

ARIZONA STATE SENATE

Fifty-Sixth Legislature, Second Regular Session

AMENDED FACT SHEET FOR S.B.1131

low voter turnout elections; repeat

<u>Purpose</u>

Requires an election in which less than 25 percent of eligible registered voters cast a ballot to be repeated on the next statewide or federal election ballot.

Background

A city, town or other political subdivision must hold an election on a statewide election date if the previous elections held on a non-statewide election date resulted in a significant decrease in voter turnout. A political subdivision that experiences a significant decrease in voter turnout during an election, other than a special election or recall election, must hold the political subdivision's subsequent elections on the statewide election beginning three calendar years after the significant decrease in voter turnout occurs.

Significant decrease in voter turnout means the voter turnout for the office that received the highest number of votes in the most recent candidate election for a political subdivision, or portion of a political subdivision as prescribed, that is at least 25 percent less than the voter turnout in that same political subdivision or portion thereof for the most recent election in which the Office of the Governor appeared on the ballot (A.R.S. § 16-204.01).

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the state General Fund associated with this legislation.

Provisions

- 1. Voids the results of an election in which less than 25 percent of eligible registered voters cast a ballot and requires the election to be repeated on the next election date for a statewide or federal office.
- 2. Exempts elections with a statewide or federal office on the ballot from the requirement relating to the 25 percent voter turnout threshold.
- 3. Exempts elections that are held by a special taxing district formed for the purpose of protecting or providing services to agricultural lands or crops from the requirement relating to the 25 percent voter turnout threshold.
- 4. Becomes effective on the general effective date.

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Amendments Adopted by Committee

• Exempts elections that are held by a special taxing district formed for the purpose of protecting or providing services to agricultural lands or crops from the requirement relating to the 25 percent voter turnout threshold.

Senate Action

ELEC 2/05/24 DPA 5-3-0

Prepared by Senate Research February 8, 2024 AN/KS/cs