

House Engrossed

sample ballots; mailing date

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-seventh Legislature
Second Regular Session
2026

CHAPTER 34

HOUSE BILL 2006

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 16-461 AND 16-510, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO
THE 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 16-461, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

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

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

9 1. Prepare a proof of a sample ballot.

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

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

14 B. Within two calendar days after receipt of the sample ballot, the
15 county chairman of each political party and any candidate in that election
16 who has submitted and confirmed an email address shall suggest to the
17 election officer any change the chairman or candidate considers should be
18 made in the chairman's or candidate's party ballot, and if on examination
19 the election officer finds an error or omission on the ballot, the officer
20 shall correct it. The election officer shall print and distribute the
21 sample ballots as required by law, shall maintain a copy of each sample
22 ballot and shall post a notice indicating that sample ballots are
23 available on request. The official sample ballot shall be printed on
24 colored paper or white paper with a different colored stripe for each
25 party that is represented on that ballot. For voters who are not
26 registered with a party that is entitled to continued representation on
27 the ballot pursuant to section 16-804, the election officer may print and
28 distribute the required sample ballots in an alternative format, including
29 a reduced size format.

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

33 D. The board of supervisors shall have printed mailer-type sample
34 ballots for a primary election and shall mail at least ~~eleven~~ **FOURTEEN**
35 days before the election, **OR AT LEAST ELEVEN DAYS BEFORE THE ELECTION IN**
36 **COUNTIES THAT CONTAIN A UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE PROCESSING AND**
37 **DISTRIBUTION CENTER**, one sample ballot of a political party to each
38 household containing a registered voter of that political party unless
39 that registered voter is on the active early voting list established
40 pursuant to section 16-544. Each sample ballot shall contain the
41 following statement: "This is a sample ballot and cannot be used as an
42 official ballot under any circumstances". A certified claim shall be
43 presented to the secretary of state by the board of supervisors for the
44 actual cost of printing, labeling and postage of each sample ballot
45 actually mailed, and the secretary of state shall direct payment of the

1 authenticated claim from funds of the secretary of state's office. THE
2 SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL ANNUALLY DETERMINE AND PUBLISH A LIST OF COUNTIES
3 THAT DO NOT CONTAIN A UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE PROCESSING AND
4 DISTRIBUTION CENTER BASED ON INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE UNITED STATES
5 POSTAL SERVICE.

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

11 F. The return address on the mailer-type sample ballots ~~shall~~ MAY
12 not contain the name of an appointed or elected public officer, ~~nor may~~
13 AND the name of an appointed or elected public officer MAY NOT be used to
14 indicate who produced the sample ballot.

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

19 Sec. 2. Section 16-510, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
20 read:

21 16-510. Sample ballots; preparation and distribution

22 A. Before printing the sample ballots for the general election the
23 board of supervisors shall send to each candidate whose name did not
24 appear on the preceding primary election ballot and to the county
25 chairperson of each political party a ballot proof of the sample ballot
26 for the candidate's and chairperson's review. Within two calendar days
27 after receipt of the sample ballot, those candidates and the county
28 chairperson of each political party shall suggest to the election officer
29 any change the candidate or chairperson considers should be made to the
30 ballot, and if on examination the election officer finds an error or
31 omission on the ballot, the officer shall correct the error or omission.

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

35 C. The board of supervisors shall have printed mailer-type sample
36 ballots for a general election and shall mail at least ~~eleven~~ FOURTEEN
37 days before the election, OR AT LEAST ELEVEN DAYS BEFORE THE ELECTION IN
38 COUNTIES THAT CONTAIN A UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE PROCESSING AND
39 DISTRIBUTION CENTER, one such sample ballot to each household in the
40 county containing a registered voter unless that registered voter is on
41 the active early voting list established pursuant to section 16-544. Each
42 sample ballot shall contain the following statement: "This is a sample
43 ballot and cannot be used as an official ballot under any
44 circumstances". A certified claim shall be presented to the secretary of
45 state by the board of supervisors for the actual cost of printing,

1 labeling and postage of each sample ballot actually mailed, and the
2 secretary of state shall direct payment of the authenticated claim from
3 funds of the secretary of state's office. THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL
4 ANNUALLY DETERMINE AND PUBLISH A LIST OF COUNTIES THAT DO NOT CONTAIN A
5 UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE PROCESSING AND DISTRIBUTION CENTER BASED ON
6 INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE.

7 D. For city and town elections, the governing body of a city or
8 town may have printed mailer-type sample ballots for a general
9 election. If the city or town has printed such sample ballots, the city
10 or town shall provide for the distribution of such ballots and shall bear
11 the expense of printing and distributing such sample ballots.

12 E. For special district elections, the governing body of a special
13 district may have printed mailer-type sample ballots. If the special
14 district has printed such sample ballots, the special district shall
15 provide for the distribution of such ballots and shall bear the expense of
16 printing and distributing such sample ballots.

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR APRIL 13, 2026.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE APRIL 13, 2026.