

Senate Engrossed House Bill

~~competitive sealed bidding; questions; answers~~
(now: municipalities; referendum petitions; withdrawal)

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

HOUSE BILL 2873

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 19, CHAPTER 1, ARTICLE 4, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY
ADDING SECTION 19-144; REPEALING SECTION 19-144, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES;
RELATING TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFERENDUM PETITIONS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

2 Section 1. Title 19, chapter 1, article 4, Arizona Revised
3 Statutes, is amended by adding section 19-144, to read:

4 19-144. Referendum petitions; cities and towns; notice of
5 withdrawal

6 NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER LAW, A PERSON OR ORGANIZATION THAT FILES A
7 REFERENDUM PETITION WITH A CITY OR TOWN CLERK MAY WITHDRAW THE REFERENDUM
8 PETITION BY FILING A WRITTEN NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL WITH THE CITY OR TOWN
9 CLERK AT ANY TIME BEFORE THE MEASURE HAS QUALIFIED FOR THE BALLOT PURSUANT
10 TO SECTION 19-121.04.

11 Sec. 2. Delayed repeal

12 Section 19-144, Arizona Revised Statutes, as added by this act, is
13 repealed from and after July 31, 2027.

14 Sec. 3. Retroactivity; vote tally and canvass; prohibition

15 This act applies retroactively to all written notices of withdrawal
16 that are filed with a city or town clerk from and after December 31, 2025
17 regardless of whether the withdrawal was accepted or rejected. Votes for
18 any city or town referendum for which a written notice of withdrawal has
19 been filed from and after December 31, 2025 may not be tallied or
20 canvassed.

21 Sec. 4. Emergency

22 This act is an emergency measure that is necessary to preserve the
23 public peace, health or safety and is operative immediately as provided by
24 law.