for
26 state, county, city or town officers if, on October 1 of the year
27 immediately preceding the year in which the general election for state or
28 county officers and for city or town officers one hundred fifty-five days
29 immediately preceding the primary election in such jurisdiction, such
30 party has registered electors in the party equal to at least two-thirds of
31 one percent of the total registered electors in such jurisdiction.

32 C. The secretary of state shall determine the political parties
33 qualified for continued representation on the state ballot pursuant to
34 this section by ~~December~~ AUGUST 1 of the appropriate year. Each county
35 recorder shall furnish to the secretary of state such information as the
36 secretary of state may require ~~no~~ NOT later than ~~October 31~~ JUNE 30 of the
37 preceding year.

38 D. Each county recorder shall determine the political parties
39 qualified for the county ballot pursuant to this section by ~~December~~
40 AUGUST 1 of the appropriate year.

41 E. Each city or town clerk of a city or town providing for partisan
42 elections shall determine the political parties qualified for such city or
43 town ballot pursuant to this section one hundred forty days before the
44 primary election.

1 Sec. 28. Section 16-821, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
2 read:

3 16-821. County committee; vacancy in office of precinct
4 committeeman

5 A. At the primary election the members of a political party WHO ARE
6 entitled to representation pursuant to section 16-804 ~~residing~~ AND WHO
7 RESIDE in each precinct shall choose one of their number as a county
8 precinct committeeman, and the members shall choose one additional
9 precinct committeeman for each one hundred twenty-five voters or major
10 fraction thereof WHO ARE registered in the party in the precinct as
11 reported pursuant to section 16-168, subsection ~~G~~ H on ~~January 2~~
12 ~~OCTOBER 1~~ of the year ~~in which~~ BEFORE the general election is held. The
13 whole number of precinct committeemen of a political party shall
14 constitute the county committee of the party.

15 B. The board of supervisors ~~upon~~ ON the recommendation of the
16 county chairman, or the recommendation of a committee designated in the
17 bylaws of the county committee for that purpose, shall determine when a
18 vacancy exists in the office of precinct committeeman. If a vacancy
19 exists, the vacancy shall be filled by the board of supervisors from a
20 list of names submitted by the county chairman of the appropriate
21 political party. Only a precinct committeeman elected at the primary
22 election ~~prior to~~ BEFORE the date of a state or county committee
23 organizing meeting shall be ~~permitted~~ ALLOWED to vote at such meeting.
24 The criteria used to establish when a vacancy exists in the office of
25 precinct committeeman shall be as established in section 38-291.

26 Sec. 29. Primary election date 2024

27 Notwithstanding section 16-204, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended
28 by this act, and any other law, the 2024 primary election shall be held on
29 July 30, 2024.

30 Sec. 30. 2024 primary election; nomination petition forms;
31 local initiative petition forms; previous primary
32 election date

33 A. A person who desires to become a candidate at the 2024 primary
34 election, who collects signatures on a nomination petition form before the
35 effective date of this act and who has used a petition form that includes
36 the former primary election date of August 6, 2024 may lawfully submit
37 those signatures for the 2024 primary election to be held on July 30,
38 2024. Signatures that are collected with the August 6, 2024 primary
39 election date, that are submitted as prescribed in this subsection and
40 that otherwise comply with the requirements provided by law are deemed to
41 be as valid as signatures collected on a nomination petition form that
42 complies with the newly designated primary election date of July 30, 2024
43 and shall not be ruled invalid due solely to the changed date of the
44 primary election.

1 B. Any city, town or county initiative petition that is circulated
 2 before the effective date of this act and that is on a petition form that
 3 includes the former 2024 primary election date of August 6, 2024 may
 4 lawfully submit those petitions and signatures for the primary election to
 5 be held on July 30, 2024. Signatures that are collected with the August
 6 6, 2024 primary election date, that are submitted as prescribed in this
 7 subsection and that otherwise comply with the requirements provided by law
 8 are deemed to be as valid as signatures collected on an initiative
 9 petition form that complies with the newly designated primary election
 10 date of July 30, 2024 and shall not be ruled invalid due solely to the
 11 changed date of the primary election.

12 Sec. 31. Appropriations; secretary of state; 2024 primary
 13 election; 2026 primary election; exemption

14 A. The sum of \$1,200,000 is appropriated from the state general
 15 fund in fiscal year 2023-2024 from monies allocated to the secretary of
 16 state pursuant to the help America vote act of 2002 (P.L. 107-252; 116
 17 Stat. 1666; 52 United States Code section 20901) to the secretary of state
 18 for distribution to counties pursuant to subsection C of this section for
 19 use in acquiring or improving electronic pollbooks.

20 B. The sum of \$_____ is appropriated from the citizens clean
 21 elections fund established pursuant to title 16, chapter 6, article 2,
 22 Arizona Revised Statutes, in fiscal year 2023-2024 to the secretary of
 23 state for distribution to counties to spend for the following purposes:

24 1. \$_____ for general and uniform voter education
 25 regarding changes in election laws and procedures prescribed in this act,
 26 including the changed 2024 primary election date.

27 2. \$_____ for general and uniform voter education
 28 regarding changes in election laws and procedures prescribed in this acts
 29 including the changed 2026 primary election date.

30 C. The secretary of state shall distribute monies appropriated in
 31 subsections A and B of this section to counties on a pro rata basis that
 32 is based on the count of registered voters for each county that is
 33 reported for January 2, 2024.

34 D. The appropriations made in subsections A and B of this section
 35 are exempt from the provisions of section 35-190, Arizona Revised
 36 Statutes, relating to lapsing of appropriations.

37 Sec. 32. Emergency

38 This act is an emergency measure that is necessary to preserve the
 39 public peace, health or safety and is operative immediately as provided by
 40 law.