

REFERENCE TITLE: municipal self-certification; approvals; population

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

## **SB 1469**

Introduced by  
Senator Finchem

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 9-500.49, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

2 Section 1. Section 9-500.49, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended  
3 to read:

4 9-500.49. Administrative review and approval;  
5 self-certification program; expedited approval;  
6 applicability; definitions

7 A. Notwithstanding any other law, the legislative body of a city or  
8 town **WITH A POPULATION OF MORE THAN SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND PERSONS** shall by  
9 ordinance do the following:

10 1. Authorize administrative personnel to review and approve site  
11 plans, development plans, land divisions, lot line adjustments, lot ties,  
12 preliminary plats, final plats and plat amendments without a public  
13 hearing.

14 2. Authorize administrative personnel to review and approve design  
15 review plans based on objective standards without a public hearing.

16 3. Allow at-risk submittals for certain on-site preliminary grading  
17 and drainage work or infrastructure.

18 4. Allow applicants with a history of compliance with building  
19 codes and regulations to be eligible for expedited permit review.

20 B. Notwithstanding any other law, the legislative body of a city or  
21 town may by ordinance adopt a self-certification program allowing  
22 registered architects and professional engineers to certify and be  
23 responsible for compliance with all applicable ordinances and construction  
24 standards for projects that the ordinance identifies as being qualified  
25 for self-certification.

26 C. Applications for a license pursuant to this section are subject  
27 to chapter 7, article 4 of this title.

28 D. This section does not apply to any of the following:

29 1. Land in an area that is designated as a district of historical  
30 significance pursuant to section 9-462.01, subsection A, paragraph 10.

31 2. Land in an area that is designated as historic on the national  
32 register of historic places.

33 3. Land in an area that is designated historic by a local  
34 government.

35 E. For the purposes of this section:

36 1. "License" has the same meaning prescribed in section 9-831.

37 2. "Objective" means not influenced by personal interpretation,  
38 taste or feelings of a municipal employee and verifiable by reference to  
39 an adopted benchmark, standard or criterion available and knowable by the  
40 applicant or proponent.