

Senate Engrossed

~~ESAs; returned monies; administrative costs~~  
(now: voter access; elections; primary date)

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

# SENATE BILL 1687

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 16-201, 16-204, 16-206, 16-311, 16-314, 16-322 AND  
16-341, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO ELECTION DATES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

2 Section 1. Section 16-201, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
3 read:

4 16-201. Primary elections

5 A primary election shall be held on the second to last Tuesday in  
6 July in any year in which a general election or special election is held  
7 and at which candidates for public office are to be elected. **BEGINNING IN**  
8 **2028 AND LATER, A PRIMARY ELECTION SHALL BE HELD ON THE TUESDAY BEFORE THE**  
9 **LAST MONDAY IN MAY IN ANY YEAR IN WHICH A GENERAL ELECTION OR SPECIAL**  
10 **ELECTION IS HELD AND AT WHICH CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC OFFICE ARE TO BE**  
11 **ELECTED.**

12 Sec. 2. Section 16-204, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
13 read:

14 16-204. Declaration of statewide concern: consolidated  
15 election dates; definition

16 A. The legislature finds and determines that for the purposes of  
17 increasing voter participation and for decreasing the costs to the  
18 taxpayers it is a matter of statewide concern that all elections in this  
19 state be conducted on a limited number of days and, therefore, the  
20 legislature finds and declares that the holding of all elections on  
21 certain specific consolidated days is a matter of statewide concern. This  
22 section preempts all local laws, ordinances and charter provisions to the  
23 contrary.

24 B. For elections held before 2014 and notwithstanding any other law  
25 or any charter or ordinance of any county, city or town to the contrary,  
26 an election held for or on behalf of a county, city or town, a school  
27 district, a community college district or special districts organized  
28 pursuant to title 48, chapters 5, 6, 8, 10, 13 through 16 and 33 may only  
29 be held on the following dates:

30 1. Except for regular elections for candidates in a city or town  
31 with a population of one hundred seventy-five thousand or more persons,  
32 all elections, including recall elections and special elections to fill  
33 vacancies, shall be held on:

34 (a) The second Tuesday in March.

35 (b) The third Tuesday in May.

36 (c) The tenth Tuesday before the first Tuesday after the first  
37 Monday in November.

38 (d) The first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.  
39 Notwithstanding any other law, an election must be held on this date for  
40 the approval of an obligation or other authorization requiring or  
41 authorizing the assessment of secondary property taxes by a county, city,  
42 town, school district, community college district or special taxing  
43 district, except as provided by title 48.

44 2. For regular elections that are only for candidates in a city or  
45 town with a population of one hundred seventy-five thousand or more

1 persons and not including recall elections and special elections to fill  
2 vacancies in those cities or towns, elections shall be held on:

3 (a) The tenth Tuesday before the first Tuesday after the first  
4 Monday in November.

5 (b) The first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

6 C. For elections held before 2014, for any city or town, including  
7 a charter city, that holds its regularly scheduled candidate elections in  
8 even-numbered years pursuant to subsection B, paragraph 2 of this section,  
9 the term of office for a member of the city council or for the office of  
10 mayor begins on or after the second Tuesday in January in the year  
11 following the election.

12 D. Subsections B and C of this section do not apply to an election  
13 regarding a county or city charter committee or county or city charter  
14 proposal that is conducted pursuant to article XIII, section 2 or 3 or  
15 article XII, section 5, Constitution of Arizona.

16 E. Beginning with elections held in 2014 and later and  
17 notwithstanding any other law or any charter or ordinance to the contrary,  
18 a candidate election held for or on behalf of any political subdivision of  
19 this state other than a special election to fill a vacancy or a recall  
20 election may only be held on the following dates and only in even-numbered  
21 years:

22 1. ~~Beginning in~~ THROUGH 2026 ~~and later~~, the second to last Tuesday  
23 in July. BEGINNING IN 2028 AND LATER, THE ELECTION SHALL BE HELD ON THE  
24 TUESDAY BEFORE THE LAST MONDAY IN MAY. If the political subdivision holds  
25 a primary or first election and a general or runoff election is either  
26 required or optional for that political subdivision, the first election  
27 shall be held on this date, without regard to whether the political  
28 subdivision designates the election a primary election, a first election,  
29 a preliminary election or any other descriptive term.

30 2. The first Tuesday after the first Monday in November. If the  
31 political subdivision holds a general election or a runoff election, the  
32 second election held shall be held on this date. If the political  
33 subdivision holds only a single election and no preliminary or primary or  
34 other election is ever held for the purpose of reducing the number of  
35 candidates, or receiving a partisan nomination or designation or for any  
36 other purpose for that political subdivision, the single election shall be  
37 held on this date.

38 F. Beginning with elections held in 2014 and later that are not  
39 candidate elections, an election held for or on behalf of any political  
40 subdivision of this state, and including a special election to fill a  
41 vacancy or a recall election, may only be held on the following dates:

42 1. The second Tuesday in March.

43 ~~2. The third Tuesday in May.~~

1           ~~2.~~ 2. Beginning in 2026 and ~~later~~ THROUGH 2027, the second to last  
2 Tuesday in July. BEGINNING IN 2028 AND LATER, THE ELECTION SHALL BE HELD  
3 ON THE TUESDAY BEFORE THE LAST MONDAY IN MAY.

4           ~~3.~~ 3. The first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.  
5 Notwithstanding any other law, an election must be held on this date for  
6 the approval of an obligation or other authorization requiring or  
7 authorizing the assessment of secondary property taxes by a county, city,  
8 town, school district, community college district or special taxing  
9 district, except as provided by title 48. Notwithstanding any other law,  
10 an election must be held on the date specified in this paragraph and only  
11 in even-numbered years for the approval of or authorizing the assessment  
12 of transaction privilege taxes by a county, city or town.

13           G. Notwithstanding any other law, for an election administered by a  
14 county recorder or other officer in charge of elections on behalf of a  
15 city, town or school district and that is an all mail ballot election for  
16 that city, town or school district, the county recorder or other officer  
17 in charge of elections may use a unified ballot format that combines all  
18 of the issues applicable to the voters in the city, town or school  
19 district requesting the all mail ballot election.

20           H. For the purposes of this section, "political subdivision" means  
21 any governmental entity operating under the authority of this state and  
22 governed by an elected body, including a city, town, county, school  
23 district or community college district or any other district organized  
24 under state law but not including a special taxing district.

25           Sec. 3. Section 16-206, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
26 read:

27           16-206. Election day

28           A. THROUGH 2026, the biennial primary election day on the second to  
29 last Tuesday in July in the year the general election is held and the  
30 biennial general election day on the first Tuesday after the first Monday  
31 in November of every even-numbered year are not legal holidays. BEGINNING  
32 IN 2028 AND LATER, THE BIENNIAL PRIMARY ELECTION DAY ON THE TUESDAY BEFORE  
33 THE LAST MONDAY IN MAY IN THE YEAR THE GENERAL ELECTION IS HELD AND THE  
34 BIENNIAL GENERAL ELECTION DAY ON THE TUESDAY AFTER THE FIRST MONDAY IN  
35 NOVEMBER OF EVERY EVEN-NUMBERED YEAR ARE NOT LEGAL HOLIDAYS.

36           B. Every public officer or employee is entitled to absence from  
37 service or employment for the purpose of voting pursuant to section 16-402  
38 on the biennial primary and general election days.

39           Sec. 4. Section 16-311, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
40 read:

41           16-311. Nomination papers; statement of interest; filing;  
42 definitions

43           A. Any person desiring to become a candidate at a primary election  
44 for a political party and to have the person's name printed on the  
45 official ballot shall be a qualified elector of the party and, THROUGH

1 2026, not less than one hundred twenty nor more than one hundred fifty  
2 days before the primary election AND BEGINNING IN 2028, NOT LESS THAN ONE  
3 HUNDRED SEVENTEEN NOR MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED FORTY DAYS BEFORE THE PRIMARY  
4 ELECTION, shall sign and cause to be filed a nomination paper giving the  
5 person's actual residence address or, if the person does not have an  
6 actual residence address, a description of place of residence and post  
7 office address, or, if the person's actual residence address is protected  
8 pursuant to section 16-153, a post office box or private mailbox address  
9 in the candidate's district or precinct, as applicable for a district or  
10 precinct office, naming the party of which the person desires to become a  
11 candidate, stating the office and district or precinct, if any, for which  
12 the person offers the person's candidacy, stating the exact manner in  
13 which the person desires to have the person's name printed on the official  
14 ballot pursuant to subsection G of this section, and giving the date of  
15 the primary election and, if nominated, the date of the general election  
16 at which the person desires to become a candidate. Except for a candidate  
17 for United States senator or representative in Congress, a candidate for  
18 public office shall be a qualified elector at the time of filing and shall  
19 reside in the county, district or precinct that the person proposes to  
20 represent. A candidate for partisan public office shall be continuously  
21 registered with the political party of which the person desires to be a  
22 candidate beginning ~~on~~ NOT later than the date of the first petition  
23 signature on the candidate's petition through the date of the general  
24 election at which the person is a candidate.

25 B. Any person desiring to become a candidate at any nonpartisan  
26 election and to have the person's name printed on the official ballot  
27 shall be at the time of filing a qualified elector of the county, city,  
28 town or district and, THROUGH 2027, not less than one hundred twenty nor  
29 more than one hundred fifty days before the election AND BEGINNING IN  
30 2028, NOT LESS THAN ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEEN NOR MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED FORTY  
31 DAYS BEFORE THE ELECTION, shall sign and cause to be filed a nomination  
32 paper giving the person's actual residence address or, if the person does  
33 not have an actual residence address, a description of place of residence  
34 and post office address, or, if the person's actual residence address is  
35 protected pursuant to section 16-153, a post office box or private mailbox  
36 address in the candidate's county, city, town or district and ward or  
37 precinct, as applicable for a county, city, town or district and ward or  
38 precinct office, stating the office and county, city, town or district and  
39 ward or precinct, if any, for which the person offers the person's  
40 candidacy, stating the exact manner in which the person desires to have  
41 the person's name printed on the official ballot pursuant to subsection G  
42 of this section and giving the date of the election. A candidate for  
43 office shall reside at the time of filing in the county, city, town,  
44 district, ward or precinct that the person proposes to represent.

1 C. Notwithstanding subsection B of this section, any city or town  
2 may adopt by ordinance for its elections the time frame provided in  
3 subsection A of this section for filing nomination petitions. The  
4 ordinance shall be adopted not less than one hundred fifty days before the  
5 first election to which it applies.

6 D. All persons desiring to become a candidate shall file with the  
7 nomination paper provided for in subsection A of this section a  
8 declaration, which shall be printed in a form prescribed by the secretary  
9 of state. The declaration shall include facts sufficient to show that,  
10 other than the residency requirement provided in subsection A of this  
11 section and the satisfaction of any monetary penalties, fines or judgments  
12 as prescribed in subsection J of this section, the candidate will be  
13 qualified at the time of election to hold the office the person seeks, and  
14 that for any monetary penalties, fines or judgments as prescribed in  
15 subsection J of this section, the candidate has made complete payment  
16 before the time of filing.

17 E. The nomination paper of a candidate for the office of United  
18 States senator or representative in Congress, for the office of  
19 presidential elector or for a state office, including a member of the  
20 legislature, or for any other office for which the electors of the entire  
21 state or a subdivision of the state greater than a county are entitled to  
22 vote, shall be filed with the secretary of state ~~no~~ NOT later than  
23 5:00 p.m. on the last date for filing.

24 F. The nomination paper of a candidate for superior court judge or  
25 for a county, district and precinct office for which the electors of a  
26 county or a subdivision of a county other than an incorporated city or  
27 town are entitled to vote shall be filed with the county elections officer  
28 ~~no~~ NOT later than 5:00 p.m. on the last date for filing as prescribed by  
29 subsection A of this section. The nomination paper of a candidate for a  
30 city or town office shall be filed with the city or town clerk ~~no~~ NOT  
31 later than 5:00 p.m. on the last date for filing. The nomination paper of  
32 a candidate for school district office shall be filed with the county  
33 school superintendent ~~no~~ NOT later than 5:00 p.m. on the last date for  
34 filing.

35 G. The nomination paper shall include the exact manner in which the  
36 candidate desires to have the person's name printed on the official ballot  
37 and shall be limited to the candidate's surname and given name or names,  
38 an abbreviated version of such names or appropriate initials such as "Bob"  
39 for "Robert", "Jim" for "James", "Wm." for "William" or "S." for "Samuel".  
40 Nicknames are permissible, but nicknames, abbreviated versions or initials  
41 of given names may not suggest reference to professional, fraternal,  
42 religious or military titles and may not include a slogan, a promotional  
43 word or phrase or any word that does not actually constitute a  
44 nickname. No other descriptive name or names shall be printed on the  
45 official ballot, except as provided in this section. Candidates'

1 abbreviated names or nicknames may be printed within quotation marks. The  
2 candidate's surname shall be printed first, followed by the given name or  
3 names.

4 H. Not later than the date of the first petition signature on a  
5 nomination petition, a person who may be a candidate for office pursuant  
6 to this section shall file a statement of interest with the appropriate  
7 filing officer for that office. The statement of interest shall contain  
8 the name of the person, the political party, if any, and the name of the  
9 office that may be sought. Any nomination petition signatures collected  
10 before the date the statement of interest is filed are invalid and subject  
11 to challenge. This subsection does not apply to:

12 1. Candidates for elected office for special taxing districts that  
13 are established pursuant to title 48.

14 2. Candidates for precinct committeeman.

15 3. Candidates for president or vice president of the United States.

16 I. A person who does not file a timely nomination paper that  
17 complies with this section is not eligible to have the person's name  
18 printed on the official ballot for that office. The filing officer shall  
19 not accept the nomination paper of a candidate for state or local office  
20 unless the person provides or has provided all of the following:

21 1. The financial disclosure statement as prescribed for candidates  
22 for that office.

23 2. The declaration of qualification and eligibility as prescribed  
24 in subsection D of this section.

25 J. Except in cases where the liability is being appealed, the  
26 filing officer shall not accept the nomination paper of a candidate for  
27 state or local office if the person is liable for an aggregation of \$1,000  
28 or more in fines, penalties, late fees or administrative or civil  
29 judgments, including any interest or costs, in any combination, that have  
30 not been fully satisfied at the time of the attempted filing of the  
31 nomination paper and the liability arose from failure to comply with or  
32 enforcement of chapter 6 of this title.

33 K. For the purposes of this title:

34 1. "Election district" means this state, any county, city, town,  
35 precinct or other political subdivision or a special district that is not  
36 a political subdivision, that is authorized by statute to conduct an  
37 election and that is authorized or required to conduct its election in  
38 accordance with this title.

39 2. "Nomination paper" means the form filed with the appropriate  
40 office by a person wishing to declare the person's intent to become a  
41 candidate for a particular political office.



1 in the county of \_\_\_\_\_ for the office of  
2 \_\_\_\_\_ to be voted at the \_\_\_\_\_ election to  
3 be held \_\_\_\_\_, and hereby declare that I am  
4 qualified to vote for this office and that I have not signed  
5 and will not sign any nomination petitions for more persons  
6 than the number of candidates necessary to fill such office at  
7 the next ensuing election. I further declare that if I choose  
8 to use a post office box address on this petition, my  
9 residence address has not changed since I last reported it to  
10 the county recorder for purposes of updating my voter  
11 registration file.

12 ~~B.~~ C. The nomination petition of a person seeking to fill an  
13 unexpired vacant term for any public office shall designate the expiration  
14 date of the term following the name of the office being sought.

15 ~~B.~~ D. For the purposes of this title, "nomination petition means  
16 the form or forms used for obtaining the required number of signatures of  
17 qualified electors, which is circulated by or on behalf of the person  
18 wishing to become a candidate for a political office.

19 Sec. 6. Section 16-322, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
20 read:

21 16-322. Number of signatures required on nomination petitions

22 A. Nomination petitions shall be signed by a number of qualified  
23 signers equal to:

24 1. If for a candidate for the office of United States senator or  
25 for a state office, excepting members of the legislature and superior  
26 court judges, at least one-fourth of one percent but not more than ten  
27 percent of the total number of qualified signers in ~~the~~ THIS state.

28 2. If for a candidate for the office of representative in Congress,  
29 at least one-half of one percent but not more than ten percent of the  
30 total number of qualified signers in the district from which the  
31 representative shall be elected except that if for a candidate for a  
32 special election to fill a vacancy in the office of representative in  
33 Congress, at least one-fourth of one percent but not more than ten percent  
34 of the total number of qualified signers in the district from which the  
35 representative shall be elected.

36 3. If for a candidate for the office of member of the legislature,  
37 at least one-half of one percent but not more than three percent of the  
38 total number of qualified signers in the district from which the member of  
39 the legislature may be elected.

40 4. If for a candidate for a county office or superior court judge,  
41 at least one percent but not more than ten percent of the total number of  
42 qualified signers in the county or district, except that if for a  
43 candidate from a county with a population of two hundred thousand persons  
44 or more, at least one-fourth of one percent but not more than ten percent  
45 of the total number of qualified signers in the county or district.

1           5. If for a candidate for a community college district, at least  
2 one-quarter of one percent but not more than ten percent of the total  
3 voter registration in the precinct as established pursuant to section  
4 15-1441. Notwithstanding the total voter registration in the community  
5 college district, the maximum number of signatures required by this  
6 paragraph is one thousand.

7           6. If for a candidate for county precinct committeeman, at least  
8 two percent but not more than ten percent of the party voter registration  
9 in the precinct or ten signatures, whichever is less.

10          7. If for a candidate for justice of the peace or constable in a  
11 county with a population of one million persons or more, at least one  
12 percent but not more than ten percent of the number of qualified signers  
13 in the precinct.

14          8. If for a candidate for justice of the peace or constable in a  
15 county with a population of less than one million persons, at least one  
16 percent but not more than ten percent of the number of qualified signers  
17 in the precinct or three hundred signatures, whichever is less.

18          9. If for a candidate for mayor or other office nominated by a city  
19 at large, at least five percent and not more than ten percent of the  
20 designated party vote in the city, except that a city that chooses to hold  
21 nonpartisan elections may provide by ordinance that the minimum number of  
22 signatures required for the candidate be one thousand signatures or five  
23 percent of the vote in the city, whichever is less, but not more than ten  
24 percent of the vote in the city.

25          10. If for an office nominated by ward, precinct or other district  
26 of a city, at least five percent and not more than ten percent of the  
27 designated party vote in the ward, precinct or other district, except that  
28 a city that chooses to hold nonpartisan elections may provide by ordinance  
29 that the minimum number of signatures required for the candidate be two  
30 hundred fifty signatures or five percent of the vote in the district,  
31 whichever is less, but not more than ten percent of the vote in the  
32 district.

33          11. If for a candidate for an office nominated by a town at large,  
34 by a number of qualified electors who are qualified to vote for the  
35 candidate whose nomination petition they are signing equal to at least  
36 five percent and not more than ten percent of the vote in the town, except  
37 that a town that chooses to hold nonpartisan elections may provide by  
38 ordinance that the minimum number of signatures required for the candidate  
39 be one thousand signatures or five percent of the vote in the town,  
40 whichever is less, but not more than ten percent of the vote in the town.

41          12. If for a candidate for a governing board of a school district  
42 or a career technical education district, at least one-half of one percent  
43 of the total voter registration in the school district or career technical  
44 education district if the board members are elected at large or one  
45 percent of the total voter registration in the single member district if

1 governing board members are elected from single member districts or  
2 one-half of one percent of the total voter registration in the single  
3 member district if career technical education district board members are  
4 elected from single member districts. Notwithstanding the total voter  
5 registration in the school district, career technical education district  
6 or single member district of the school district or career technical  
7 education district, the maximum number of signatures required by this  
8 paragraph is four hundred.

9 13. If for a candidate for a governing body of a special district  
10 as described in title 48, at least one-half of one percent of the vote in  
11 the special district but not more than two hundred fifty and not fewer  
12 than five signatures.

13 B. **THROUGH 2027**, the basis of percentage in each instance referred  
14 to in subsection A of this section, except in cities, towns and school  
15 districts, shall be the number of qualified signers as determined from the  
16 voter registration totals as reported pursuant to section 16-168,  
17 subsection H on January 2 of the year in which the general election is  
18 held **AND BEGINNING IN 2028, FROM THE VOTER REGISTRATION TOTALS AS REPORTED**  
19 **PURSUANT TO SECTION 16-168, SUBSECTION H ON OCTOBER 1 OF THE YEAR BEFORE**  
20 **THE YEAR IN WHICH THE GENERAL ELECTION IS HELD**. In cities, the basis of  
21 percentage shall be the vote of the party for mayor at the last preceding  
22 election at which a mayor was elected. In towns, the basis of percentage  
23 shall be the highest vote cast for an elected official of the town at the  
24 last preceding election at which an official of the town was elected. In  
25 school districts or career technical education districts, the basis of  
26 percentage shall be the total number of active registered voters in the  
27 school district or career technical education district or single member  
28 district, whichever applies. The total number of active registered voters  
29 for school districts or career technical education districts shall be  
30 calculated using the periodic reports prepared by the county recorder  
31 pursuant to section 16-168, subsection H. **THROUGH 2026**, the count that is  
32 reported on January 2 of the year in which the general election is held  
33 **AND BEGINNING IN 2028, THE COUNT THAT IS REPORTED ON OCTOBER 1 OF THE YEAR**  
34 **BEFORE THE YEAR IN WHICH THE GENERAL ELECTION IS HELD** shall be the basis  
35 for the calculation of total voter registration for school districts or  
36 career technical education districts.

37 C. In primary elections the signature requirement for party  
38 nominees, other than nominees of the parties entitled to continued  
39 representation pursuant to section 16-804, is at least one-tenth of one  
40 percent of the total vote for the winning candidate or candidates for  
41 governor or presidential electors at the last general election within the  
42 district. Signatures must be obtained from qualified electors who are  
43 qualified to vote for the candidate whose nomination petition they are  
44 signing.

1 D. If new boundaries for congressional districts or legislative  
2 districts are established and effective subsequent to January 2 of the  
3 year of a general election and before the first date for filing of  
4 nomination petitions, the basis for determining the required number of  
5 nomination petition signatures is the number of qualified signers in the  
6 elective office or district that was effective on ~~January 2~~ **OCTOBER 1** of  
7 **THE YEAR BEFORE** the year of a general election. If new boundaries for  
8 supervisorial districts, justice precincts or election precincts are  
9 adopted after January 2 of the year of a general election and before the  
10 last date for filing of nomination petitions for the elective office,  
11 district or precinct, the basis for determining the required number of  
12 nomination petition signatures is the number of qualified signers in the  
13 elective office, district or precinct on the effective date of the new  
14 district or precinct.

15 Sec. 7. Section 16-341, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
16 read:

17 **16-341. Nomination petition; method and time of filing; form;**  
18 **qualifications and number of petitioners required;**  
19 **statement of interest**

20 A. Any qualified elector who is not a registered member of a  
21 political party that is recognized pursuant to this title may be nominated  
22 as a candidate for public office otherwise than by primary election or by  
23 party committee pursuant to this section.

24 B. This article shall not be used to place on the general election  
25 ballot the name of a political party that fails to meet the qualifications  
26 specified in section 16-802 or 16-804, or the name of any candidate  
27 representing such party or the name of a candidate who has filed a  
28 nomination petition in the immediately preceding primary election and has  
29 failed to qualify as the result of an insufficient number of valid  
30 signatures.

31 C. A nomination petition stating the name of the office to be  
32 filled, the name and residence of the candidate, or, if the candidate does  
33 not have an actual residence address, a description of place of residence  
34 and post office address, or, if the person's actual residence address is  
35 protected pursuant to section 16-153, a post office box or private mailbox  
36 address in the candidate's district, precinct or municipality, as  
37 applicable for a district, precinct or municipal office, and other  
38 information required by this section shall be filed with the same officer  
39 with whom primary nomination papers and petitions are required to be filed  
40 as prescribed in section 16-311. Except for candidates for the office of  
41 presidential elector filed pursuant to this section, **THROUGH 2026**, the  
42 petition shall be filed not less than one hundred twenty days nor more  
43 than one hundred fifty days before the primary election **AND BEGINNING IN**  
44 **2028, NOT LESS THAN ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEEN NOR MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED FORTY**  
45 **DAYS BEFORE THE PRIMARY ELECTION.** The petition shall be signed only by

1 voters who have not signed the nomination petitions of a candidate for the  
2 office to be voted for at that primary election.

3 D. The nomination petition shall be in substantially the following  
4 form, except that if the candidate does not have an actual residence  
5 address, the candidate may use a description of place of residence and  
6 post office address, or, if the candidate's actual residence address is  
7 protected pursuant to section 16-153, a post office box or private mailbox  
8 address in the candidate's district, precinct or municipality, as  
9 applicable for a district, precinct or municipal office, is sufficient:

10 The undersigned, qualified electors of \_\_\_\_\_  
11 county, state of Arizona, do hereby nominate \_\_\_\_\_, who  
12 resides at \_\_\_\_\_ in the county of \_\_\_\_\_, as a  
13 candidate for the office of \_\_\_\_\_ at the general (or  
14 special, as the case may be) election to be held on the  
15 \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_.

16 I hereby declare that I have not signed the nomination  
17 petitions of any candidate for the office to be voted for at  
18 this primary election, and I do hereby select the following  
19 designation under which name the said candidate shall be  
20 placed on the official ballot (here insert such designation  
21 not exceeding three words in length as the signers may  
22 select).

23 E. The nomination petition shall conform as nearly as possible to  
24 the provisions relating to nomination petitions of candidates to be voted  
25 for at primary elections and shall be signed by at least the number of  
26 persons who are registered to vote determined by calculating three percent  
27 of the persons who are registered to vote of the state, county,  
28 subdivision or district for which the candidate is nominated who are not  
29 members of a political party that is qualified to be represented by an  
30 official party ballot at the next ensuing primary election and accorded  
31 representation on the general election ballot.

32 F. The percentage of persons who are registered to vote necessary  
33 to sign the nomination petition shall be determined by the total number of  
34 registered voters from other than political parties that are qualified to  
35 be represented by an official party ballot at the next ensuing primary  
36 election and accorded representation on the general election ballot in the  
37 state, county, subdivision or district on ~~January 2~~ **OCTOBER 1** of the year  
38 **BEFORE THE YEAR** in which the general election is held. Notwithstanding  
39 the method prescribed by subsection E of this section and this subsection  
40 for calculating the minimum number of signatures necessary, any person who  
41 is registered to vote in the state, county, subdivision or district for  
42 which the candidate is nominated is eligible to sign the nomination  
43 petition without regard to the signer's party affiliation.

44 G. A nomination petition for any candidate may be circulated by a  
45 person who is not a resident of this state but who is otherwise eligible

1 to register to vote in this state if that person registers as a circulator  
2 with the secretary of state before circulating petitions. The nomination  
3 petition for the office of presidential elector shall include a group of  
4 names of candidates equal to the number of United States senators and  
5 representatives in Congress from this state instead of separate nomination  
6 petitions for each candidate for the office of presidential elector. A  
7 valid signature on a petition containing a group of presidential electors  
8 candidates is counted as a signature for the nomination of each of the  
9 candidates. The presidential candidate whom the candidates for  
10 presidential elector will represent shall designate in writing to the  
11 secretary of state the names of the candidates who will represent the  
12 presidential candidate before any signatures for the candidate can be  
13 accepted for filing. A nomination petition for the office of presidential  
14 elector shall be filed not less than eighty nor more than one hundred days  
15 before the general election. The petition shall be signed only by  
16 qualified electors who have not signed the nomination petitions of a  
17 candidate for the office of presidential elector to be voted for at that  
18 election.

19 H. The secretary of state shall require in the instructions and  
20 procedures manual issued pursuant to section 16-452 that persons who  
21 circulate nomination petitions pursuant to this section and who are not  
22 residents of this state but who are otherwise eligible to register to vote  
23 in this state shall register as circulators with the office of the  
24 secretary of state before circulating petitions. The secretary of state  
25 shall provide for a method of receiving service of process for those  
26 petition circulators who are registered.

27 I. Not later than the date of the first petition signature on a  
28 nomination petition, a person who may be a candidate for office pursuant  
29 to this section shall file a statement of interest with the appropriate  
30 filing officer for that office. The statement of interest shall contain  
31 the name of the person, the political party, if any, and the name of the  
32 office that may be sought. Any nomination petition signatures collected  
33 before the date the statement of interest is filed are invalid and subject  
34 to challenge. This subsection does not apply to:

35 1. Candidates for elected office for special taxing districts that  
36 are established pursuant to title 48.

37 2. Candidates for precinct committeeman.

38 3. Candidates for president or vice president of the United States.

39 J. A person who files a nomination paper pursuant to this section  
40 for the office of president of the United States shall designate in  
41 writing to the secretary of state at the time of filing the name of the  
42 candidate's vice presidential running mate, the names of the presidential  
43 electors who will represent that candidate and a statement that is signed  
44 by the vice presidential running mate and the designated presidential  
45 electors and that indicates their consent to be designated. A nomination

1 paper for each presidential elector designated shall be filed with the  
2 candidate's nomination paper. The number of presidential electors shall  
3 equal the number of United States senators and representatives in Congress  
4 from this state.

5 K. A candidate who does not file a timely nomination petition that  
6 complies with this section is not eligible to have the candidate's name  
7 printed on the official ballot for that office. The filing officer shall  
8 not accept the nomination paper of a candidate for state or local office  
9 unless the candidate provides or has provided all of the following:

10 1. The financial disclosure statement as prescribed for candidates  
11 for that office.

12 2. The declaration of qualification and eligibility as prescribed  
13 in section 16-311.

14 L. Not later than sixty days before the date of the general  
15 election, a candidate for governor who files a nomination petition  
16 pursuant to this section shall submit to the secretary of state the name  
17 of the person who will be the joint candidate for lieutenant governor with  
18 that gubernatorial candidate and whose name will appear on the general  
19 election ballot jointly with the candidate for governor.

20 M. Except in cases where the liability is being appealed, the  
21 filing officer shall not accept the nomination paper of a candidate for  
22 state or local office if the person is liable for an aggregation of \$1,000  
23 or more in fines, penalties, late fees or administrative or civil  
24 judgments, including any interest or costs, in any combination, that have  
25 not been fully satisfied at the time of the attempted filing of the  
26 nomination paper and the liability arose from failure to comply with or  
27 enforcement of chapter 6 of this title.

28 N. The secretary of state may authorize for statewide and  
29 legislative offices the creation, use and submission of petitions  
30 prescribed by this section in electronic form if those petitions provide  
31 for an appropriate method to verify signatures of petition circulators and  
32 signers. The secretary of state may require use of a unique marking  
33 system for petition pages, including a bar code, a quick response code or  
34 another similar marking system.