



ARIZONA STATE SENATE
Fifty-Seventh Legislature, Second Regular Session

ENACTED
AMENDED

FACT SHEET FOR H.B. 2022/S.B. 1425

elections; July primary; cure; petitions

Purpose

An emergency measure that moves the date of the primary election from the first Tuesday in August to the second to last Tuesday in July in any year in which a general or special election is held. Adjusts election administration timeframes.

Background

Current statute sets the date for the primary election as the first Tuesday in August in any year in which a general election or special election is held (A.R.S. §§ [16-201](#) and [16-206](#)).

Statute requires the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections to allow for signatures to be corrected up until the fifth business day after a primary, general or special election that includes a federal office. Voters likewise have until the fifth business day after a primary, general or special election that includes a federal office to provide proof of identification if the ballot is a conditional provisional ballot ([A.R.S. § 16-550](#)). Additionally, a standard provisional ballot must be compared to the applicable signature roster within 10 calendar days after a general election that includes a federal office and within 5 calendar days after any other election ([A.R.S. § 16-135](#)).

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

Provisions

1. Moves the date of the primary election in any year in which a general election or special election is held from the first Tuesday in August to the second to last Tuesday in July.
2. Allows a person who collects nominating signatures for the 2026 primary election on forms that include the election date of August 4, 2026, to lawfully submit those signatures for the primary election to be held on July 21, 2026, regardless of whether the signatures were collected before, on or after the effective date of this legislation.
3. Deems that signatures that are collected with the August 4, 2026 primary date and that comply with all other requirements are valid for the July 21, 2026 primary election and may not be deemed invalid due solely to the changed primary date or for any clerical error by an election official in the preparation of electronic petitions.

4. Prohibits a filing officer from rejecting nominating petitions, nomination papers or signatures based solely on the date of the primary election.
5. States that no person is required to file a new or amended statement of interest based solely on the change in the 2026 primary election date.
6. Applies accommodations for signature and petition validity to any city, town or county initiative petition that is circulated before, on or after the effective date of this legislation.
7. Requires any election item that was duly called by a city, town or county for the August 4, 2026 primary election date to be placed on the ballot for the newly designated primary election date of July 21, 2026.
8. Requires signature verification for provisional ballots to take place within:
 - a) 7 calendar days, rather than 10 calendar days, after a general election that includes a federal office; and
 - b) 5 calendar days, rather than business days, after any other election.
9. Allows the county chairman of each party to designate party agents, representatives or alternates to act as challengers at any voting center, including in-person early voting locations and emergency voting locations.
10. Allows the county chairman of each party to designate a party representative and alternates to serve as observers for each ballot replacement location and requires such representatives to be Arizona residents who are registered to vote.
11. Contains a statement of legislative intent.
12. Makes technical and conforming changes.
13. Becomes effective on signature of the Governor, if the emergency clause is enacted.

Amendments Adopted by Committee

1. Moves the primary election date to the second to last Tuesday in July, rather than the last Tuesday in July.
2. Requires signature verification for provisional ballots to take place within seven calendar days, rather than six calendar days, after a general election that includes a federal office.
3. Removes modifications made to required timeframes for signature curing and providing proof of identification for conditional provisional ballots.
4. Adds a legislative intent clause.
5. Makes technical and conforming changes.

Amendments Adopted by Committee of the Whole

- Makes technical changes.

FACT SHEET – Enacted/Amended

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House Action

FMAE	1/21/26	DPA	5-2-0-0
3 rd Read	2/2/26		56-0-4

Senate Action

JUDE	2/4/26	DPA	7-0-0
3 rd Read	2/5/26		27-1-2

(H.B. 2022 was substituted for S.B. 1425 on
3rd Read)

Signed by the Governor 2/6/26

Chapter 1 E

Prepared by Senate Research

May 12, 2026

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