

Senate Engrossed
absence; state elected officials

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

SENATE BILL 1646

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 38, CHAPTER 2.1, ARTICLE 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY
ADDING SECTION 38-387; RELATING TO STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

2 Section 1. Title 38, chapter 2.1, article 1, Arizona Revised
3 Statutes, is amended by adding section 38-387, to read:

4 38-387. Absence of state elected official during official
5 state events

6 A. BY CHOICE OF THE GOVERNOR, EITHER THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, THE
7 SECRETARY OF STATE, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE STATE TREASURER OR THE
8 SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION SHALL BE ABSENT FROM THE VICINITY OF
9 THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT DURING THE INAUGURATION OF STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS,
10 THE ANNUAL GOVERNOR'S STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESS OR ANY OTHER STATE
11 ADDRESS BY THE GOVERNOR WHERE MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
12 PARTICIPATE OR ARE IN ATTENDANCE. THE EXCUSED ELECTED OFFICIAL SHALL
13 REMAIN AT LEAST THIRTY-FIVE MILES AWAY FROM THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT DURING
14 SUCH AN EVENT.

15 B. THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY SHALL ESTABLISH A PROTECTIVE
16 DETAIL THAT SHALL CARE FOR AND PROTECT THE EXCUSED ELECTED OFFICIAL. THE
17 PROTECTIVE DETAIL SHALL PROVIDE:

- 18 1. SAFE AND SECURE HOUSING DURING THE EVENT.
- 19 2. SAFE TRANSPORTATION WITH AN APPROPRIATE ESCORT.
- 20 3. APPROPRIATE AND SECURE COMMUNICATIONS.
- 21 4. A SECURE ANNOUNCEMENT TO ALL AGENCY DIRECTORS AS TO THE EXCUSED
22 ELECTED OFFICIAL WHO WOULD REPRESENT CONTINUITY OF STATE GOVERNMENT AND A
23 LINE OF SUCCESSION.