

Senate Engrossed

foreign contributions; early voting; tabulation

State of Arizona  
Senate  
Fifty-seventh Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2026

## **SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 1014**

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENACTING AND ORDERING THE SUBMISSION TO THE PEOPLE OF A MEASURE RELATING  
TO ELECTIONS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Arizona, the House of  
2 Representatives concurring:

3 1. Under the power of the referendum, as vested in the Legislature,  
4 the following measure, relating to elections, is enacted to become valid  
5 as a law if approved by the voters and on proclamation of the Governor:

6 AN ACT

7 AMENDING TITLE 16, CHAPTER 4, ARTICLE 1, ARIZONA REVISED  
8 STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTIONS 16-407.04 AND 16-407.05; AMENDING  
9 SECTIONS 16-411, 16-449, 16-542, 16-544, 16-547, 16-548,  
10 16-551, 16-552, 16-579.01 AND 16-579.02, ARIZONA REVISED  
11 STATUTES; AMENDING TITLE 16, CHAPTER 6, ARTICLE 1.2, ARIZONA  
12 REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 16-919; AMENDING TITLE 16,  
13 CHAPTER 6, ARTICLE 1.3, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING  
14 SECTION 16-923; RELATING TO ELECTIONS.

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

16 Section 1. Title 16, chapter 4, article 1, Arizona  
17 Revised Statutes, is amended by adding sections 16-407.04 and  
18 16-407.05, to read:

19 16-407.04. Donations from foreign national; election  
20 administration; certification; quarterly  
21 reports; records; violation;  
22 classification; definitions

23 A. A GOVERNMENT ENTITY IN THIS STATE MAY NOT USE MONIES  
24 OR IN-KIND GOODS OR SERVICES THAT ARE DONATED, DIRECTLY OR  
25 INDIRECTLY, BY A FOREIGN NATIONAL FOR ELECTION ADMINISTRATION.

26 B. A PERSON THAT PROVIDES SERVICES TO A GOVERNMENT  
27 ENTITY FOR ELECTION ADMINISTRATION SHALL PROVIDE A  
28 CERTIFICATION TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE THAT INCLUDES A DATED  
29 AND SWORN STATEMENT, UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY, THAT THE PERSON  
30 IS NOT KNOWINGLY THE RECIPIENT, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, OF  
31 DONATIONS FROM A FOREIGN NATIONAL. THE PERSON SHALL ANNUALLY  
32 UPDATE THE CERTIFICATION. IF THE PERSON OBTAINS INFORMATION  
33 THAT WAS UNKNOWN AT THE TIME OF THE INITIAL CERTIFICATION, THE  
34 PERSON SHALL UPDATE THE INITIAL CERTIFICATION WITHIN FIVE  
35 BUSINESS DAYS TO REFLECT THE NEW INFORMATION AND SHALL INCLUDE  
36 A NEW STATEMENT THAT THE PERSON IS NOT KNOWINGLY THE  
37 RECIPIENT, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, OF DONATIONS FROM A FOREIGN  
38 NATIONAL. THIS SUBSECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO A PERSON WHEN  
39 PROVIDING COMMON GOODS OR A FACILITY THAT SERVES AS THE VOTING  
40 LOCATION.

41 C. THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL REQUIRE EACH GOVERNMENT  
42 ENTITY TO PROVIDE TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE A QUARTERLY REPORT  
43 THAT LISTS ANY PERSON THAT PROVIDES SERVICES TO THAT  
44 GOVERNMENT ENTITY FOR ELECTION ADMINISTRATION. THE SECRETARY  
45 OF STATE SHALL NOTIFY THE GOVERNMENT ENTITY BY EMAIL IF THE

1 GOVERNMENT ENTITY FAILS TO FILE ITS QUARTERLY REPORT  
2 PRESCRIBED BY THIS SUBSECTION AND ADVISE THE GOVERNMENT ENTITY  
3 THAT SECTION 16-407.05 PROVIDES FOR POSSIBLE ENFORCEMENT  
4 ACTIONS.

5 D. THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL MAINTAIN RECORDS OF THE  
6 CERTIFICATIONS PRESCRIBED BY THIS SECTION AND SHALL POST THESE  
7 CERTIFICATIONS ON THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S WEBSITE.

8 E. A PERSON THAT FAILS TO PROVIDE THE CERTIFICATION  
9 PRESCRIBED BY THIS SECTION OR THAT PROVIDES AN INACCURATE  
10 CERTIFICATION TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE INVALIDATES ANY  
11 AGREEMENT WITH THE GOVERNMENT ENTITY, AND THE GOVERNMENT  
12 ENTITY IS BARRED FROM ENTERING INTO OR CONTINUING ANY  
13 AGREEMENT WITH THAT PERSON.

14 F. A PERSON THAT KNOWINGLY FAILS TO PROVIDE AN ACCURATE  
15 INITIAL OR UPDATED CERTIFICATION AS PRESCRIBED BY THIS SECTION  
16 IS GUILTY OF A CLASS 1 MISDEMEANOR.

17 G. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION:

18 1. "COMMON GOODS" MEANS ITEMS THAT ARE COMMONLY USED  
19 ACROSS A WIDE VARIETY OF ORGANIZATIONS AND THAT ARE NOT  
20 SPECIFIC TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF ELECTIONS.

21 2. "FOREIGN NATIONAL":

22 (a) MEANS:

23 (i) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS NOT A CITIZEN OR LAWFUL  
24 PERMANENT RESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

25 (ii) A GOVERNMENT, SUBDIVISION OR MUNICIPALITY OF A  
26 FOREIGN COUNTRY.

27 (iii) A FOREIGN POLITICAL PARTY.

28 (iv) ANY ENTITY AS DEFINED IN SECTION 16-901 THAT IS  
29 ORGANIZED UNDER THE LAWS OF OR HAS ITS PRINCIPAL PLACE OF  
30 BUSINESS IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY.

31 (v) ANY UNITED STATES ENTITY AS DEFINED IN SECTION  
32 16-901 THAT IS WHOLLY OR MAJORITY OWNED BY ANY FOREIGN  
33 NATIONAL UNLESS ANY CONTRIBUTION OR EXPENDITURE THE ENTITY  
34 MAKES IS DERIVED ENTIRELY FROM MONIES GENERATED BY THE  
35 ENTITY'S OPERATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES AND ALL DECISIONS  
36 CONCERNING THE CONTRIBUTION OR EXPENDITURE ARE MADE BY  
37 INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE UNITED STATES CITIZENS OR PERMANENT  
38 RESIDENTS, EXCEPT FOR DECISIONS SETTING OVERALL BUDGET  
39 AMOUNTS.

40 (b) DOES NOT INCLUDE FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED SOVEREIGN  
41 TRIBAL NATIONS.

42 3. "PERSON":

43 (a) MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL OR A CORPORATION OR OTHER  
44 ENTITY AS DEFINED IN SECTION 16-901.

45 (b) DOES NOT INCLUDE POLL WORKERS.



1           adjust precinct boundaries due to the redistricting of  
2           election districts as prescribed by law and to comply with  
3           this subsection, the board of supervisors shall adjust these  
4           precinct boundaries as soon as is practicable.

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

9           1. On a specific finding of the board, included in the  
10          order or resolution designating polling places pursuant to  
11          this subsection, that no suitable polling place is available  
12          within a precinct, a polling place for that precinct may be  
13          designated within an adjacent precinct.

14          2. Adjacent precincts may be combined if boundaries so  
15          established are included in election districts prescribed by  
16          law for state elected officials and political subdivisions  
17          including community college districts but not including  
18          elected officials prescribed by titles 30 and 48. The officer  
19          in charge of elections may also split a precinct for  
20          administrative purposes. The polling places shall be listed  
21          in separate sections of the order or resolution.

22          3. On a specific finding of the board that the number  
23          of persons who are listed as early voters pursuant to section  
24          16-544 and who are not expected to have their ballots  
25          tabulated at the polling place as prescribed in section  
26          16-579.02 is likely to substantially reduce the number of  
27          voters appearing at one or more specific polling places at  
28          that election, adjacent precincts may be consolidated by  
29          combining polling places and precinct boards for that  
30          election. The board of supervisors shall ensure that a  
31          reasonable and adequate number of polling places will be  
32          designated for that election. Any consolidated polling places  
33          shall be listed in separate sections of the order or  
34          resolution of the board.

35          4. On a specific resolution of the board, the board may  
36          authorize the use of voting centers in place of or in addition  
37          to specifically designated polling places. A voting center  
38          shall allow any voter in that county to receive the  
39          appropriate ballot for that voter on election day after  
40          presenting identification as prescribed in section 16-579 and  
41          to lawfully cast the ballot. Voting centers may be  
42          established in coordination and consultation with the county  
43          recorder, at other county offices or at other locations in the  
44          county deemed appropriate.

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

6           ~~(a) The board shall specify in the resolution the~~  
7 ~~location and the hours of operation of the emergency voting~~  
8 ~~centers.~~

9           ~~(b) A qualified elector voting at an emergency voting~~  
10 ~~center shall provide identification as prescribed in section~~  
11 ~~16-579, except that notwithstanding section 16-579, subsection~~  
12 ~~A, paragraph 2, for any voting at an emergency voting center,~~  
13 ~~the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections~~  
14 ~~may allow a qualified elector to update the elector's voter~~  
15 ~~registration information as provided for in the secretary of~~  
16 ~~state's instructions and procedures manual adopted pursuant to~~  
17 ~~section 16-452.(c) If an emergency voting center established~~  
18 ~~pursuant to this section becomes unavailable and there is not~~  
19 ~~sufficient time for the board of supervisors to convene to~~  
20 ~~approve an alternate location for that emergency voting~~  
21 ~~center, the county recorder or other officer in charge of~~  
22 ~~elections may make changes to the approved emergency voting~~  
23 ~~center location and shall notify the public and the board of~~  
24 ~~supervisors regarding that change as soon as practicable. The~~  
25 ~~alternate emergency voting center shall be as close in~~  
26 ~~proximity to the approved emergency voting center location as~~  
27 ~~possible.~~

28           C. If the board fails to designate the place for  
29 holding the election, or if it cannot be held at or about the  
30 place designated, the justice of the peace in the precinct,  
31 two days before the election, by an order, copies of which the  
32 justice of the peace shall immediately post in three public  
33 places in the precinct, shall designate the place within the  
34 precinct for holding the election. If there is no justice of  
35 the peace in the precinct, or if the justice of the peace  
36 fails to do so, the election board of the precinct shall  
37 designate and give notice of the place within the precinct of  
38 holding the election. For any election in which there are no  
39 candidates for elected office appearing on the ballot, the  
40 board may consolidate polling places and precinct boards and  
41 may consolidate the tabulation of results for that election if  
42 all of the following apply:

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

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

5           3. All affected voters receive information on early  
6 voting that includes the application used to request an early  
7 voting ballot.

8           D. The board is not required to designate a polling  
9 place for special district mail ballot elections held pursuant  
10 to article 8.1 of this chapter, but the board may designate  
11 one or more sites for voters to deposit marked ballots until  
12 7:00 p.m. on the day of the election.

13           E. ~~Except as provided in subsection F of this section,~~  
14 A public school shall provide sufficient space for use as a  
15 ~~polling place~~ VOTING LOCATION for any city, county or state  
16 election when requested by the officer in charge of elections.

17           ~~F. The principal of the school may deny a request to  
18 provide space for use as a polling place for any city, county  
19 or state election if, within two weeks after a request has  
20 been made, the principal provides a written statement  
21 indicating a reason the election cannot be held in the school,  
22 including any of the following:~~

- 23           ~~1. Space is not available at the school.  
24 2. The safety or welfare of the children would be  
25 jeopardized.~~

26           ~~G.~~ F. Beginning in 2026, the department of  
27 administration shall coordinate with state agencies and  
28 counties to provide available and appropriate state-owned  
29 facilities for use as a voting location for any city, county  
30 or state election when requested by the officer in charge of  
31 elections.

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

35           ~~I.~~ H. Except in the case of an emergency, any facility  
36 that is used as a polling place on election day or that is  
37 used as an early voting site during the period of early voting  
38 shall allow persons to electioneer and engage in other  
39 political activity outside of the seventy-five foot limit  
40 prescribed by section 16-515 in public areas and parking lots  
41 used by voters. This subsection does not allow the temporary  
42 or permanent construction of structures in public areas and  
43 parking lots or the blocking or other impairment of access to  
44 parking spaces for voters. The county recorder or other  
45 officer in charge of elections shall post on its website at

1 least two weeks before election day a list of those polling  
2 places in which emergency conditions prevent electioneering  
3 and shall specify the reason the emergency designation was  
4 granted and the number of attempts that were made to find a  
5 polling place before granting an emergency designation. If  
6 the polling place is not on the website list of polling places  
7 with emergency designations, electioneering and other  
8 political activity shall be allowed outside of the  
9 seventy-five foot limit. If an emergency arises after the  
10 county recorder or other officer in charge of elections'  
11 initial website posting, the county recorder or other officer  
12 in charge of elections shall update the website as soon as is  
13 practicable to include any new polling places, shall highlight  
14 the polling place location on the website and shall specify  
15 the reason the emergency designation was granted and the  
16 number of attempts that were made to find a polling place  
17 before granting an emergency designation.

18 ~~I.~~ I. For the purposes of this section, a county  
19 recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall  
20 designate a polling place as an emergency polling place and  
21 thus prohibit persons from electioneering and engaging in  
22 other political activity outside of the seventy-five foot  
23 limit prescribed by section 16-515 but inside the property of  
24 the facility that is hosting the polling place if any of the  
25 following occurs:

26 1. An act of God renders a previously set polling place  
27 as unusable.

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

32 ~~K.~~ J. The secretary of state shall provide through the  
33 instructions and procedures manual adopted pursuant to section  
34 16-452 the maximum allowable wait time for any election that  
35 is subject to section 16-204 and provide for a method to  
36 reduce voter wait time at the polls in the primary and general  
37 elections. The method shall consider at least all of the  
38 following for primary and general elections in each precinct:

39 1. The number of ballots voted in the prior primary and  
40 general elections.

41 2. The number of registered voters who voted early in  
42 the prior primary and general elections.

43 3. The number of registered voters and the number of  
44 registered voters who cast an early ballot for the current  
45 primary or general election.

1           4. The number of registered voters whose early ballots  
2 were tabulated on-site as prescribed in section 16-579.02 in  
3 the prior primary and general elections.

4           5. The number of election board members and clerks and  
5 the number of rosters that will reduce voter wait time at the  
6 polls.

7           Sec. 3. Section 16-449, Arizona Revised Statutes, is  
8 amended to read:

9           16-449. Required test of equipment and programs;  
10                                   notice: procedures manual

11           A. Within the period of time before the election day  
12 prescribed by the secretary of state in the instructions and  
13 procedures manual adopted pursuant to section 16-452, the  
14 board of supervisors or other ~~election~~ officer in charge ~~OF~~  
15 ~~ELECTIONS~~, or for an election involving state or federal  
16 candidates, the secretary of state, shall ~~have~~ TEST the  
17 automatic tabulating equipment and programs ~~tested~~ to  
18 ascertain that the equipment and programs will correctly count  
19 the votes cast for all offices and on all measures. Public  
20 notice of the time and place of the test shall be given at  
21 least forty-eight hours ~~prior thereto~~ BEFORE THE TEST by  
22 publication once in one or more daily or weekly newspapers  
23 published in the town, ~~OR~~ city ~~or village~~ using such  
24 equipment, if a newspaper is published ~~therein~~ IN THE TOWN OR  
25 CITY, otherwise in a newspaper of general circulation ~~therein~~  
26 IN THE AREA. The test shall be observed by at least two  
27 election inspectors, who shall not be of the same political  
28 party, and shall be open to representatives of the political  
29 parties, candidates, the press and the public. The test shall  
30 be conducted by processing a preaudited group of ballots so  
31 marked as to record a predetermined number of valid votes for  
32 each candidate and on each measure and shall include for each  
33 office one or more ballots that have votes in excess of the  
34 number allowed by law in order to test the ability of the  
35 automatic tabulating equipment and programs to reject such  
36 votes. If any error is detected, the cause ~~therefor~~ FOR THE  
37 ERROR shall be ascertained and corrected and an errorless  
38 count shall be made before the automatic tabulating equipment  
39 and programs are approved. A copy of a revised program shall  
40 be filed with the secretary of state within forty-eight hours  
41 after the revision is made. If the error was created by  
42 automatic tabulating equipment malfunction, a report shall be  
43 filed with the secretary of state within forty-eight hours  
44 after the correction is made, stating the cause and the  
45 corrective action taken. The test shall be repeated

1 immediately before the start of the official count of the  
2 ballots in the same manner as set forth above. After the  
3 completion of the count, the programs used and the ballots  
4 shall be sealed, retained and disposed of as provided for  
5 paper ballots.

6 B. Electronic ballot tabulating systems shall be tested  
7 for logic and accuracy within seven days before their use for  
8 early balloting pursuant to the instructions and procedures  
9 manual for electronic voting systems that is adopted by the  
10 secretary of state as prescribed by section 16-452. The  
11 instructions and procedures manual shall include procedures  
12 for the handling of ballots, the electronic scanning of  
13 ballots and any other matters necessary to ensure the maximum  
14 degree of correctness, impartiality and uniformity in the  
15 administration of an electronic ballot tabulating system.

16 C. Notwithstanding subsections A and B of this section,  
17 if a county uses accessible voting equipment to mark ballots  
18 and that accessible voting equipment does not independently  
19 tabulate or tally votes, the secretary of state in cooperation  
20 with the county officer in charge of elections may designate a  
21 single date to test the logic and accuracy of both the  
22 accessible voting equipment and electronic ballot tabulating  
23 systems.

24 D. NOTWITHSTANDING SUBSECTION B OF THIS SECTION, FOR  
25 ANY COUNTY THAT PROVIDES FOR ON-SITE TABULATION PURSUANT TO  
26 SECTIONS 16-579.01 AND 16-579.02, THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OR  
27 OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS SHALL TEST THE ELECTRONIC  
28 BALLOT TABULATING EQUIPMENT TO BE USED PURSUANT TO SECTION  
29 16-579.01 FOR LOGIC AND ACCURACY WITHIN FIFTY DAYS BEFORE  
30 ELECTION DAY. THIS SUBSECTION DOES NOT AFFECT THE DEADLINES  
31 FOR PERFORMING LOGIC AND ACCURACY TESTING ON OTHER EQUIPMENT.

32 Sec. 4. Section 16-542, Arizona Revised Statutes, is  
33 amended to read:

34 16-542. Request for ballot; civil penalties; violation;  
35 classification

36 A. Within ninety-three days before any election called  
37 pursuant to the laws of this state, an elector may make a  
38 verbal or signed request to the county recorder, or other  
39 officer in charge of elections for the applicable political  
40 subdivision of this state in whose jurisdiction the elector is  
41 registered to vote, for an official early ballot. In addition  
42 to name and address, the requesting elector shall provide the  
43 date of birth and state or country of birth or other  
44 information that if compared to the voter registration  
45 information on file would confirm the identity of the

1 elector. If the request indicates that the elector needs a  
2 primary election ballot and a general election ballot, the  
3 county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall  
4 honor the request. For any partisan primary election, if the  
5 elector is not registered as a member of a political party  
6 that is entitled to continued representation on the ballot  
7 pursuant to section 16-804, the elector shall designate the  
8 ballot of only one of the political parties that is entitled  
9 to continued representation on the ballot and the elector may  
10 receive and vote the ballot of only that one political party,  
11 which also shall include any nonpartisan offices and ballot  
12 questions, or the elector shall designate the ballot for  
13 nonpartisan offices and ballot questions only and the elector  
14 may receive and vote the ballot that contains only nonpartisan  
15 offices and ballot questions. The county recorder or other  
16 officer in charge of elections shall process any request for  
17 an early ballot for a municipal election pursuant to this  
18 subsection. The county recorder may establish on-site early  
19 voting locations at the recorder's office, which shall be open  
20 and available for use beginning the same day that a county  
21 begins to send out the early ballots. The county recorder may  
22 also establish any other early voting locations in the county  
23 the recorder deems necessary. Any on-site early voting  
24 location or other early voting location shall require each  
25 elector to present identification as prescribed in section  
26 16-579 before receiving a ballot. Notwithstanding section  
27 16-579, subsection A, paragraph 2, at any on-site early voting  
28 location or other early voting location the county recorder or  
29 other officer in charge of elections may provide for a  
30 qualified elector to update the elector's voter registration  
31 information as provided for in the secretary of state's  
32 instructions and procedures manual adopted pursuant to section  
33 16-452.

34 B. Notwithstanding subsection A of this section, a  
35 request for an official early ballot from an absent uniformed  
36 services voter or overseas voter as defined in the uniformed  
37 and overseas citizens absentee voting act (P.L. 99-410; 52  
38 United States Code section 20310) or a voter whose information  
39 is protected pursuant to section 16-153 that is received by  
40 the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections  
41 more than ninety-three days before the election is valid. If  
42 requested by the absent uniformed services or overseas voter,  
43 or a voter whose information is protected pursuant to section  
44 16-153, the county recorder or other officer in charge of  
45 elections shall provide to the requesting voter early ballot

1 materials through the next regularly scheduled general  
2 election for federal office immediately following receipt of  
3 the request unless a different period of time, which does not  
4 exceed the next two regularly scheduled general elections for  
5 federal office, is designated by the voter.

6 C. The county recorder or other officer in charge of  
7 elections shall mail the early ballot and the envelope for its  
8 return postage prepaid to the address provided by the  
9 requesting elector within five days after receipt of the  
10 official early ballots from the officer charged by law with  
11 the duty of preparing ballots pursuant to section 16-545,  
12 except that early ballot distribution shall not begin more  
13 than twenty-seven days before the election. If an early  
14 ballot request is received on or before the thirty-first day  
15 before the election, the early ballot shall be distributed not  
16 earlier than the twenty-seventh day before the election and  
17 not later than the twenty-fourth day before the election.

18 D. Only the elector may be in possession of that  
19 elector's unvoted early ballot. If a complete and correct  
20 request is made by the elector within twenty-seven days before  
21 the election, the mailing must be made within forty-eight  
22 hours after receipt of the request. Saturdays, Sundays and  
23 other legal holidays are excluded from the computation of the  
24 forty-eight-hour period prescribed by this subsection. If a  
25 complete and correct request is made by an absent uniformed  
26 services voter or an overseas voter before the election, the  
27 regular early ballot shall be transmitted by mail, by fax or  
28 by other electronic format approved by the secretary of state  
29 within twenty-four hours after the early ballots are delivered  
30 pursuant to section 16-545, subsection B, excluding Sundays.

31 E. In order to be complete and correct and to receive  
32 an early ballot by mail, an elector's request that an early  
33 ballot be mailed to the elector's residence or temporary  
34 address must include all of the information prescribed by  
35 subsection A of this section and must be received by the  
36 county recorder or other officer in charge of elections not  
37 later than 5:00 p.m. on the eleventh day preceding the  
38 election. An elector who appears personally not later than  
39 7:00 p.m. on the ~~Friday~~ MONDAY preceding the election at an  
40 on-site early voting location OR OTHER EARLY VOTING LOCATION  
41 that is established by the county recorder or other officer in  
42 charge of elections shall be given a ballot after presenting  
43 identification as prescribed in section 16-579 and shall be  
44 allowed to vote at the on-site location. Notwithstanding  
45 section 16-579, subsection A, paragraph 2, at any on-site

1 early voting location the county recorder or other officer in  
2 charge of elections may provide for a qualified elector to  
3 update the elector's voter registration information as  
4 provided for in the secretary of state's instructions and  
5 procedures manual adopted pursuant to section 16-452. If an  
6 elector's request to receive an early ballot is not complete  
7 and correct but complies with all other requirements of this  
8 section, the county recorder or other officer in charge of  
9 elections shall attempt to notify the elector of the  
10 deficiency of the request.

11 F. Unless an elector specifies that the address to  
12 which an early ballot is to be sent is a temporary address,  
13 the recorder may use the information from an early ballot  
14 request form to update voter registration records.

15 G. The county recorder or other officer in charge of  
16 early balloting shall provide an alphabetized list of all  
17 voters in the precinct who have requested and have been sent  
18 an early ballot to the election board of the precinct in which  
19 the voter is registered not later than the day before the  
20 election.

21 ~~H. As a result of experiencing an emergency between~~  
22 ~~7:00 p.m. on the Friday preceding the election and 5:00 p.m.~~  
23 ~~on the Monday preceding the election, qualified electors may~~  
24 ~~request to vote in the manner prescribed by the board of~~  
25 ~~supervisors of their respective county. Before voting~~  
26 ~~pursuant to this subsection, an elector who experiences an~~  
27 ~~emergency shall provide identification as prescribed in~~  
28 ~~section 16-579 and shall sign a statement under penalty of~~  
29 ~~perjury that states that the person is experiencing or~~  
30 ~~experienced an emergency after 7:00 p.m. on the Friday~~  
31 ~~immediately preceding the election and before 5:00 p.m. on the~~  
32 ~~Monday immediately preceding the election that would prevent~~  
33 ~~the person from voting at the polls. Signed statements~~  
34 ~~received pursuant to this subsection are not subject to~~  
35 ~~inspection pursuant to title 39, chapter 1, article 2. For~~  
36 ~~the purposes of this subsection, "emergency" means any~~  
37 ~~unforeseen circumstances that would prevent the elector from~~  
38 ~~voting at the polls.~~

39 ~~I. Notwithstanding section 16-579, subsection A,~~  
40 ~~paragraph 2, for any voting pursuant to subsection H of this~~  
41 ~~section, the county recorder or other officer in charge of~~  
42 ~~elections may allow a qualified elector to update the~~  
43 ~~elector's voter registration information as provided for in~~  
44 ~~the secretary of state's instructions and procedures manual~~  
45 ~~adopted pursuant to section 16-452.~~



1 eligible to vote. An early voter request form shall conform  
2 to requirements prescribed in the instructions and procedures  
3 manual issued pursuant to section 16-452. The application  
4 shall allow for the voter to provide the voter's name,  
5 residence address, mailing address in the voter's county of  
6 residence, date of birth and signature and shall state that  
7 the voter is attesting that the voter is a registered voter  
8 who is eligible to vote in the county of residence. The voter  
9 shall not list a mailing address that is outside of this state  
10 for the purpose of the active early voting list unless the  
11 voter is an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter  
12 as defined in the uniformed and overseas citizens absentee  
13 voting act (P.L. 99-410; 52 United States Code section  
14 20310). In lieu of the application, the applicant may submit  
15 a written request that contains the required information.

16 C. On receipt of a request to be included on the active  
17 early voting list, the county recorder or other officer in  
18 charge of elections shall compare the signature on the request  
19 form with the voter's signature on the voter's registration  
20 form and, if the request is from the voter, shall mark the  
21 voter's registration file as an active early ballot request.

22 D. Not less than ninety days before any polling place  
23 election scheduled in March or August, the county recorder or  
24 other officer in charge of elections shall mail to all voters  
25 who are eligible for the election, who are not listed as  
26 inactive and who are included on the active early voting list  
27 an election notice by nonforwardable mail that is marked with  
28 the statement required by the postmaster to receive an address  
29 correction notification. If an election is not formally  
30 called by a jurisdiction by the one hundred eightieth day  
31 before the election, the recorder or other officer in charge  
32 of elections is not required to send the election notice. The  
33 notice shall include the dates of the elections that are the  
34 subject of the notice, the dates that the voter's ballot is  
35 expected to be mailed and the address where the ballot will be  
36 mailed. If the upcoming election is a partisan open primary  
37 election and the voter is not registered as a member of one of  
38 the political parties that is recognized for purposes of that  
39 primary, the notice shall include information on the procedure  
40 for the voter to designate a political party ballot. The  
41 notice shall be delivered with return postage prepaid and  
42 shall also include a means for the voter to do any of the  
43 following:

44 1. Change the mailing address for the voter's ballot to  
45 another location in the voter's county of residence.

1           2. Update the voter's residence address in the voter's  
2 county of residence.

3           3. Request that the voter not be sent a ballot for the  
4 upcoming election or elections indicated on the notice.

5           E. If the notice that is mailed to the voter is  
6 returned undeliverable by the postal service, the county  
7 recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall ~~take~~  
8 ~~the necessary steps to contact the voter at the voter's new~~  
9 ~~residence address in order to update that voter's address or~~  
10 ~~to~~ move the voter to inactive status as prescribed in section  
11 16-166, subsection A. If a voter is moved to inactive status,  
12 the voter shall be removed from the active early voting list  
13 and may not receive an early ballot unless the voter updates  
14 or otherwise confirms the voter's registration  
15 information. If the voter is removed from the active early  
16 voting list, the voter shall only be added to the active early  
17 voting list again if the voter submits a new request pursuant  
18 to this section.

19           F. Not later than the first day of early voting, the  
20 county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall  
21 mail an early ballot to all eligible voters who are not listed  
22 as inactive and who are included on the active early voting  
23 list in the same manner prescribed in section 16-542,  
24 subsection C. If the voter has not returned the notice or  
25 otherwise notified the election officer within forty-five days  
26 before the election that the voter does not wish to receive an  
27 early ballot by mail for the election or elections indicated,  
28 the ballot shall automatically be scheduled for mailing.

29           G. If a voter who is on the active early voting list is  
30 not registered as a member of a recognized political party and  
31 fails to notify the county recorder of the voter's choice for  
32 political party ballot within forty-five days before a  
33 partisan open primary election, the following apply:

34           1. The voter shall not automatically be sent a ballot  
35 for that partisan open primary election only and the voter's  
36 name shall remain on the active early voting list for future  
37 elections.

38           2. To receive an early ballot for the primary election,  
39 the voter shall submit the voter's choice for political party  
40 ballot to the county recorder.

41           H. After a voter has requested to be included on the  
42 active early voting list, the voter shall be sent an early  
43 ballot by mail automatically for any election at which a voter  
44 at that residence address is eligible to vote until any of the  
45 following occurs:

1           1. The voter requests in writing to be removed from the  
2 active early voting list.

3           2. The voter's registration or eligibility for  
4 registration is moved to inactive status or canceled as  
5 otherwise provided by law.

6           3. The notice sent by the county recorder or other  
7 officer in charge of elections is returned undeliverable and  
8 the county recorder or officer in charge of elections is  
9 unable to contact the voter to determine the voter's continued  
10 desire to remain on the list.

11          4. The voter fails to vote an early ballot in all  
12 elections for two consecutive election cycles. For the  
13 purposes of this paragraph, "election" means any regular  
14 primary or regular general election for which there was a  
15 federal race on the ballot or for which a city or town  
16 candidate primary or first election or city or town candidate  
17 second, general or runoff election was on the ballot. This  
18 paragraph does not apply to:

19           (a) A special taxing district that is authorized  
20 pursuant to section 16-191 to conduct its own elections.

21           (b) A special district mail ballot election that is  
22 conducted pursuant to article 8.1 of this chapter.

23          I. A voter may make a written request at any time to be  
24 removed from the active early voting list. The request shall  
25 include the voter's name, residence address, date of birth and  
26 signature. On receipt of a completed request to remove a  
27 voter from the active early voting list, the county recorder  
28 or other officer in charge of elections shall remove the  
29 voter's name from the list as soon as practicable.

30          J. An absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter  
31 as defined in the uniformed and overseas citizens absentee  
32 voting act (P.L. 99-410; 52 United States Code section 20310)  
33 is eligible to be placed on the active early voting list  
34 pursuant to this section.

35          K. A voter's failure to vote an early ballot once  
36 received does not constitute grounds to remove the voter from  
37 the active early voting list, except that a county recorder  
38 shall remove a voter from the active early voting list if both  
39 of the following apply:

40           1. The county recorder or other officer in charge of  
41 elections complies with subsection M of this section.

42           2. The voter fails to vote using an early ballot in all  
43 of the following elections for two consecutive election  
44 cycles:

1 (a) A regular primary and regular general election for  
2 which there was a federal race on the ballot.

3 (b) A city or town candidate primary or first election  
4 and a city or town candidate second, general or runoff  
5 election.

6 L. On or before January 15 of each odd-numbered year,  
7 the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections  
8 shall send a notice to each voter who is on the active early  
9 voting list and who did not vote an early ballot in all  
10 elections for two consecutive election cycles as prescribed by  
11 subsection K of this section. If the voter has provided the  
12 voter's telephone or mobile phone number or email address to  
13 the county recorder, the county recorder may additionally  
14 provide the notice to the voter by telephone call, text  
15 message or email. The notice shall inform the voter that if  
16 the voter wishes to remain on the active early voting list,  
17 the voter shall do both of the following with the notice  
18 received:

19 1. Confirm in writing the voter's desire to remain on  
20 the active early voting list.

21 2. Return the completed notice to the county recorder  
22 or other officer in charge of elections within ninety days  
23 after the notice is sent to the voter. The notice shall be  
24 signed by the voter and shall contain the voter's address and  
25 date of birth.

26 M. If a voter receives a notice as prescribed by  
27 subsection L of this section and the voter fails to respond  
28 within the ninety-day period, the county recorder or other  
29 officer in charge of elections shall remove the voter's name  
30 from the active early voting list.

31 N. A candidate, political committee or other  
32 organization may distribute active early voting list request  
33 forms to voters. If the active early voting list request  
34 forms include a printed address for return, that address shall  
35 be the political subdivision that will conduct the  
36 election. Failure to use the political subdivision as the  
37 return addressee is punishable by a civil penalty of up to  
38 three times the cost of the production and distribution of the  
39 active early voting list request.

40 O. All original and completed active early voting list  
41 request forms that are received by a candidate, political  
42 committee or other organization shall be submitted within six  
43 business days after receipt by a candidate or political  
44 committee or eleven days before the election day, whichever is  
45 earlier, to the political subdivision that will conduct the

1 election. Any person, political committee or other  
2 organization that fails to submit a completed active early  
3 voting list request form within the prescribed time is subject  
4 to a civil penalty of up to \$25 per day for each completed  
5 form withheld from submittal. Any person who knowingly fails  
6 to submit a completed active early voting list request form  
7 before the submission deadline for the election immediately  
8 following the completion of the form is guilty of a class 6  
9 felony.

10 P. A person who receives an early ballot at an address  
11 at which another person formerly resided, without voting the  
12 ballot or signing the envelope, shall write "not at this  
13 address" on the envelope and place the mail piece in a United  
14 States postal service collection box or other mail  
15 receptacle. On receipt, the county recorder or other officer  
16 in charge of elections shall proceed in the manner prescribed  
17 in subsection E of this section.

18 Q. When the county recorder receives confirmation from  
19 another county that a person registered has registered to vote  
20 in that other county, the county recorder shall remove that  
21 person from the active early voting list.

22 R. If the county recorder receives credible information  
23 that a person has registered to vote in a different county,  
24 the county recorder shall confirm the person's voter  
25 registration with that other county and, on confirmation,  
26 shall remove that person from the county's active early voting  
27 list pursuant to subsection Q of this section.

28 S. For the purposes of this section, "election cycle"  
29 means the two-year period beginning on January 1 in the year  
30 after a statewide general election or, for cities and towns,  
31 the two-year period beginning on the first day of the calendar  
32 quarter after the calendar quarter in which the city's or  
33 town's second, runoff or general election is scheduled and  
34 ending on the last day of the calendar quarter in which the  
35 city's or town's immediately following second, runoff or  
36 general election is scheduled, however that election is  
37 designated by the city or town.

38 Sec. 6. Section 16-547, Arizona Revised Statutes, is  
39 amended to read:

40 16-547. Mail affidavit; form

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

1 I declare the following under penalty of  
2 perjury: I am a registered voter in \_\_\_\_\_  
3 county Arizona, I have not voted and will not vote  
4 in this election in any other county or state, I  
5 understand that knowingly voting more than once in  
6 any election is a class 5 felony and I voted the  
7 enclosed ballot and signed this MAIL affidavit  
8 personally unless noted below.

9 If the voter was assisted by another person  
10 in marking the ballot, complete the following:

11 I declare the following under penalty of  
12 perjury: At the registered voter's request I  
13 assisted the voter identified in this MAIL  
14 affidavit with marking the voter's ballot, I  
15 marked the ballot as directly instructed by the  
16 voter, I provided the assistance because the voter  
17 was physically unable to mark the ballot solely  
18 due to illness, injury or physical limitation and  
19 I understand that there is no power of attorney  
20 for voting and that the voter must be able to make  
21 the voter's selection even if the voter cannot  
22 physically mark the ballot.

23 Name of voter assistant: \_\_\_\_\_

24 Address of voter assistant: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

40 D. The county recorder or other officer in charge of  
41 elections shall supply printed instructions to early voters  
42 that direct them to sign the MAIL affidavit, mark the ballot  
43 and return both in the enclosed self-addressed envelope that  
44 complies with section 16-545, and:

1 ~~1. Through 2025, the instructions shall include the~~  
2 ~~following statement:~~

3 ~~In order to be valid and counted, the ballot~~  
4 ~~and mail affidavit must be delivered to the office~~  
5 ~~of the county recorder or other officer in charge~~  
6 ~~of elections or may be deposited at any polling~~  
7 ~~place in the county not later than 7:00 p.m. on~~  
8 ~~election day. The ballot will not be counted~~  
9 ~~without the voter's signature on the envelope.~~

10 ~~(WARNING — It is a felony to offer or~~  
11 ~~receive any compensation for a ballot.)~~

12 ~~2. 1. Beginning in 2026, FOR A COUNTY THAT PROVIDES~~  
13 ~~ON-SITE TABULATION OF BALLOTS PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 16-579.01~~  
14 ~~AND 16-579.02, the instructions shall include the following~~  
15 ~~statement:~~

16 In order to be valid and counted, the mail  
17 affidavit that contains the mail ballot must have  
18 the voter's signature on the envelope and must be  
19 returned to the office of the county recorder by  
20 any one of the following methods:

21 (a) ~~Delivering~~ MAILING it to the office of  
22 the county recorder or other officer in charge of  
23 elections WHERE IT MUST BE RECEIVED not later than  
24 7:00 p.m. on election day.

25 ~~(b) Depositing it at any polling place in~~  
26 ~~the county not later than 7:00 p.m. on election~~  
27 ~~day.~~

28 ~~(c) Bringing the ballot to any polling~~  
29 ~~place in the county not later than 7:00 p.m. on~~  
30 ~~election day and choosing to present valid~~  
31 ~~identification that complies with section 16-579,~~  
32 ~~subsection A, paragraph 1, Arizona Revised~~  
33 ~~Statutes.~~

34 (b) HAND DELIVERING IT TO THE OFFICE OF THE  
35 COUNTY RECORDER OR OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS  
36 NOT LATER THAN 7:00 P.M. ON ELECTION DAY.

37 (c) DEPOSITING IT AT ANY VOTING LOCATION IN  
38 THE COUNTY BY 7:00 P.M. ON THE FRIDAY BEFORE  
39 ELECTION DAY.

40 (d) AFTER 7:00 P.M. ON THE FRIDAY BEFORE  
41 ELECTION DAY, BRINGING THE BALLOT TO ANY VOTING  
42 LOCATION IN THE COUNTY THAT OFFERS ON-SITE  
43 TABULATION AND SUBMITTING IT TO THE ELECTION  
44 OFFICIALS FOR SEPARATION FROM THE ENVELOPE AND  
45 PROCESSING AS REQUIRED BY THE COUNTY.

(WARNING - IT IS A FELONY TO OFFER OR RECEIVE ANY COMPENSATION FOR A BALLOT.)

2. FOR A COUNTY THAT DOES NOT PROVIDE ON-SITE TABULATION OF BALLOTS PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 16-579.01 AND 16-579.02, THE INSTRUCTIONS SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

IN ORDER TO BE VALID AND COUNTED, THE MAIL AFFIDAVIT THAT CONTAINS THE MAIL BALLOT MUST HAVE THE VOTER'S SIGNATURE ON THE ENVELOPE AND MUST BE RETURNED TO THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER BY ANY ONE OF THE FOLLOWING METHODS:

(a) MAILING IT TO THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER OR OTHER OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS, WHICH MUST BE RECEIVED NOT LATER THAN 7:00 P.M. ON ELECTION DAY.

(b) HAND DELIVERING IT TO THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER OR OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS NOT LATER THAN 7:00 P.M. ON ELECTION DAY.

(c) DEPOSITING IT AT ANY VOTING LOCATION IN THE COUNTY NOT LATER THAN 7:00 P.M. ON THE FRIDAY BEFORE ELECTION DAY.

(d) AFTER 7:00 P.M. ON THE FRIDAY BEFORE ELECTION DAY, BRINGING THE BALLOT TO ANY VOTING LOCATION IN THE COUNTY NOT LATER THAN 7:00 P.M. ON ELECTION DAY AND PRESENTING IDENTIFICATION THAT COMPLIES WITH SECTION 16-579, SUBSECTION A, PARAGRAPH 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES.

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

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

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

Sec. 7. Section 16-548, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

16-548. Preparation and transmission of ballot

A. The early voter shall make and sign the affidavit and shall then mark ~~his~~ THE ballot in ~~such~~ a manner that ~~his~~ THE EARLY VOTER'S vote cannot be seen. The early voter shall

1 fold the ballot, if a paper ballot, so as to conceal the vote,  
2 ~~and~~ deposit the voted ballot in the envelope provided for that  
3 purpose, which shall be securely sealed and, together with the  
4 affidavit, ~~delivered or mailed~~ SHALL BE RETURNED BY ONE OF THE  
5 FOLLOWING METHODS:

6 1. MAILING THE VOTED BALLOT to the county recorder or  
7 other officer in charge of elections of the political  
8 subdivision in which the ~~elector~~ VOTER is registered ~~or~~  
9 ~~deposited by the voter or the voter's agent at any polling~~  
10 ~~place in the county~~. In order to be counted and valid, the  
11 ballot must be received by the county recorder or other  
12 officer in charge of elections ~~or deposited at any polling~~  
13 ~~place in the county~~ ~~no~~ NOT later than 7:00 p.m. on election  
14 day.

15 2. HAND DELIVERING THE VOTED BALLOT TO THE OFFICE OF  
16 THE COUNTY RECORDER OR OTHER OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS OF  
17 THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION IN WHICH THE VOTER IS REGISTERED.  
18 IN ORDER TO BE COUNTED AND VALID, THE BALLOT MUST BE RECEIVED  
19 BY THE COUNTY RECORDER OR OTHER OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS  
20 NOT LATER THAN 7:00 P.M. ON ELECTION DAY.

21 3. DEPOSITING THE VOTED BALLOT AT ANY VOTING LOCATION  
22 IN THE COUNTY. IN ORDER TO BE COUNTED AND VALID, THE BALLOT  
23 MUST BE RECEIVED AT THE VOTING LOCATION NOT LATER THAN 7:00  
24 P.M. ON THE FRIDAY BEFORE ELECTION DAY.

25 B. A PERSON WHO APPEARS PERSONALLY AT AN EARLY VOTING  
26 LOCATION ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 16-542 DURING THE  
27 PERIOD OF EARLY VOTING, INCLUDING ON THE SATURDAY, SUNDAY AND  
28 MONDAY BEFORE ELECTION DAY, SHALL PRESENT IDENTIFICATION AS  
29 PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 16-579, SIGN THE EARLY VOTER AFFIDAVIT,  
30 MARK THE BALLOT IN A MANNER THAT THE EARLY VOTER'S VOTE CANNOT  
31 BE SEEN AND RETURN THE VOTED BALLOT TO THE ELECTION OFFICIAL  
32 AT THE EARLY VOTING LOCATION. FOR A COUNTY THAT PROVIDES FOR  
33 ON-SITE TABULATION OF BALLOTS PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 16-579.01  
34 AND 16-579.02 DURING THE SATURDAY, SUNDAY OR MONDAY  
35 IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING ELECTION DAY, THE FOLLOWING APPLY:

36 1. THE EARLY VOTER SHALL APPEAR PERSONALLY AT THE  
37 ON-SITE TABULATION LOCATION AND SUBMIT THE VOTER'S EARLY  
38 BALLOT AND AFFIDAVIT.

39 2. THE ELECTION OFFICIAL SHALL ALLOW THE EARLY VOTER TO  
40 TABULATE THE EARLY BALLOT ON SITE AS PRESCRIBED BY SECTIONS  
41 16-579.01 AND 16-579.02.

42 C. BEGINNING IN 2027, FOR EARLY BALLOTS THAT ARE CAST  
43 IN PERSON PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION B OF THIS SECTION, THE  
44 OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS SHALL ENSURE THAT CHAIN OF

1 CUSTODY PROCEDURES FOR THESE EARLY BALLOTS ARE IDENTICAL TO  
2 THOSE PRESCRIBED FOR IN PERSON ELECTION DAY VOTING.

3 ~~B.~~ D. If the early voter is an overseas citizen, a  
4 qualified elector absent from the United States or in the  
5 United States service, a spouse or dependent residing with the  
6 early voter or a qualified elector of a special district mail  
7 ballot election as provided in article 8.1 of this chapter,  
8 the early voter may subscribe to the affidavit before and  
9 obtain the signature and military identification number or  
10 passport number, if available, of any person who is a United  
11 States citizen eighteen years of age or older.

12 Sec. 8. Section 16-551, Arizona Revised Statutes, is  
13 amended to read:

14 16-551. Early election board; violation; classification

15 A. The board of supervisors or the governing body of  
16 the political subdivision shall appoint one or more early  
17 election boards to serve at places to be designated by the  
18 board of supervisors or the governing body to canvass and  
19 tally early election ballots. Members of early election  
20 boards shall be selected in accordance with the provisions for  
21 selecting members of regular election boards as provided in  
22 section 16-531.

23 B. If an electronic voting system is in use for early  
24 voting, the early election board shall consist of at least one  
25 inspector and two judges who shall perform the processing  
26 requirements in accordance with the rules issued by the  
27 secretary of state. The inspector and judges shall be  
28 appointed in the same manner by party as provided in section  
29 16-531.

30 C. All early ballots received by the county recorder or  
31 other officer in charge of elections before 7:00 p.m. on  
32 election day and the original mail ~~ballot~~ affidavit of the  
33 voter shall be delivered to the early election boards for  
34 processing as provided in the rules of the secretary of  
35 state. Beginning in 2026, all early ballots that are  
36 delivered by a voter to a voting location without presenting  
37 identification that complies with section 16-579, subsection  
38 A, paragraph 1 must be signature verified. The office of the  
39 county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall  
40 remain open until 7:00 p.m. on election day for the purpose of  
41 receiving early ballots. Partial or complete tallies of the  
42 early election board shall not be released or divulged before  
43 all precincts have reported or one hour after the closing of  
44 the polls on election day, whichever occurs first. Any person  
45 who unlawfully releases information regarding vote tallies or

1 who possesses a tally sheet or summary without authorization  
2 from the recorder or officer in charge of elections is guilty  
3 of a class 6 felony.

4 ~~D. The county recorder or other officer in charge of~~  
5 ~~elections shall count the number of early ballots that are~~  
6 ~~returned at voting locations on election day and shall post on~~  
7 ~~its website those totals with the last unofficial results that~~  
8 ~~are released on election night pursuant to section 16-622.~~

9 Beginning with the day following the election, the county  
10 recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall enter  
11 into the county's ballot tracking system, if established,  
12 early ballots that were returned at the voting location on  
13 election day.

14 E. The necessary printed blanks for poll lists, tally  
15 lists, lists of voters, ballots, oaths and returns, together  
16 with envelopes in which to enclose the returns, shall be  
17 furnished by the board of supervisors or the governing body of  
18 the political subdivision to the early election board for each  
19 election precinct at the expense of the county or the  
20 political subdivision.

21 Sec. 9. Section 16-552, Arizona Revised Statutes, is  
22 amended to read:

23 16-552. Early ballots; processing; challenges

24 A. In a jurisdiction that uses optical scan ballots,  
25 the officer in charge of elections may use the procedure  
26 prescribed by this section or may request approval from the  
27 secretary of state for a different method for processing early  
28 ballots. The request shall be made in writing at least ninety  
29 days before the election for which the procedure is intended  
30 to be used. After the election official has confirmed with  
31 the secretary of state that all election equipment passes the  
32 logic and accuracy test, the election official may begin to  
33 count early ballots. ~~No~~ Early ballot results may ~~NOT~~ be  
34 released except as prescribed by section 16-551.

35 B. ~~EXCEPT FOR A PERSON WHO VOTES PERSONALLY AT AN EARLY~~  
36 ~~VOTING LOCATION DURING THE PERIOD OF EARLY VOTING AS~~  
37 ~~PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 16-548, SUBSECTION B,~~ the early election  
38 board shall check the voter's mail ~~ballot~~ affidavit on the  
39 envelope containing the early ballot. If it is found to be  
40 sufficient, the vote shall be allowed. If the mail ~~ballot~~  
41 affidavit is insufficient, the vote shall not be  
42 allowed. Beginning in 2026, for an early ballot that is  
43 received and verified as prescribed by section 16-579,  
44 subsection A, paragraph 4, additional signature verification  
45 is not required.

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

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

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

1           ~~permit~~ ALLOW comments, either in person or in writing, by  
2 anyone other than the voter, the challenger and the party  
3 representatives. The burden of proof is on the challenger to  
4 show why the voter should not be ~~permitted~~ ALLOWED to  
5 vote. The fact that the voter fails to appear shall not be  
6 deemed to be an admission of the validity of the  
7 challenge. The early election board or other officer in  
8 charge of early ballot processing is not required to provide  
9 the notices described in this subsection if the written  
10 challenge fails to set forth at least one of the grounds  
11 listed in section 16-591 as a basis for the challenge. In  
12 that event, the challenge will be summarily rejected at the  
13 meeting of the board. Except for election contests pursuant  
14 to section 16-672, the board's decision is final and may not  
15 be appealed.

16           F. If the vote is allowed, the board shall open the  
17 envelope containing the ballot in such a manner that the mail  
18 ~~ballot~~ affidavit ~~thereon~~ ON THE ENVELOPE is not destroyed,  
19 take out the ballot without unfolding it or ~~permitting~~  
20 ALLOWING it to be opened or examined and show by the records  
21 of the election that the elector has voted.

22           G. If the vote is not allowed, the mail ~~ballot~~  
23 affidavit envelope containing the early ballot shall not be  
24 opened and the board shall mark across the face of such  
25 envelope the grounds for rejection. The mail ~~ballot~~ affidavit  
26 envelope and its contents shall then be deposited with the  
27 opened mail ~~ballot~~ affidavit envelopes and shall be preserved  
28 with official returns. If the voter does not enter an  
29 appearance, the board shall send the voter a notice stating  
30 whether the early ballot was disallowed and, if disallowed,  
31 providing the grounds for the determination. The notice shall  
32 be mailed by first class mail to the voter's mailing address  
33 as shown on the registration rolls within three days after the  
34 board's determination.

35           H. Party representatives and alternates may be  
36 appointed as provided in subsection C of this section to be  
37 present and to challenge the verification of questioned  
38 ballots pursuant to section 16-584 on any grounds allowed by  
39 this section. Questioned ballots that are challenged shall be  
40 presented to the early election board for decision under the  
41 provisions of this section.

1           Sec. 10. Section 16-579.01, Arizona Revised Statutes,  
2 is amended to read:

3           16-579.01. Early ballots; on-site tabulation

4           A. Every county recorder or other officer in charge of  
5 elections may provide for a qualified elector who appears at  
6 that elector's designated polling location or at a voting  
7 center **AT ANY TIME DURING THE PERIOD OF EARLY VOTING AND** on  
8 election day with the elector's voted early ballot to have the  
9 elector's voted early ballot tabulated as prescribed in  
10 section 16-579.02.

11           B. The county recorder or other officer in charge of  
12 elections shall do all of the following if the on-site  
13 tabulation of early ballots is allowed:

14           1. Designate an area within a precinct or voting center  
15 for processing electors with their voted early ballots that is  
16 physically separate from the area for voters who are voting  
17 pursuant to section 16-579.

18           2. Provide adequate poll workers, election officials  
19 and equipment necessary to conduct voting pursuant to this  
20 section and section 16-579.02.

21           3. Categorize and tally separately in the official  
22 canvass and other reports electors whose voted early ballots  
23 are tabulated at the precinct or voting center. The tally  
24 shall be reported by precinct in the official canvass and  
25 other voting reports.

26           4. Reconcile for that polling place or voting center  
27 the number of electors who appear on the signature roster or  
28 ~~e-pollbook~~ **ELECTRONIC POLLBOOK** with the number of completed  
29 early ballot affidavits and the voted early ballots tabulated  
30 on-site.

31           Sec. 11. Section 16-579.02, Arizona Revised Statutes,  
32 is amended to read:

33           16-579.02. Early ballot on-site tabulation procedure

34           A. A qualified elector who appears at a voting center  
35 or at the elector's designated polling place that allows for  
36 the on-site tabulation of early ballots with the elector's  
37 voted early ballot shall present identification as prescribed  
38 in section 16-579, subsection A, paragraph 1 and proceed as  
39 follows:

40           1. If the elector does not present identification that  
41 complies with section 16-579, subsection A, paragraph 1, the  
42 elector shall ~~either deposit the elector's voted early ballot~~  
43 ~~in its affidavit envelope in an official drop box or~~ proceed  
44 to the area designated for election day voting to surrender  
45 the early ballot to the election board for retention and not

1 for tabulating. The elector shall then be allowed to vote a  
2 provisional ballot as prescribed in section 16-584. An  
3 election official may not allow for the on-site tabulation of  
4 an early ballot if the elector does not present identification  
5 that complies with section 16-579, subsection A, paragraph 1.

6 2. If the elector presents sufficient identification to  
7 comply with section 16-579, subsection A, paragraph 1, the  
8 elector shall present the elector's early ballot affidavit to  
9 the election official in charge of the signature roster, and  
10 the election official shall confirm that the name and address  
11 on the completed affidavit reasonably appear to be the same as  
12 the name and address on the precinct register.

13 3. If the elector's affidavit is not complete, the  
14 election official in charge of the signature roster shall  
15 allow the elector to complete the affidavit. The election  
16 official may not allow for the on-site tabulation of an early  
17 ballot until the elector presents a completed early ballot  
18 affidavit.

19 B. If the elector's affidavit is complete, the  
20 elector's name shall be numbered consecutively by the clerk  
21 and in the order of application for early ballot tabulation.

22 C. For precincts in which a paper signature roster is  
23 used, each qualified elector shall sign the elector's name in  
24 the signature roster as prescribed in section 16-579,  
25 subsection D before proceeding to the tabulating equipment.

26 D. For precincts in which an electronic pollbook is  
27 used, each qualified elector shall sign the elector's name as  
28 prescribed in section 16-579, subsection E before proceeding  
29 to the tabulating equipment.

30 E. After signing the signature roster or electronic  
31 pollbook, the elector shall proceed to the tabulating  
32 equipment and while under the observation of an election  
33 official, remove the early ballot from the completed affidavit  
34 envelope, deposit the empty completed affidavit envelope in  
35 the secured and labeled drop box and insert the early ballot  
36 into a tabulating machine. An early ballot that has been  
37 separated from the elector's completed affidavit envelope may  
38 not be removed from the on-site early ballot tabulation area.

39 F. The drop box prescribed in subsection E of this  
40 section shall be clearly labeled to indicate that the  
41 completed affidavits are from ballots tabulated pursuant to  
42 this section and shall be secured in a manner substantially  
43 similar to other ballot boxes at that location.

44 G. Any qualified elector who lawfully brings to a  
45 polling place or voting center another elector's voted early

1 ballot that is sealed in its affidavit envelope shall deposit  
2 the other elector's voted early ballot in the appropriate  
3 ballot drop box before entering the on-site early ballot  
4 tabulation area for purposes of tabulating the elector's own  
5 early ballot. The county recorder or other officer in charge  
6 of elections shall ensure that a voter is not in possession of  
7 another voter's ballot within the on-site early ballot  
8 tabulation area.

9 Sec. 12. Title 16, chapter 6, article 1.2, Arizona  
10 Revised Statutes, is amended by adding section 16-919, to  
11 read:

12 16-919. Foreign contributions prohibited; ballot  
13 measures; certification; definitions

14 A. A FOREIGN NATIONAL MAY NOT DIRECT, DICTATE, CONTROL  
15 OR DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY PARTICIPATE IN THE DECISION-MAKING  
16 PROCESS OF ANY PERSON WITH REGARD TO THAT PERSON'S ACTIVITIES  
17 TO INFLUENCE A BALLOT INITIATIVE OR REFERENDUM, SUCH AS  
18 DECISIONS CONCERNING THE MAKING OF CONTRIBUTIONS OR  
19 EXPENDITURES TO INFLUENCE A BALLOT INITIATIVE OR REFERENDUM.

20 B. A PERSON, ENTITY OR COMMITTEE MAY NOT KNOWINGLY OR  
21 WILFULLY RECEIVE, SOLICIT, ACCEPT OR USE CONTRIBUTIONS,  
22 EXPENDITURES OR IN-KIND GOODS OR SERVICES THAT ARE CONTRIBUTED  
23 DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY BY A FOREIGN NATIONAL TO INFLUENCE THE  
24 OUTCOME OF AN ELECTION ON A BALLOT MEASURE.

25 C. A PERSON, ENTITY OR COMMITTEE THAT IS REQUIRED TO  
26 FILE CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTS PURSUANT TO SECTION 16-926  
27 SHALL:

28 1. CERTIFY UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY IN THOSE REPORTS  
29 THAT THE PERSON, ENTITY OR COMMITTEE HAS NOT KNOWINGLY OR  
30 WILFULLY RECEIVED, SOLICITED, ACCEPTED OR USED CONTRIBUTIONS,  
31 EXPENDITURES OR IN-KIND GOODS OR SERVICES IN VIOLATION OF  
32 SUBSECTION B OF THIS SECTION.

33 2. AFFIRM THAT EACH PERSON THAT CONTRIBUTED TO  
34 INFLUENCE THE OUTCOME OF AN ELECTION ON A BALLOT MEASURE IS  
35 NOT A FOREIGN NATIONAL AND HAS NOT KNOWINGLY OR WILFULLY  
36 RECEIVED, SOLICITED OR ACCEPTED, WHETHER DIRECTLY OR  
37 INDIRECTLY, CONTRIBUTIONS, EXPENDITURES OR IN-KIND GOODS OR  
38 SERVICES FROM ONE OR MORE PROHIBITED SOURCES AGGREGATING MORE  
39 THAN \$100,000 WITHIN THE FOUR-YEAR PERIOD IMMEDIATELY  
40 PRECEDING THE DATE ON WHICH THE CONTRIBUTION IS MADE.

1 D. THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL REQUIRE ANY PERSON,  
2 ENTITY OR COMMITTEE THAT FILES A STATEMENT OF ORGANIZATION  
3 PURSUANT TO SECTION 16-906 WITH THE INTENT OR PURPOSE OF  
4 INFLUENCING THE OUTCOME OF AN ELECTION ON A BALLOT MEASURE TO  
5 CERTIFY THAT NO PRELIMINARY ACTIVITY WAS FUNDED BY PROHIBITED  
6 SOURCES, WHETHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY.

7 E. A PERSON THAT MAKES A CONTRIBUTION TO A PERSON,  
8 ENTITY OR COMMITTEE THAT IS REQUIRED TO FILE A CAMPAIGN  
9 FINANCE REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 16-926 FOR INFLUENCING THE  
10 OUTCOME OF AN ELECTION ON A BALLOT MEASURE OR A PERSON THAT  
11 MAKES A BALLOT MEASURE EXPENDITURE THAT IS REQUIRED TO BE  
12 REPORTED UNDER SECTION 16-926 SHALL PROVIDE WITHIN FORTY-EIGHT  
13 HOURS AFTER MAKING THAT CONTRIBUTION OR EXPENDITURE A  
14 CERTIFICATION TO THE PERSON, THE ENTITY OR THE COMMITTEE  
15 TREASURER, IF APPLICABLE, AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE THAT  
16 INCLUDES A DATED AND SWORN STATEMENT UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY  
17 THAT THE PERSON IS NOT A FOREIGN NATIONAL, THAT THE PERSON HAS  
18 NOT KNOWINGLY OR WILFULLY RECEIVED, SOLICITED OR ACCEPTED,  
19 WHETHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, CONTRIBUTIONS, EXPENDITURES OR  
20 IN-KIND GOODS OR SERVICES FROM ONE OR MORE PROHIBITED SOURCES  
21 AGGREGATING MORE THAN \$100,000 WITHIN THE FOUR-YEAR PERIOD  
22 IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE DATE ON WHICH THE CONTRIBUTION OR  
23 EXPENDITURE IS MADE AND THAT THE PERSON WILL NOT ACCEPT  
24 CONTRIBUTIONS, EXPENDITURES OR IN-KIND GOODS OR SERVICES FROM  
25 A FOREIGN NATIONAL UNTIL AFTER THE DATE OF THE ELECTION IN  
26 WHICH THE BALLOT MEASURE WILL APPEAR ON THE BALLOT. THIS  
27 SUBSECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO A PERSON OR ORGANIZATION WHEN  
28 PROVIDING COMMON GOODS.

29 F. THE CERTIFICATIONS PRESCRIBED BY THIS SECTION ARE IN  
30 ADDITION TO ANY REPORTS REQUIRED BY SECTION 16-926.

31 G. THIS SECTION DOES NOT CREATE OR ELIMINATE ANY  
32 EXISTING DONOR DISCLOSURE RIGHTS OR DUTIES BEYOND THOSE  
33 ENUMERATED IN THIS SECTION.

34 H. A DETERMINATION THAT A PERSON THAT IS REQUIRED TO  
35 PROVIDE THE CERTIFICATION PRESCRIBED BY THIS SECTION HAS  
36 ACCEPTED CONTRIBUTIONS, EXPENDITURES OR IN-KIND GOODS OR  
37 SERVICES FROM FOREIGN NATIONALS IN AN AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF MORE  
38 THAN \$100,000 WITHIN THE APPLICABLE FOUR-YEAR PERIOD  
39 ESTABLISHES A PRESUMPTION THAT THE PERSON IS IN VIOLATION OF  
40 THIS SECTION.

41 I. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION:

42 1. "COMMON GOODS" MEANS ITEMS THAT ARE COMMONLY USED  
43 ACROSS A WIDE VARIETY OF ORGANIZATIONS AND THAT ARE NOT  
44 SPECIFIC TO INFLUENCING THE OUTCOME OF AN ELECTION ON A BALLOT  
45 MEASURE.

1           2. "DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY" MEANS ACTING EITHER ALONE  
2 OR JOINTLY WITH, THROUGH OR ON BEHALF OF ANY OTHER INDIVIDUAL,  
3 PERSON, COMMITTEE OR ENTITY.

4           3. "FOREIGN NATIONAL":

5           (a) MEANS:

6           (i) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS NOT A CITIZEN OR LAWFUL  
7 PERMANENT RESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

8           (ii) A GOVERNMENT, SUBDIVISION OR MUNICIPALITY OF A  
9 FOREIGN COUNTRY.

10          (iii) A FOREIGN POLITICAL PARTY.

11          (iv) ANY ENTITY THAT IS ORGANIZED UNDER THE LAWS OF OR  
12 HAS ITS PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY.

13          (v) ANY UNITED STATES ENTITY THAT IS WHOLLY OR MAJORITY  
14 OWNED BY ANY FOREIGN NATIONAL UNLESS ANY CONTRIBUTION OR  
15 EXPENDITURE THE ENTITY MAKES IS DERIVED ENTIRELY FROM MONIES  
16 GENERATED BY THE ENTITY'S OPERATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES AND  
17 ALL DECISIONS CONCERNING THE CONTRIBUTION OR EXPENDITURE ARE  
18 MADE BY INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE UNITED STATES CITIZENS OR  
19 PERMANENT RESIDENTS, EXCEPT FOR DECISIONS SETTING OVERALL  
20 BUDGET AMOUNTS.

21          (b) DOES NOT INCLUDE FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED SOVEREIGN  
22 TRIBAL NATIONS.

23          4. "PERSON" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL OR A CORPORATION OR  
24 OTHER ENTITY.

25          5. "PRELIMINARY ACTIVITY" INCLUDES CONDUCTING A POLL OR  
26 FOCUS GROUP, DRAFTING BALLOT MEASURE LANGUAGE, MAKING  
27 TELEPHONE CALLS OR TRAVELING.

28          6. "PROHIBITED SOURCES" MEANS CONTRIBUTIONS, IN-KIND  
29 GOODS OR SERVICES OR EXPENDITURES BY A FOREIGN NATIONAL.

30          Sec. 13. Title 16, chapter 6, article 1.3, Arizona  
31 Revised Statutes, is amended by adding section 16-923, to  
32 read:

33           16-923. Ballot measure expenditures; recordkeeping

34           A. ANY PERSON THAT MAKES A BALLOT MEASURE EXPENDITURE  
35 SHALL KEEP AND PRESERVE A RECORD OF THE EXPENDITURE FOR TWO  
36 YEARS FOLLOWING THE END OF THE ELECTION CYCLE DURING WHICH THE  
37 EXPENDITURE WAS MADE.

38           B. A PERSON, ENTITY OR COMMITTEE THAT IS REQUIRED TO  
39 FILE CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTS PURSUANT TO SECTION 16-926 AND  
40 THAT RECEIVES A BALLOT MEASURE EXPENDITURE SHALL KEEP AND  
41 PRESERVE A RECORD OF THE EXPENDITURE FOR TWO YEARS FOLLOWING  
42 THE END OF THE ELECTION CYCLE IN WHICH THE BALLOT MEASURE  
43 EXPENDITURE WAS RECEIVED.

1           Sec. 14. Severability

2           If a provision of this act or its application to any  
3 person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does  
4 not affect other provisions or applications of the act that  
5 can be given effect without the invalid provision or  
6 application, and to this end the provisions of this act are  
7 severable.

8           Sec. 15. Legislative findings

9           The legislature finds that:

10          1. Arizona takes far longer than most other states to  
11 report its final vote tabulations for elections.

12          2. The most significant causal factor in Arizona's  
13 delayed vote count is matching signatures to the signatures in  
14 the voter file for envelopes for early ballots that are  
15 returned on or shortly before election day, sometimes called  
16 "late early ballots".

17          3. Another cause of administrative delays in Arizona  
18 elections is the recent surge in emergency voting during the  
19 weekend before election day. Originally intended to  
20 accommodate voters with bona fide last-minute emergencies that  
21 would otherwise interfere with voting, emergency voting has  
22 recently shifted to an unauthorized expansion of the early  
23 voting period without any meaningful confirmation that voters  
24 are, in fact, burdened by a last-minute emergency that would  
25 otherwise prevent them from voting. This recent expansion of  
26 emergency voting diverts scarce resources from elections  
27 officials' offices at the very end of the election cycle, when  
28 time and manpower are most precious, that otherwise could be  
29 used to fully process early ballots, ensure smooth operations  
30 on election day and facilitate the prompt reporting of  
31 election results.

32          4. Arizona's delayed results are sometimes perceived as  
33 evidence of election worker incompetence or inefficiency or as  
34 an opportunity for unscrupulous participants to affect the  
35 ballot tabulation process improperly. In this way, Arizona's  
36 delay in reporting final numbers reduces public confidence in  
37 Arizona's voting system.

38          5. By decentralizing and streamlining the process for  
39 confirming voter identity associated with late early ballots  
40 and eliminating emergency voting during the days immediately  
41 before election day, Arizona can substantially reduce  
42 administrative burdens, speed up the ballot tabulation process  
43 and increase confidence in the electoral system.

1           6. By enlarging the overall early voting period and  
2 maintaining other voting rights and processes such as  
3 in-person early voting, in person election day voting, early  
4 voting by mail through the Friday before election day, special  
5 election boards, accessible voting systems and translations  
6 for protected language groups, the proposed changes in Arizona  
7 election administration processes will not have a substantial  
8 net effect on either access to or the ease of voting in  
9 Arizona.

10           Sec. 16. Short title

11           This act may be cited as the "Arizona Secure Elections  
12 Act".

13           2. The Secretary of State shall submit this proposition to the  
14 voters at the next general election as provided by article IV, part 1,  
15 section 1, Constitution of Arizona.