

Senate Engrossed

write-in candidates; nomination paper filing

State of Arizona
Senate
Fifty-seventh Legislature
First Regular Session
2025

CHAPTER 18

SENATE BILL 1153

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 16-312, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO NOMINATING PROCEDURES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

2 Section 1. Section 16-312, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 16-312. Filing of nomination papers for write-in candidates

5 A. Any person desiring to become a write-in candidate for an
6 elective office in any election shall be at the time of filing a qualified
7 elector of the county or district the person proposes to represent and
8 shall have been a resident of that county or district for one hundred
9 twenty days before the date of the election, except that for a city or
10 town office, section 9-232 applies with respect to residency for the
11 candidate. The person shall file a nomination paper, signed by the
12 candidate, giving the person's actual residence address or, if the person
13 does not have an actual residence address, a description of place of
14 residence and post office address, or, if the person's actual residence
15 address is protected pursuant to section 16-153, a post office box or
16 private mailbox address in the candidate's district, precinct or
17 municipality, as applicable for the district, precinct or municipal office
18 that the person proposes to represent, and the person's age, length of
19 residence in the state and date of birth.

20 B. A write-in candidate shall file the nomination paper not earlier
21 than one hundred fifty days before the election and not later than 5:00
22 p.m. on the ~~fortieth~~ SIXTIETH day before the election, except that:

23 1. A candidate running as a write-in candidate as provided in
24 section 16-343, subsection D shall file the nomination paper not later
25 than 5:00 p.m. on the fifth day before the election.

26 2. A candidate running as a write-in candidate for an election that
27 may be canceled pursuant to section 16-410 shall file the nomination paper
28 not later than 5:00 p.m. on the one hundred sixth day before the election.

29 C. The write-in filing procedure shall be in the same manner as
30 prescribed in section 16-311. Any person who does not file a timely
31 nomination paper shall not be counted in the tally of ballots. The filing
32 officer shall not accept the nomination paper of a candidate for state or
33 local office unless the candidate provides or has provided the financial
34 disclosure statement as prescribed for candidates for that office.

35 D. Except in cases where the liability is being appealed, the
36 filing officer shall not accept the nomination paper of a write-in
37 candidate for state or local office if the person is liable for an
38 aggregation of \$1,000 or more in fines, penalties, late fees or
39 administrative or civil judgments, including any interest or costs, in any
40 combination, that have not been fully satisfied at the time of the
41 attempted filing of the nomination paper and the liability arose from
42 failure to comply with or enforcement of chapter 6 of this title.

43 E. The secretary of state shall notify the various boards of
44 supervisors as to write-in candidates filing with the secretary of state's
45 office. The county school superintendent shall notify the appropriate

1 board of supervisors as to write-in candidates filing with the
2 superintendent's office. The board of supervisors shall notify the
3 appropriate election board inspector of all candidates who have properly
4 filed such statements. In the case of a city or town election, the city
5 or town clerk shall notify the appropriate election board inspector of
6 candidates properly filed. No other write-ins shall be counted. The
7 election board inspector shall post the notice of official write-in
8 candidates in a conspicuous location within the polling place.

9 F. Except as provided in section 16-343, subsection E, a candidate
10 may not file pursuant to this section if any of the following applies:

11 1. For a candidate in the general election, the candidate ran in
12 the immediately preceding primary election and failed to be nominated to
13 the office sought in the current election.

14 2. For a candidate in the general election, the candidate filed a
15 nomination petition for the immediately preceding primary election for the
16 office sought and failed to provide a sufficient number of valid petition
17 signatures as prescribed by section 16-322.

18 3. For a candidate in the primary election, the candidate filed a
19 nomination petition for the current primary election for the office sought
20 and failed to provide a sufficient number of valid petition signatures as
21 prescribed by section 16-322, withdrew from the primary election after a
22 challenge was filed or was removed from or otherwise determined by court
23 order to be ineligible for the primary election ballot.

24 4. For a candidate in the general election, the candidate filed a
25 nomination petition for nomination other than by primary **ELECTION** for the
26 office sought and failed to provide a sufficient number of valid petition
27 signatures as prescribed by section 16-341.

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

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR MARCH 31, 2025.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE MARCH 31, 2025.