

Senate Engrossed

election procedures manual; consultation

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

SENATE BILL 1237

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 16-452, 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 16-452, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 16-452. Rules; instructions and procedures manual; approval
5 of manual; field check and review of systems;
6 violation; classification

7 A. After consultation with each county board of supervisors or
8 other officer in charge of elections, COUNTY RECORDERS AND THE
9 CHAIRPERSONS AND RANKING MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND
10 SENATE COMMITTEES WITH JURISDICTION OVER ELECTION MATTERS, the secretary
11 of state shall prescribe rules to achieve and maintain the maximum degree
12 of correctness, impartiality, uniformity and efficiency on the procedures
13 for early voting and voting, and of producing, distributing, collecting,
14 counting, tabulating and storing ballots. The secretary of state shall
15 also adopt rules regarding fax transmittal of unvoted ballots, ballot
16 requests, voted ballots and other election materials to and from absent
17 uniformed and overseas citizens and shall adopt rules regarding internet
18 receipt of requests for federal postcard applications prescribed by
19 section 16-543.

20 B. The rules shall be prescribed in an official instructions and
21 procedures manual to be issued not later than December 31 of each
22 odd-numbered year immediately preceding the general election. Before its
23 issuance, the manual shall be approved by the governor and the attorney
24 general. The secretary of state shall submit the manual to the governor
25 and the attorney general not later than October 1 of the year before each
26 general election.

27 C. A person who violates any rule adopted pursuant to this section
28 is guilty of a class 2 misdemeanor.

29 D. The secretary of state shall provide personnel who are experts
30 in electronic voting systems and procedures and in electronic voting
31 system security to field check and review electronic voting systems and
32 recommend needed statutory and procedural changes.