

REFERENCE TITLE: foreign contributions; early voting; tabulation

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

SCR 1014

Introduced by
Senator Bolick

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENACTING AND ORDERING THE SUBMISSION TO THE PEOPLE OF A MEASURE RELATING
TO ELECTIONS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Arizona, the House of
2 Representatives concurring:

3 1. Under the power of the referendum, as vested in the Legislature,
4 the following measure, relating to elections, is enacted to become valid
5 as a law if approved by the voters and on proclamation of the Governor:

6 AN ACT

7 AMENDING TITLE 16, CHAPTER 4, ARTICLE 1, ARIZONA REVISED
8 STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTIONS 16-407.04 AND 16-407.05; AMENDING
9 SECTIONS 16-411, 16-449, 16-542, 16-544, 16-547, 16-548,
10 16-551, 16-552, 16-579.01 AND 16-579.02, ARIZONA REVISED
11 STATUTES; AMENDING TITLE 16, CHAPTER 6, ARTICLE 1.2, ARIZONA
12 REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 16-919; AMENDING TITLE 16,
13 CHAPTER 6, ARTICLE 1.3, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING
14 SECTION 16-923; RELATING TO ELECTIONS.

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

16 Section 1. Title 16, chapter 4, article 1, Arizona
17 Revised Statutes, is amended by adding sections 16-407.04 and
18 16-407.05, to read:

19 16-407.04. Donations from foreign national; election
20 administration; certification; quarterly
21 reports; records; violation;
22 classification; definitions

23 A. A GOVERNMENT ENTITY IN THIS STATE MAY NOT USE MONIES
24 OR IN-KIND GOODS OR SERVICES THAT ARE DONATED, DIRECTLY OR
25 INDIRECTLY, BY A FOREIGN NATIONAL FOR ELECTION ADMINISTRATION.

26 B. A PERSON THAT PROVIDES SERVICES TO A GOVERNMENT
27 ENTITY FOR ELECTION ADMINISTRATION SHALL PROVIDE A
28 CERTIFICATION TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE THAT INCLUDES A DATED
29 AND SWORN STATEMENT, UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY, THAT THE PERSON
30 IS NOT KNOWINGLY THE RECIPIENT, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, OF
31 DONATIONS FROM A FOREIGN NATIONAL. THE PERSON SHALL ANNUALLY
32 UPDATE THE CERTIFICATION. IF THE PERSON OBTAINS INFORMATION
33 THAT WAS UNKNOWN AT THE TIME OF THE INITIAL CERTIFICATION, THE
34 PERSON SHALL UPDATE THE INITIAL CERTIFICATION WITHIN FIVE
35 BUSINESS DAYS TO REFLECT THE NEW INFORMATION AND SHALL INCLUDE
36 A NEW STATEMENT THAT THE PERSON IS NOT KNOWINGLY THE
37 RECIPIENT, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, OF DONATIONS FROM A FOREIGN
38 NATIONAL. THIS SUBSECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO A PERSON WHEN
39 PROVIDING COMMON GOODS OR A FACILITY THAT SERVES AS THE VOTING
40 LOCATION.

41 C. THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL REQUIRE EACH GOVERNMENT
42 ENTITY TO PROVIDE TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE A QUARTERLY REPORT
43 THAT LISTS ANY PERSON THAT PROVIDES SERVICES TO THAT
44 GOVERNMENT ENTITY FOR ELECTION ADMINISTRATION. THE SECRETARY
45 OF STATE SHALL NOTIFY THE GOVERNMENT ENTITY BY EMAIL IF THE

1 GOVERNMENT ENTITY FAILS TO FILE ITS QUARTERLY REPORT
2 PRESCRIBED BY THIS SUBSECTION AND ADVISE THE GOVERNMENT ENTITY
3 THAT SECTION 16-407.05 PROVIDES FOR POSSIBLE ENFORCEMENT
4 ACTIONS.

5 D. THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL MAINTAIN RECORDS OF THE
6 CERTIFICATIONS PRESCRIBED BY THIS SECTION AND SHALL POST THESE
7 CERTIFICATIONS ON THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S WEBSITE.

8 E. A PERSON THAT FAILS TO PROVIDE THE CERTIFICATION
9 PRESCRIBED BY THIS SECTION OR THAT PROVIDES AN INACCURATE
10 CERTIFICATION TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE INVALIDATES ANY
11 AGREEMENT WITH THE GOVERNMENT ENTITY, AND THE GOVERNMENT
12 ENTITY IS BARRED FROM ENTERING INTO OR CONTINUING ANY
13 AGREEMENT WITH THAT PERSON.

14 F. A PERSON THAT KNOWINGLY FAILS TO PROVIDE AN ACCURATE
15 INITIAL OR UPDATED CERTIFICATION AS PRESCRIBED BY THIS SECTION
16 IS GUILTY OF A CLASS 1 MISDEMEANOR.

17 G. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION:

18 1. "COMMON GOODS" MEANS ITEMS THAT ARE COMMONLY USED
19 ACROSS A WIDE VARIETY OF ORGANIZATIONS AND THAT ARE NOT
20 SPECIFIC TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF ELECTIONS.

21 2. "FOREIGN NATIONAL":

22 (a) MEANS:

23 (i) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS NOT A CITIZEN OR LAWFUL
24 PERMANENT RESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

25 (ii) A GOVERNMENT, SUBDIVISION OR MUNICIPALITY OF A
26 FOREIGN COUNTRY.

27 (iii) A FOREIGN POLITICAL PARTY.

28 (iv) ANY ENTITY AS DEFINED IN SECTION 16-901 THAT IS
29 ORGANIZED UNDER THE LAWS OF OR HAS ITS PRINCIPAL PLACE OF
30 BUSINESS IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY.

31 (v) ANY UNITED STATES ENTITY AS DEFINED IN SECTION
32 16-901 THAT IS WHOLLY OR MAJORITY OWNED BY ANY FOREIGN
33 NATIONAL UNLESS ANY CONTRIBUTION OR EXPENDITURE THE ENTITY
34 MAKES IS DERIVED ENTIRELY FROM MONIES GENERATED BY THE
35 ENTITY'S OPERATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES AND ALL DECISIONS
36 CONCERNING THE CONTRIBUTION OR EXPENDITURE ARE MADE BY
37 INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE UNITED STATES CITIZENS OR PERMANENT
38 RESIDENTS, EXCEPT FOR DECISIONS SETTING OVERALL BUDGET
39 AMOUNTS.

40 (b) DOES NOT INCLUDE FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED SOVEREIGN
41 TRIBAL NATIONS.

42 3. "PERSON":

43 (a) MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL OR A CORPORATION OR OTHER
44 ENTITY AS DEFINED IN SECTION 16-901.

45 (b) DOES NOT INCLUDE POLL WORKERS.

1 adjust precinct boundaries due to the redistricting of
2 election districts as prescribed by law and to comply with
3 this subsection, the board of supervisors shall adjust these
4 precinct boundaries as soon as is practicable.

5 B. At least twenty days before a general or primary
6 election, and at least ten days before a special election, the
7 board shall designate one polling place within each precinct
8 where the election shall be held, except that:

9 1. On a specific finding of the board, included in the
10 order or resolution designating polling places pursuant to
11 this subsection, that no suitable polling place is available
12 within a precinct, a polling place for that precinct may be
13 designated within an adjacent precinct.

14 2. Adjacent precincts may be combined if boundaries so
15 established are included in election districts prescribed by
16 law for state elected officials and political subdivisions
17 including community college districts but not including
18 elected officials prescribed by titles 30 and 48. The officer
19 in charge of elections may also split a precinct for
20 administrative purposes. The polling places shall be listed
21 in separate sections of the order or resolution.

22 3. On a specific finding of the board that the number
23 of persons who are listed as early voters pursuant to section
24 16-544 and who are not expected to have their ballots
25 tabulated at the polling place as prescribed in section
26 16-579.02 is likely to substantially reduce the number of
27 voters appearing at one or more specific polling places at
28 that election, adjacent precincts may be consolidated by
29 combining polling places and precinct boards for that
30 election. The board of supervisors shall ensure that a
31 reasonable and adequate number of polling places will be
32 designated for that election. Any consolidated polling places
33 shall be listed in separate sections of the order or
34 resolution of the board.

35 4. On a specific resolution of the board, the board may
36 authorize the use of voting centers in place of or in addition
37 to specifically designated polling places. A voting center
38 shall allow any voter in that county to receive the
39 appropriate ballot for that voter on election day after
40 presenting identification as prescribed in section 16-579 and
41 to lawfully cast the ballot. Voting centers may be
42 established in coordination and consultation with the county
43 recorder, at other county offices or at other locations in the
44 county deemed appropriate.

1 ~~5. On a specific resolution of the board of supervisors~~
2 ~~that is limited to a specific election date and that is voted~~
3 ~~on by a recorded vote, the board may authorize the county~~
4 ~~recorder or other officer in charge of elections to use~~
5 ~~emergency voting centers as follows:~~

6 ~~(a) The board shall specify in the resolution the~~
7 ~~location and the hours of operation of the emergency voting~~
8 ~~centers.~~

9 ~~(b) A qualified elector voting at an emergency voting~~
10 ~~center shall provide identification as prescribed in section~~
11 ~~16-579, except that notwithstanding section 16-579, subsection~~
12 ~~A, paragraph 2, for any voting at an emergency voting center,~~
13 ~~the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections~~
14 ~~may allow a qualified elector to update the elector's voter~~
15 ~~registration information as provided for in the secretary of~~
16 ~~state's instructions and procedures manual adopted pursuant to~~
17 ~~section 16-452.(c) If an emergency voting center established~~
18 ~~pursuant to this section becomes unavailable and there is not~~
19 ~~sufficient time for the board of supervisors to convene to~~
20 ~~approve an alternate location for that emergency voting~~
21 ~~center, the county recorder or other officer in charge of~~
22 ~~elections may make changes to the approved emergency voting~~
23 ~~center location and shall notify the public and the board of~~
24 ~~supervisors regarding that change as soon as practicable. The~~
25 ~~alternate emergency voting center shall be as close in~~
26 ~~proximity to the approved emergency voting center location as~~
27 ~~possible.~~

28 C. If the board fails to designate the place for
29 holding the election, or if it cannot be held at or about the
30 place designated, the justice of the peace in the precinct,
31 two days before the election, by an order, copies of which the
32 justice of the peace shall immediately post in three public
33 places in the precinct, shall designate the place within the
34 precinct for holding the election. If there is no justice of
35 the peace in the precinct, or if the justice of the peace
36 fails to do so, the election board of the precinct shall
37 designate and give notice of the place within the precinct of
38 holding the election. For any election in which there are no
39 candidates for elected office appearing on the ballot, the
40 board may consolidate polling places and precinct boards and
41 may consolidate the tabulation of results for that election if
42 all of the following apply:

43 1. All affected voters are notified by mail of the
44 change at least thirty-three days before the election.

1 2. Notice of the change in polling places includes
2 notice of the new voting location, notice of the hours for
3 voting on election day and notice of the telephone number to
4 call for voter assistance.

5 3. All affected voters receive information on early
6 voting that includes the application used to request an early
7 voting ballot.

8 D. The board is not required to designate a polling
9 place for special district mail ballot elections held pursuant
10 to article 8.1 of this chapter, but the board may designate
11 one or more sites for voters to deposit marked ballots until
12 7:00 p.m. on the day of the election.

13 E. ~~Except as provided in subsection F of this section,~~
14 A public school shall provide sufficient space for use as a
15 ~~polling place~~ VOTING LOCATION for any city, county or state
16 election when requested by the officer in charge of elections.

17 ~~F. The principal of the school may deny a request to
18 provide space for use as a polling place for any city, county
19 or state election if, within two weeks after a request has
20 been made, the principal provides a written statement
21 indicating a reason the election cannot be held in the school,
22 including any of the following:~~

- 23 ~~1. Space is not available at the school.~~
- 24 ~~2. The safety or welfare of the children would be~~
25 ~~jeopardized.~~

26 ~~G.~~ F. Beginning in 2026, the department of
27 administration shall coordinate with state agencies and
28 counties to provide available and appropriate state-owned
29 facilities for use as a voting location for any city, county
30 or state election when requested by the officer in charge of
31 elections.

32 ~~H.~~ G. The board shall make available to the public as
33 a public record a list of the polling places for all precincts
34 in which the election is to be held.

35 ~~I.~~ H. Except in the case of an emergency, any facility
36 that is used as a polling place on election day or that is
37 used as an early voting site during the period of early voting
38 shall allow persons to electioneer and engage in other
39 political activity outside of the seventy-five foot limit
40 prescribed by section 16-515 in public areas and parking lots
41 used by voters. This subsection does not allow the temporary
42 or permanent construction of structures in public areas and
43 parking lots or the blocking or other impairment of access to
44 parking spaces for voters. The county recorder or other
45 officer in charge of elections shall post on its website at

1 least two weeks before election day a list of those polling
2 places in which emergency conditions prevent electioneering
3 and shall specify the reason the emergency designation was
4 granted and the number of attempts that were made to find a
5 polling place before granting an emergency designation. If
6 the polling place is not on the website list of polling places
7 with emergency designations, electioneering and other
8 political activity shall be allowed outside of the
9 seventy-five foot limit. If an emergency arises after the
10 county recorder or other officer in charge of elections'
11 initial website posting, the county recorder or other officer
12 in charge of elections shall update the website as soon as is
13 practicable to include any new polling places, shall highlight
14 the polling place location on the website and shall specify
15 the reason the emergency designation was granted and the
16 number of attempts that were made to find a polling place
17 before granting an emergency designation.

18 ~~I.~~ I. For the purposes of this section, a county
19 recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall
20 designate a polling place as an emergency polling place and
21 thus prohibit persons from electioneering and engaging in
22 other political activity outside of the seventy-five foot
23 limit prescribed by section 16-515 but inside the property of
24 the facility that is hosting the polling place if any of the
25 following occurs:

26 1. An act of God renders a previously set polling place
27 as unusable.

28 2. A county recorder or other officer in charge of
29 elections has exhausted all options and there are no suitable
30 facilities in a precinct that are willing to be a polling
31 place unless a facility can be given an emergency designation.

32 ~~K.~~ J. The secretary of state shall provide through the
33 instructions and procedures manual adopted pursuant to section
34 16-452 the maximum allowable wait time for any election that
35 is subject to section 16-204 and provide for a method to
36 reduce voter wait time at the polls in the primary and general
37 elections. The method shall consider at least all of the
38 following for primary and general elections in each precinct:

39 1. The number of ballots voted in the prior primary and
40 general elections.

41 2. The number of registered voters who voted early in
42 the prior primary and general elections.

43 3. The number of registered voters and the number of
44 registered voters who cast an early ballot for the current
45 primary or general election.

1 4. The number of registered voters whose early ballots
2 were tabulated on-site as prescribed in section 16-579.02 in
3 the prior primary and general elections.

4 5. The number of election board members and clerks and
5 the number of rosters that will reduce voter wait time at the
6 polls.

7 Sec. 3. Section 16-449, Arizona Revised Statutes, is
8 amended to read:

9 16-449. Required test of equipment and programs;
10 notice: procedures manual

11 A. Within the period of time before the election day
12 prescribed by the secretary of state in the instructions and
13 procedures manual adopted pursuant to section 16-452, the
14 board of supervisors or other ~~election~~ officer in charge ~~OF~~
15 ~~ELECTIONS~~, or for an election involving state or federal
16 candidates, the secretary of state, shall ~~have~~ TEST the
17 automatic tabulating equipment and programs ~~tested~~ to
18 ascertain that the equipment and programs will correctly count
19 the votes cast for all offices and on all measures. Public
20 notice of the time and place of the test shall be given at
21 least forty-eight hours ~~prior thereto~~ BEFORE THE TEST by
22 publication once in one or more daily or weekly newspapers
23 published in the town, ~~OR~~ city ~~or village~~ using such
24 equipment, if a newspaper is published ~~therein~~ IN THE TOWN OR
25 CITY, otherwise in a newspaper of general circulation ~~therein~~
26 IN THE AREA. The test shall be observed by at least two
27 election inspectors, who shall not be of the same political
28 party, and shall be open to representatives of the political
29 parties, candidates, the press and the public. The test shall
30 be conducted by processing a preaudited group of ballots so
31 marked as to record a predetermined number of valid votes for
32 each candidate and on each measure and shall include for each
33 office one or more ballots that have votes in excess of the
34 number allowed by law in order to test the ability of the
35 automatic tabulating equipment and programs to reject such
36 votes. If any error is detected, the cause ~~therefor~~ FOR THE
37 ERROR shall be ascertained and corrected and an errorless
38 count shall be made before the automatic tabulating equipment
39 and programs are approved. A copy of a revised program shall
40 be filed with the secretary of state within forty-eight hours
41 after the revision is made. If the error was created by
42 automatic tabulating equipment malfunction, a report shall be
43 filed with the secretary of state within forty-eight hours
44 after the correction is made, stating the cause and the
45 corrective action taken. The test shall be repeated

1 immediately before the start of the official count of the
2 ballots in the same manner as set forth above. After the
3 completion of the count, the programs used and the ballots
4 shall be sealed, retained and disposed of as provided for
5 paper ballots.

6 B. Electronic ballot tabulating systems shall be tested
7 for logic and accuracy within seven days before their use for
8 early balloting pursuant to the instructions and procedures
9 manual for electronic voting systems that is adopted by the
10 secretary of state as prescribed by section 16-452. The
11 instructions and procedures manual shall include procedures
12 for the handling of ballots, the electronic scanning of
13 ballots and any other matters necessary to ensure the maximum
14 degree of correctness, impartiality and uniformity in the
15 administration of an electronic ballot tabulating system.

16 C. Notwithstanding subsections A and B of this section,
17 if a county uses accessible voting equipment to mark ballots
18 and that accessible voting equipment does not independently
19 tabulate or tally votes, the secretary of state in cooperation
20 with the county officer in charge of elections may designate a
21 single date to test the logic and accuracy of both the
22 accessible voting equipment and electronic ballot tabulating
23 systems.

24 D. NOTWITHSTANDING SUBSECTION B OF THIS SECTION, FOR
25 ANY COUNTY THAT PROVIDES FOR ON-SITE TABULATION PURSUANT TO
26 SECTIONS 16-579.01 AND 16-579.02, THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OR
27 OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS SHALL TEST THE ELECTRONIC
28 BALLOT TABULATING EQUIPMENT TO BE USED PURSUANT TO SECTION
29 16-579.01 FOR LOGIC AND ACCURACY WITHIN FIFTY DAYS BEFORE
30 ELECTION DAY. THIS SUBSECTION DOES NOT AFFECT THE DEADLINES
31 FOR PERFORMING LOGIC AND ACCURACY TESTING ON OTHER EQUIPMENT.

32 Sec. 4. Section 16-542, Arizona Revised Statutes, is
33 amended to read:

34 16-542. Request for ballot; civil penalties; violation;
35 classification

36 A. Within ninety-three days before any election called
37 pursuant to the laws of this state, an elector may make a
38 verbal or signed request to the county recorder, or other
39 officer in charge of elections for the applicable political
40 subdivision of this state in whose jurisdiction the elector is
41 registered to vote, for an official early ballot. In addition
42 to name and address, the requesting elector shall provide the
43 date of birth and state or country of birth or other
44 information that if compared to the voter registration
45 information on file would confirm the identity of the

1 elector. If the request indicates that the elector needs a
2 primary election ballot and a general election ballot, the
3 county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall
4 honor the request. For any partisan primary election, if the
5 elector is not registered as a member of a political party
6 that is entitled to continued representation on the ballot
7 pursuant to section 16-804, the elector shall designate the
8 ballot of only one of the political parties that is entitled
9 to continued representation on the ballot and the elector may
10 receive and vote the ballot of only that one political party,
11 which also shall include any nonpartisan offices and ballot
12 questions, or the elector shall designate the ballot for
13 nonpartisan offices and ballot questions only and the elector
14 may receive and vote the ballot that contains only nonpartisan
15 offices and ballot questions. The county recorder or other
16 officer in charge of elections shall process any request for
17 an early ballot for a municipal election pursuant to this
18 subsection. The county recorder may establish on-site early
19 voting locations at the recorder's office, which shall be open
20 and available for use beginning the same day that a county
21 begins to send out the early ballots. The county recorder may
22 also establish any other early voting locations in the county
23 the recorder deems necessary. Any on-site early voting
24 location or other early voting location shall require each
25 elector to present identification as prescribed in section
26 16-579 before receiving a ballot. Notwithstanding section
27 16-579, subsection A, paragraph 2, at any on-site early voting
28 location or other early voting location the county recorder or
29 other officer in charge of elections may provide for a
30 qualified elector to update the elector's voter registration
31 information as provided for in the secretary of state's
32 instructions and procedures manual adopted pursuant to section
33 16-452.

34 B. Notwithstanding subsection A of this section, a
35 request for an official early ballot from an absent uniformed
36 services voter or overseas voter as defined in the uniformed
37 and overseas citizens absentee voting act (P.L. 99-410; 52
38 United States Code section 20310) or a voter whose information
39 is protected pursuant to section 16-153 that is received by
40 the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections
41 more than ninety-three days before the election is valid. If
42 requested by the absent uniformed services or overseas voter,
43 or a voter whose information is protected pursuant to section
44 16-153, the county recorder or other officer in charge of
45 elections shall provide to the requesting voter early ballot

1 materials through the next regularly scheduled general
2 election for federal office immediately following receipt of
3 the request unless a different period of time, which does not
4 exceed the next two regularly scheduled general elections for
5 federal office, is designated by the voter.

6 C. The county recorder or other officer in charge of
7 elections shall mail the early ballot and the envelope for its
8 return postage prepaid to the address provided by the
9 requesting elector within five days after receipt of the
10 official early ballots from the officer charged by law with
11 the duty of preparing ballots pursuant to section 16-545,
12 except that early ballot distribution shall not begin more
13 than twenty-seven days before the election. If an early
14 ballot request is received on or before the thirty-first day
15 before the election, the early ballot shall be distributed not
16 earlier than the twenty-seventh day before the election and
17 not later than the twenty-fourth day before the election.

18 D. Only the elector may be in possession of that
19 elector's unvoted early ballot. If a complete and correct
20 request is made by the elector within twenty-seven days before
21 the election, the mailing must be made within forty-eight
22 hours after receipt of the request. Saturdays, Sundays and
23 other legal holidays are excluded from the computation of the
24 forty-eight-hour period prescribed by this subsection. If a
25 complete and correct request is made by an absent uniformed
26 services voter or an overseas voter before the election, the
27 regular early ballot shall be transmitted by mail, by fax or
28 by other electronic format approved by the secretary of state
29 within twenty-four hours after the early ballots are delivered
30 pursuant to section 16-545, subsection B, excluding Sundays.

31 E. In order to be complete and correct and to receive
32 an early ballot by mail, an elector's request that an early
33 ballot be mailed to the elector's residence or temporary
34 address must include all of the information prescribed by
35 subsection A of this section and must be received by the
36 county recorder or other officer in charge of elections not
37 later than 5:00 p.m. on the eleventh day preceding the
38 election. An elector who appears personally not later than
39 7:00 p.m. on the ~~Friday~~ MONDAY preceding the election at an
40 on-site early voting location OR OTHER EARLY VOTING LOCATION
41 that is established by the county recorder or other officer in
42 charge of elections shall be given a ballot after presenting
43 identification as prescribed in section 16-579 and shall be
44 allowed to vote at the on-site location. Notwithstanding
45 section 16-579, subsection A, paragraph 2, at any on-site

1 early voting location the county recorder or other officer in
2 charge of elections may provide for a qualified elector to
3 update the elector's voter registration information as
4 provided for in the secretary of state's instructions and
5 procedures manual adopted pursuant to section 16-452. If an
6 elector's request to receive an early ballot is not complete
7 and correct but complies with all other requirements of this
8 section, the county recorder or other officer in charge of
9 elections shall attempt to notify the elector of the
10 deficiency of the request.

11 F. Unless an elector specifies that the address to
12 which an early ballot is to be sent is a temporary address,
13 the recorder may use the information from an early ballot
14 request form to update voter registration records.

15 G. The county recorder or other officer in charge of
16 early balloting shall provide an alphabetized list of all
17 voters in the precinct who have requested and have been sent
18 an early ballot to the election board of the precinct in which
19 the voter is registered not later than the day before the
20 election.

21 ~~H. As a result of experiencing an emergency between~~
22 ~~7:00 p.m. on the Friday preceding the election and 5:00 p.m.~~
23 ~~on the Monday preceding the election, qualified electors may~~
24 ~~request to vote in the manner prescribed by the board of~~
25 ~~supervisors of their respective county. Before voting~~
26 ~~pursuant to this subsection, an elector who experiences an~~
27 ~~emergency shall provide identification as prescribed in~~
28 ~~section 16-579 and shall sign a statement under penalty of~~
29 ~~perjury that states that the person is experiencing or~~
30 ~~experienced an emergency after 7:00 p.m. on the Friday~~
31 ~~immediately preceding the election and before 5:00 p.m. on the~~
32 ~~Monday immediately preceding the election that would prevent~~
33 ~~the person from voting at the polls. Signed statements~~
34 ~~received pursuant to this subsection are not subject to~~
35 ~~inspection pursuant to title 39, chapter 1, article 2. For~~
36 ~~the purposes of this subsection, "emergency" means any~~
37 ~~unforeseen circumstances that would prevent the elector from~~
38 ~~voting at the polls.~~

39 ~~I. Notwithstanding section 16-579, subsection A,~~
40 ~~paragraph 2, for any voting pursuant to subsection H of this~~
41 ~~section, the county recorder or other officer in charge of~~
42 ~~elections may allow a qualified elector to update the~~
43 ~~elector's voter registration information as provided for in~~
44 ~~the secretary of state's instructions and procedures manual~~
45 ~~adopted pursuant to section 16-452.~~

1 eligible to vote. An early voter request form shall conform
2 to requirements prescribed in the instructions and procedures
3 manual issued pursuant to section 16-452. The application
4 shall allow for the voter to provide the voter's name,
5 residence address, mailing address in the voter's county of
6 residence, date of birth and signature and shall state that
7 the voter is attesting that the voter is a registered voter
8 who is eligible to vote in the county of residence. The voter
9 shall not list a mailing address that is outside of this state
10 for the purpose of the active early voting list unless the
11 voter is an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter
12 as defined in the uniformed and overseas citizens absentee
13 voting act (P.L. 99-410; 52 United States Code section
14 20310). In lieu of the application, the applicant may submit
15 a written request that contains the required information.

16 C. On receipt of a request to be included on the active
17 early voting list, the county recorder or other officer in
18 charge of elections shall compare the signature on the request
19 form with the voter's signature on the voter's registration
20 form and, if the request is from the voter, shall mark the
21 voter's registration file as an active early ballot request.

22 D. Not less than ninety days before any polling place
23 election scheduled in March or August, the county recorder or
24 other officer in charge of elections shall mail to all voters
25 who are eligible for the election, who are not listed as
26 inactive and who are included on the active early voting list
27 an election notice by nonforwardable mail that is marked with
28 the statement required by the postmaster to receive an address
29 correction notification. If an election is not formally
30 called by a jurisdiction by the one hundred eightieth day
31 before the election, the recorder or other officer in charge
32 of elections is not required to send the election notice. The
33 notice shall include the dates of the elections that are the
34 subject of the notice, the dates that the voter's ballot is
35 expected to be mailed and the address where the ballot will be
36 mailed. If the upcoming election is a partisan open primary
37 election and the voter is not registered as a member of one of
38 the political parties that is recognized for purposes of that
39 primary, the notice shall include information on the procedure
40 for the voter to designate a political party ballot. The
41 notice shall be delivered with return postage prepaid and
42 shall also include a means for the voter to do any of the
43 following:

44 1. Change the mailing address for the voter's ballot to
45 another location in the voter's county of residence.

1 2. Update the voter's residence address in the voter's
2 county of residence.

3 3. Request that the voter not be sent a ballot for the
4 upcoming election or elections indicated on the notice.

5 E. If the notice that is mailed to the voter is
6 returned undeliverable by the postal service, the county
7 recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall ~~take~~
8 ~~the necessary steps to contact the voter at the voter's new~~
9 ~~residence address in order to update that voter's address or~~
10 ~~to~~ move the voter to inactive status as prescribed in section
11 16-166, subsection A. If a voter is moved to inactive status,
12 the voter shall be removed from the active early voting list
13 and may not receive an early ballot unless the voter updates
14 or otherwise confirms the voter's registration
15 information. If the voter is removed from the active early
16 voting list, the voter shall only be added to the active early
17 voting list again if the voter submits a new request pursuant
18 to this section.

19 F. Not later than the first day of early voting, the
20 county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall
21 mail an early ballot to all eligible voters who are not listed
22 as inactive and who are included on the active early voting
23 list in the same manner prescribed in section 16-542,
24 subsection C. If the voter has not returned the notice or
25 otherwise notified the election officer within forty-five days
26 before the election that the voter does not wish to receive an
27 early ballot by mail for the election or elections indicated,
28 the ballot shall automatically be scheduled for mailing.

29 G. If a voter who is on the active early voting list is
30 not registered as a member of a recognized political party and
31 fails to notify the county recorder of the voter's choice for
32 political party ballot within forty-five days before a
33 partisan open primary election, the following apply:

34 1. The voter shall not automatically be sent a ballot
35 for that partisan open primary election only and the voter's
36 name shall remain on the active early voting list for future
37 elections.

38 2. To receive an early ballot for the primary election,
39 the voter shall submit the voter's choice for political party
40 ballot to the county recorder.

41 H. After a voter has requested to be included on the
42 active early voting list, the voter shall be sent an early
43 ballot by mail automatically for any election at which a voter
44 at that residence address is eligible to vote until any of the
45 following occurs:

1 1. The voter requests in writing to be removed from the
2 active early voting list.

3 2. The voter's registration or eligibility for
4 registration is moved to inactive status or canceled as
5 otherwise provided by law.

6 3. The notice sent by the county recorder or other
7 officer in charge of elections is returned undeliverable and
8 the county recorder or officer in charge of elections is
9 unable to contact the voter to determine the voter's continued
10 desire to remain on the list.

11 4. The voter fails to vote an early ballot in all
12 elections for two consecutive election cycles. For the
13 purposes of this paragraph, "election" means any regular
14 primary or regular general election for which there was a
15 federal race on the ballot or for which a city or town
16 candidate primary or first election or city or town candidate
17 second, general or runoff election was on the ballot. This
18 paragraph does not apply to:

19 (a) A special taxing district that is authorized
20 pursuant to section 16-191 to conduct its own elections.

21 (b) A special district mail ballot election that is
22 conducted pursuant to article 8.1 of this chapter.

23 I. A voter may make a written request at any time to be
24 removed from the active early voting list. The request shall
25 include the voter's name, residence address, date of birth and
26 signature. On receipt of a completed request to remove a
27 voter from the active early voting list, the county recorder
28 or other officer in charge of elections shall remove the
29 voter's name from the list as soon as practicable.

30 J. An absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter
31 as defined in the uniformed and overseas citizens absentee
32 voting act (P.L. 99-410; 52 United States Code section 20310)
33 is eligible to be placed on the active early voting list
34 pursuant to this section.

35 K. A voter's failure to vote an early ballot once
36 received does not constitute grounds to remove the voter from
37 the active early voting list, except that a county recorder
38 shall remove a voter from the active early voting list if both
39 of the following apply:

40 1. The county recorder or other officer in charge of
41 elections complies with subsection M of this section.

42 2. The voter fails to vote using an early ballot in all
43 of the following elections for two consecutive election
44 cycles:

1 (a) A regular primary and regular general election for
2 which there was a federal race on the ballot.

3 (b) A city or town candidate primary or first election
4 and a city or town candidate second, general or runoff
5 election.

6 L. On or before January 15 of each odd-numbered year,
7 the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections
8 shall send a notice to each voter who is on the active early
9 voting list and who did not vote an early ballot in all
10 elections for two consecutive election cycles as prescribed by
11 subsection K of this section. If the voter has provided the
12 voter's telephone or mobile phone number or email address to
13 the county recorder, the county recorder may additionally
14 provide the notice to the voter by telephone call, text
15 message or email. The notice shall inform the voter that if
16 the voter wishes to remain on the active early voting list,
17 the voter shall do both of the following with the notice
18 received:

19 1. Confirm in writing the voter's desire to remain on
20 the active early voting list.

21 2. Return the completed notice to the county recorder
22 or other officer in charge of elections within ninety days
23 after the notice is sent to the voter. The notice shall be
24 signed by the voter and shall contain the voter's address and
25 date of birth.

26 M. If a voter receives a notice as prescribed by
27 subsection L of this section and the voter fails to respond
28 within the ninety-day period, the county recorder or other
29 officer in charge of elections shall remove the voter's name
30 from the active early voting list.

31 N. A candidate, political committee or other
32 organization may distribute active early voting list request
33 forms to voters. If the active early voting list request
34 forms include a printed address for return, that address shall
35 be the political subdivision that will conduct the
36 election. Failure to use the political subdivision as the
37 return addressee is punishable by a civil penalty of up to
38 three times the cost of the production and distribution of the
39 active early voting list request.

40 O. All original and completed active early voting list
41 request forms that are received by a candidate, political
42 committee or other organization shall be submitted within six
43 business days after receipt by a candidate or political
44 committee or eleven days before the election day, whichever is
45 earlier, to the political subdivision that will conduct the

1 election. Any person, political committee or other
2 organization that fails to submit a completed active early
3 voting list request form within the prescribed time is subject
4 to a civil penalty of up to \$25 per day for each completed
5 form withheld from submittal. Any person who knowingly fails
6 to submit a completed active early voting list request form
7 before the submission deadline for the election immediately
8 following the completion of the form is guilty of a class 6
9 felony.

10 P. A person who receives an early ballot at an address
11 at which another person formerly resided, without voting the
12 ballot or signing the envelope, shall write "not at this
13 address" on the envelope and place the mail piece in a United
14 States postal service collection box or other mail
15 receptacle. On receipt, the county recorder or other officer
16 in charge of elections shall proceed in the manner prescribed
17 in subsection E of this section.

18 Q. When the county recorder receives confirmation from
19 another county that a person registered has registered to vote
20 in that other county, the county recorder shall remove that
21 person from the active early voting list.

22 R. If the county recorder receives credible information
23 that a person has registered to vote in a different county,
24 the county recorder shall confirm the person's voter
25 registration with that other county and, on confirmation,
26 shall remove that person from the county's active early voting
27 list pursuant to subsection Q of this section.

28 S. For the purposes of this section, "election cycle"
29 means the two-year period beginning on January 1 in the year
30 after a statewide general election or, for cities and towns,
31 the two-year period beginning on the first day of the calendar
32 quarter after the calendar quarter in which the city's or
33 town's second, runoff or general election is scheduled and
34 ending on the last day of the calendar quarter in which the
35 city's or town's immediately following second, runoff or
36 general election is scheduled, however that election is
37 designated by the city or town.

38 Sec. 6. Section 16-547, Arizona Revised Statutes, is
39 amended to read:

40 16-547. Mail affidavit; form

41 A. The early ballot shall be accompanied by an envelope
42 bearing on the front the name, official title and post office
43 address of the recorder or other officer in charge of
44 elections and on the other side a printed affidavit in
45 substantially the following form:

1 I declare the following under penalty of
2 perjury: I am a registered voter in _____
3 county Arizona, I have not voted and will not vote
4 in this election in any other county or state, I
5 understand that knowingly voting more than once in
6 any election is a class 5 felony and I voted the
7 enclosed ballot and signed this MAIL affidavit
8 personally unless noted below.

9 If the voter was assisted by another person
10 in marking the ballot, complete the following:

11 I declare the following under penalty of
12 perjury: At the registered voter's request I
13 assisted the voter identified in this MAIL
14 affidavit with marking the voter's ballot, I
15 marked the ballot as directly instructed by the
16 voter, I provided the assistance because the voter
17 was physically unable to mark the ballot solely
18 due to illness, injury or physical limitation and
19 I understand that there is no power of attorney
20 for voting and that the voter must be able to make
21 the voter's selection even if the voter cannot
22 physically mark the ballot.

23 Name of voter assistant: _____

24 Address of voter assistant: _____

25 B. The face of each envelope in which a ballot is sent
26 to a federal postcard applicant or in which a ballot is
27 returned by the applicant to the recorder or other officer in
28 charge of elections shall be in the form prescribed in
29 accordance with the uniformed and overseas citizens absentee
30 voting act (P.L. 99-410; 52 United States Code section 20301).
31 Otherwise, the envelopes shall be the same as those used to
32 send ballots to, or receive ballots from, other early voters.

33 C. The officer charged by law with the duty of
34 preparing ballots at any election shall ensure that the early
35 ballot is sent in an envelope that states substantially the
36 following:

37 If the addressee does not reside at this
38 address, mark the unopened envelope "return to
39 sender" and deposit it in the United States mail.

40 D. The county recorder or other officer in charge of
41 elections shall supply printed instructions to early voters
42 that direct them to sign the MAIL affidavit, mark the ballot
43 and return both in the enclosed self-addressed envelope that
44 complies with section 16-545, and:

1 ~~1. Through 2025, the instructions shall include the~~
2 ~~following statement:~~

3 ~~In order to be valid and counted, the ballot~~
4 ~~and mail affidavit must be delivered to the office~~
5 ~~of the county recorder or other officer in charge~~
6 ~~of elections or may be deposited at any polling~~
7 ~~place in the county not later than 7:00 p.m. on~~
8 ~~election day. The ballot will not be counted~~
9 ~~without the voter's signature on the envelope.~~

10 ~~(WARNING - It is a felony to offer or~~
11 ~~receive any compensation for a ballot.)~~

12 ~~2. 1. Beginning in 2026, FOR A COUNTY THAT PROVIDES~~
13 ~~ON-SITE TABULATION OF BALLOTS PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 16-579.01~~
14 ~~AND 16-579.02, the instructions shall include the following~~
15 ~~statement:~~

16 In order to be valid and counted, the mail
17 affidavit that contains the mail ballot must have
18 the voter's signature on the envelope and must be
19 returned to the office of the county recorder by
20 any one of the following methods:

21 (a) ~~Delivering~~ MAILING it to the office of
22 the county recorder or other officer in charge of
23 elections WHERE IT MUST BE RECEIVED not later than
24 7:00 p.m. on election day.

25 ~~(b) Depositing it at any polling place in~~
26 ~~the county not later than 7:00 p.m. on election~~
27 ~~day.~~

28 ~~(c) Bringing the ballot to any polling~~
29 ~~place in the county not later than 7:00 p.m. on~~
30 ~~election day and choosing to present valid~~
31 ~~identification that complies with section 16-579,~~
32 ~~subsection A, paragraph 1, Arizona Revised~~
33 ~~Statutes.~~

34 (b) HAND DELIVERING IT TO THE OFFICE OF THE
35 COUNTY RECORDER OR OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS
36 NOT LATER THAN 7:00 P.M. ON ELECTION DAY.

37 (c) DEPOSITING IT AT ANY VOTING LOCATION IN
38 THE COUNTY BY 7:00 P.M. ON THE FRIDAY BEFORE
39 ELECTION DAY.

40 (d) AFTER 7:00 P.M. ON THE FRIDAY BEFORE
41 ELECTION DAY, BRINGING THE BALLOT TO ANY VOTING
42 LOCATION IN THE COUNTY THAT OFFERS ON-SITE
43 TABULATION AND SUBMITTING IT TO THE ELECTION
44 OFFICIALS FOR SEPARATION FROM THE ENVELOPE AND
45 PROCESSING AS REQUIRED BY THE COUNTY.

(WARNING - IT IS A FELONY TO OFFER OR RECEIVE ANY COMPENSATION FOR A BALLOT.)

2. FOR A COUNTY THAT DOES NOT PROVIDE ON-SITE TABULATION OF BALLOTS PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 16-579.01 AND 16-579.02, THE INSTRUCTIONS SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

IN ORDER TO BE VALID AND COUNTED, THE MAIL AFFIDAVIT THAT CONTAINS THE MAIL BALLOT MUST HAVE THE VOTER'S SIGNATURE ON THE ENVELOPE AND MUST BE RETURNED TO THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER BY ANY ONE OF THE FOLLOWING METHODS:

(a) MAILING IT TO THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER OR OTHER OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS, WHICH MUST BE RECEIVED NOT LATER THAN 7:00 P.M. ON ELECTION DAY.

(b) HAND DELIVERING IT TO THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER OR OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS NOT LATER THAN 7:00 P.M. ON ELECTION DAY.

(c) DEPOSITING IT AT ANY VOTING LOCATION IN THE COUNTY NOT LATER THAN 7:00 P.M. ON THE FRIDAY BEFORE ELECTION DAY.

(d) AFTER 7:00 P.M. ON THE FRIDAY BEFORE ELECTION DAY, BRINGING THE BALLOT TO ANY VOTING LOCATION IN THE COUNTY NOT LATER THAN 7:00 P.M. ON ELECTION DAY AND PRESENTING IDENTIFICATION THAT COMPLIES WITH SECTION 16-579, SUBSECTION A, PARAGRAPH 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES.

(WARNING - It is a felony to offer or receive any compensation for a ballot.)

E. The printed instructions prescribed by subsection D of this section shall also include the following information regarding section 16-1005, subsections H and I in substantially the following form:

A person may only handle or return their own ballot or the ballot of family members, household members or persons for whom they are a caregiver. It is unlawful under section 16-1005, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, to handle or return the ballot of any other person.

Sec. 7. Section 16-548, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

16-548. Preparation and transmission of ballot

A. The early voter shall make and sign the affidavit and shall then mark ~~his~~ THE ballot in ~~such~~ a manner that ~~his~~ THE EARLY VOTER'S vote cannot be seen. The early voter shall

1 fold the ballot, if a paper ballot, so as to conceal the vote,
2 ~~and~~ deposit the voted ballot in the envelope provided for that
3 purpose, which shall be securely sealed and, together with the
4 affidavit, ~~delivered or mailed~~ SHALL BE RETURNED BY ONE OF THE
5 FOLLOWING METHODS:

6 1. MAILING THE VOTED BALLOT to the county recorder or
7 other officer in charge of elections of the political
8 subdivision in which the ~~elector~~ VOTER is registered ~~or~~
9 ~~deposited by the voter or the voter's agent at any polling~~
10 ~~place in the county.~~ In order to be counted and valid, the
11 ballot must be received by the county recorder or other
12 officer in charge of elections ~~or deposited at any polling~~
13 ~~place in the county~~ ~~no~~ NOT later than 7:00 p.m. on election
14 day.

15 2. HAND DELIVERING THE VOTED BALLOT TO THE OFFICE OF
16 THE COUNTY RECORDER OR OTHER OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS OF
17 THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION IN WHICH THE VOTER IS REGISTERED.
18 IN ORDER TO BE COUNTED AND VALID, THE BALLOT MUST BE RECEIVED
19 BY THE COUNTY RECORDER OR OTHER OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS
20 NOT LATER THAN 7:00 P.M. ON ELECTION DAY.

21 3. DEPOSITING THE VOTED BALLOT AT ANY VOTING LOCATION
22 IN THE COUNTY. IN ORDER TO BE COUNTED AND VALID, THE BALLOT
23 MUST BE RECEIVED AT THE VOTING LOCATION NOT LATER THAN 7:00
24 P.M. ON THE FRIDAY BEFORE ELECTION DAY.

25 B. A PERSON WHO APPEARS PERSONALLY AT AN EARLY VOTING
26 LOCATION ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 16-542 DURING THE
27 PERIOD OF EARLY VOTING, INCLUDING ON THE SATURDAY, SUNDAY AND
28 MONDAY BEFORE ELECTION DAY, SHALL PRESENT IDENTIFICATION AS
29 PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 16-579, SIGN THE EARLY VOTER AFFIDAVIT,
30 MARK THE BALLOT IN A MANNER THAT THE EARLY VOTER'S VOTE CANNOT
31 BE SEEN AND RETURN THE VOTED BALLOT TO THE ELECTION OFFICIAL
32 AT THE EARLY VOTING LOCATION. FOR A COUNTY THAT PROVIDES FOR
33 ON-SITE TABULATION OF BALLOTS PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 16-579.01
34 AND 16-579.02 DURING THE SATURDAY, SUNDAY OR MONDAY
35 IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING ELECTION DAY, THE FOLLOWING APPLY:

36 1. THE EARLY VOTER SHALL APPEAR PERSONALLY AT THE
37 ON-SITE TABULATION LOCATION AND SUBMIT THE VOTER'S EARLY
38 BALLOT AND AFFIDAVIT.

39 2. THE ELECTION OFFICIAL SHALL ALLOW THE EARLY VOTER TO
40 TABULATE THE EARLY BALLOT ON SITE AS PRESCRIBED BY SECTIONS
41 16-579.01 AND 16-579.02.

42 C. BEGINNING IN 2027, FOR EARLY BALLOTS THAT ARE CAST
43 IN PERSON PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION B OF THIS SECTION, THE
44 OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS SHALL ENSURE THAT CHAIN OF

1 CUSTODY PROCEDURES FOR THESE EARLY BALLOTS ARE IDENTICAL TO
2 THOSE PRESCRIBED FOR IN PERSON ELECTION DAY VOTING.

3 ~~B.~~ D. If the early voter is an overseas citizen, a
4 qualified elector absent from the United States or in the
5 United States service, a spouse or dependent residing with the
6 early voter or a qualified elector of a special district mail
7 ballot election as provided in article 8.1 of this chapter,
8 the early voter may subscribe to the affidavit before and
9 obtain the signature and military identification number or
10 passport number, if available, of any person who is a United
11 States citizen eighteen years of age or older.

12 Sec. 8. Section 16-551, Arizona Revised Statutes, is
13 amended to read:

14 16-551. Early election board; violation; classification

15 A. The board of supervisors or the governing body of
16 the political subdivision shall appoint one or more early
17 election boards to serve at places to be designated by the
18 board of supervisors or the governing body to canvass and
19 tally early election ballots. Members of early election
20 boards shall be selected in accordance with the provisions for
21 selecting members of regular election boards as provided in
22 section 16-531.

23 B. If an electronic voting system is in use for early
24 voting, the early election board shall consist of at least one
25 inspector and two judges who shall perform the processing
26 requirements in accordance with the rules issued by the
27 secretary of state. The inspector and judges shall be
28 appointed in the same manner by party as provided in section
29 16-531.

30 C. All early ballots received by the county recorder or
31 other officer in charge of elections before 7:00 p.m. on
32 election day and the original mail ~~ballot~~ affidavit of the
33 voter shall be delivered to the early election boards for
34 processing as provided in the rules of the secretary of
35 state. Beginning in 2026, all early ballots that are
36 delivered by a voter to a voting location without presenting
37 identification that complies with section 16-579, subsection
38 A, paragraph 1 must be signature verified. The office of the
39 county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall
40 remain open until 7:00 p.m. on election day for the purpose of
41 receiving early ballots. Partial or complete tallies of the
42 early election board shall not be released or divulged before
43 all precincts have reported or one hour after the closing of
44 the polls on election day, whichever occurs first. Any person
45 who unlawfully releases information regarding vote tallies or

1 who possesses a tally sheet or summary without authorization
2 from the recorder or officer in charge of elections is guilty
3 of a class 6 felony.

4 ~~D. The county recorder or other officer in charge of~~
5 ~~elections shall count the number of early ballots that are~~
6 ~~returned at voting locations on election day and shall post on~~
7 ~~its website those totals with the last unofficial results that~~
8 ~~are released on election night pursuant to section 16-622.~~

9 Beginning with the day following the election, the county
10 recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall enter
11 into the county's ballot tracking system, if established,
12 early ballots that were returned at the voting location on
13 election day.

14 E. The necessary printed blanks for poll lists, tally
15 lists, lists of voters, ballots, oaths and returns, together
16 with envelopes in which to enclose the returns, shall be
17 furnished by the board of supervisors or the governing body of
18 the political subdivision to the early election board for each
19 election precinct at the expense of the county or the
20 political subdivision.

21 Sec. 9. Section 16-552, Arizona Revised Statutes, is
22 amended to read:

23 16-552. Early ballots; processing; challenges

24 A. In a jurisdiction that uses optical scan ballots,
25 the officer in charge of elections may use the procedure
26 prescribed by this section or may request approval from the
27 secretary of state for a different method for processing early
28 ballots. The request shall be made in writing at least ninety
29 days before the election for which the procedure is intended
30 to be used. After the election official has confirmed with
31 the secretary of state that all election equipment passes the
32 logic and accuracy test, the election official may begin to
33 count early ballots. ~~No~~ Early ballot results may ~~NOT~~ be
34 released except as prescribed by section 16-551.

35 B. ~~EXCEPT FOR A PERSON WHO VOTES PERSONALLY AT AN EARLY~~
36 ~~VOTING LOCATION DURING THE PERIOD OF EARLY VOTING AS~~
37 ~~PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 16-548, SUBSECTION B,~~ the early election
38 board shall check the voter's mail ~~ballot~~ affidavit on the
39 envelope containing the early ballot. If it is found to be
40 sufficient, the vote shall be allowed. If the mail ~~ballot~~
41 affidavit is insufficient, the vote shall not be
42 allowed. Beginning in 2026, for an early ballot that is
43 received and verified as prescribed by section 16-579,
44 subsection A, paragraph 4, additional signature verification
45 is not required.

1 C. The county chairman of each political party
2 represented on the ballot, by written appointment addressed to
3 the early election board, may designate party representatives
4 and alternates to act as early ballot challengers for the
5 party. ~~No~~ A party may NOT have more than the number of such
6 representatives or alternates that were mutually agreed on by
7 each political party to be present at one time. If such
8 agreement cannot be reached, the number of representatives
9 shall be limited to one for each political party.

10 D. An early ballot may be challenged on any grounds set
11 forth in section 16-591. All challenges shall be made in
12 writing with a brief statement of the grounds before the early
13 ballot is placed in the ballot box. A record of all
14 challenges and resulting proceedings shall be kept in
15 substantially the same manner as provided in section
16 16-594. If an early ballot is challenged, it shall be set
17 aside and retained in the possession of the early election
18 board or other officer in charge of early ballot processing
19 until a time that the early election board sets for
20 determination of the challenge, subject to the procedure in
21 subsection E of this section, at which time the
22 early election board shall hear the grounds for the challenge
23 and shall decide what disposition shall be made of the early
24 ballot by majority vote. If the early ballot is not allowed,
25 it shall be handled pursuant to subsection G of this section.

26 E. Within twenty-four hours ~~of receipt of~~ AFTER
27 RECEIVING a challenge, the early election board or other
28 officer in charge of early ballot processing shall mail, by
29 first class mail, a notice of the challenge including a copy
30 of the written challenge, and also including the time and
31 place at which the voter may appear to defend the challenge,
32 to the voter at the mailing address shown on the request for
33 an early ballot or, if none was provided, to the mailing
34 address shown on the registration rolls. Notice shall also be
35 mailed to the challenger at the address listed on the written
36 challenge and provided to the county chairman of each
37 political party represented on the ballot. The board shall
38 meet to determine the challenge at the time specified by the
39 notice but, in any event, not earlier than ninety-six hours
40 after the notice is mailed, or forty-eight hours if the
41 notifying party chooses to deliver the notice by overnight or
42 hand delivery, and not later than 5:00 p.m. on the Monday
43 following the election. The board shall provide the voter
44 with an informal opportunity to make, or to submit, brief
45 statements regarding the challenge. The board may decline to

1 ~~permit~~ ALLOW comments, either in person or in writing, by
2 anyone other than the voter, the challenger and the party
3 representatives. The burden of proof is on the challenger to
4 show why the voter should not be ~~permitted~~ ALLOWED to
5 vote. The fact that the voter fails to appear shall not be
6 deemed to be an admission of the validity of the
7 challenge. The early election board or other officer in
8 charge of early ballot processing is not required to provide
9 the notices described in this subsection if the written
10 challenge fails to set forth at least one of the grounds
11 listed in section 16-591 as a basis for the challenge. In
12 that event, the challenge will be summarily rejected at the
13 meeting of the board. Except for election contests pursuant
14 to section 16-672, the board's decision is final and may not
15 be appealed.

16 F. If the vote is allowed, the board shall open the
17 envelope containing the ballot in such a manner that the mail
18 ~~ballot~~ affidavit ~~thereon~~ ON THE ENVELOPE is not destroyed,
19 take out the ballot without unfolding it or ~~permitting~~
20 ALLOWING it to be opened or examined and show by the records
21 of the election that the elector has voted.

22 G. If the vote is not allowed, the mail ~~ballot~~
23 affidavit envelope containing the early ballot shall not be
24 opened and the board shall mark across the face of such
25 envelope the grounds for rejection. The mail ~~ballot~~ affidavit
26 envelope and its contents shall then be deposited with the
27 opened mail ~~ballot~~ affidavit envelopes and shall be preserved
28 with official returns. If the voter does not enter an
29 appearance, the board shall send the voter a notice stating
30 whether the early ballot was disallowed and, if disallowed,
31 providing the grounds for the determination. The notice shall
32 be mailed by first class mail to the voter's mailing address
33 as shown on the registration rolls within three days after the
34 board's determination.

35 H. Party representatives and alternates may be
36 appointed as provided in subsection C of this section to be
37 present and to challenge the verification of questioned
38 ballots pursuant to section 16-584 on any grounds allowed by
39 this section. Questioned ballots that are challenged shall be
40 presented to the early election board for decision under the
41 provisions of this section.

1 Sec. 10. Section 16-579.01, Arizona Revised Statutes,
2 is amended to read:

3 16-579.01. Early ballots; on-site tabulation

4 A. Every county recorder or other officer in charge of
5 elections may provide for a qualified elector who appears at
6 that elector's designated polling location or at a voting
7 center **AT ANY TIME DURING THE PERIOD OF EARLY VOTING AND** on
8 election day with the elector's voted early ballot to have the
9 elector's voted early ballot tabulated as prescribed in
10 section 16-579.02.

11 B. The county recorder or other officer in charge of
12 elections shall do all of the following if the on-site
13 tabulation of early ballots is allowed:

14 1. Designate an area within a precinct or voting center
15 for processing electors with their voted early ballots that is
16 physically separate from the area for voters who are voting
17 pursuant to section 16-579.

18 2. Provide adequate poll workers, election officials
19 and equipment necessary to conduct voting pursuant to this
20 section and section 16-579.02.

21 3. Categorize and tally separately in the official
22 canvass and other reports electors whose voted early ballots
23 are tabulated at the precinct or voting center. The tally
24 shall be reported by precinct in the official canvass and
25 other voting reports.

26 4. Reconcile for that polling place or voting center
27 the number of electors who appear on the signature roster or
28 ~~e-pollbook~~ **ELECTRONIC POLLBOOK** with the number of completed
29 early ballot affidavits and the voted early ballots tabulated
30 on-site.

31 Sec. 11. Section 16-579.02, Arizona Revised Statutes,
32 is amended to read:

33 16-579.02. Early ballot on-site tabulation procedure

34 A. A qualified elector who appears at a voting center
35 or at the elector's designated polling place that allows for
36 the on-site tabulation of early ballots with the elector's
37 voted early ballot shall present identification as prescribed
38 in section 16-579, subsection A, paragraph 1 and proceed as
39 follows:

40 1. If the elector does not present identification that
41 complies with section 16-579, subsection A, paragraph 1, the
42 elector shall ~~either deposit the elector's voted early ballot~~
43 ~~in its affidavit envelope in an official drop box or~~ proceed
44 to the area designated for election day voting to surrender
45 the early ballot to the election board for retention and not

1 for tabulating. The elector shall then be allowed to vote a
2 provisional ballot as prescribed in section 16-584. An
3 election official may not allow for the on-site tabulation of
4 an early ballot if the elector does not present identification
5 that complies with section 16-579, subsection A, paragraph 1.

6 2. If the elector presents sufficient identification to
7 comply with section 16-579, subsection A, paragraph 1, the
8 elector shall present the elector's early ballot affidavit to
9 the election official in charge of the signature roster, and
10 the election official shall confirm that the name and address
11 on the completed affidavit reasonably appear to be the same as
12 the name and address on the precinct register.

13 3. If the elector's affidavit is not complete, the
14 election official in charge of the signature roster shall
15 allow the elector to complete the affidavit. The election
16 official may not allow for the on-site tabulation of an early
17 ballot until the elector presents a completed early ballot
18 affidavit.

19 B. If the elector's affidavit is complete, the
20 elector's name shall be numbered consecutively by the clerk
21 and in the order of application for early ballot tabulation.

22 C. For precincts in which a paper signature roster is
23 used, each qualified elector shall sign the elector's name in
24 the signature roster as prescribed in section 16-579,
25 subsection D before proceeding to the tabulating equipment.

26 D. For precincts in which an electronic pollbook is
27 used, each qualified elector shall sign the elector's name as
28 prescribed in section 16-579, subsection E before proceeding
29 to the tabulating equipment.

30 E. After signing the signature roster or electronic
31 pollbook, the elector shall proceed to the tabulating
32 equipment and while under the observation of an election
33 official, remove the early ballot from the completed affidavit
34 envelope, deposit the empty completed affidavit envelope in
35 the secured and labeled drop box and insert the early ballot
36 into a tabulating machine. An early ballot that has been
37 separated from the elector's completed affidavit envelope may
38 not be removed from the on-site early ballot tabulation area.

39 F. The drop box prescribed in subsection E of this
40 section shall be clearly labeled to indicate that the
41 completed affidavits are from ballots tabulated pursuant to
42 this section and shall be secured in a manner substantially
43 similar to other ballot boxes at that location.

44 G. Any qualified elector who lawfully brings to a
45 polling place or voting center another elector's voted early

1 ballot that is sealed in its affidavit envelope shall deposit
2 the other elector's voted early ballot in the appropriate
3 ballot drop box before entering the on-site early ballot
4 tabulation area for purposes of tabulating the elector's own
5 early ballot. The county recorder or other officer in charge
6 of elections shall ensure that a voter is not in possession of
7 another voter's ballot within the on-site early ballot
8 tabulation area.

9 Sec. 12. Title 16, chapter 6, article 1.2, Arizona
10 Revised Statutes, is amended by adding section 16-919, to
11 read:

12 16-919. Foreign contributions prohibited; ballot
13 measures; certification; definitions

14 A. A FOREIGN NATIONAL MAY NOT DIRECT, DICTATE, CONTROL
15 OR DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY PARTICIPATE IN THE DECISION-MAKING
16 PROCESS OF ANY PERSON WITH REGARD TO THAT PERSON'S ACTIVITIES
17 TO INFLUENCE A BALLOT INITIATIVE OR REFERENDUM, SUCH AS
18 DECISIONS CONCERNING THE MAKING OF CONTRIBUTIONS OR
19 EXPENDITURES TO INFLUENCE A BALLOT INITIATIVE OR REFERENDUM.

20 B. A PERSON, ENTITY OR COMMITTEE MAY NOT KNOWINGLY OR
21 WILFULLY RECEIVE, SOLICIT, ACCEPT OR USE CONTRIBUTIONS,
22 EXPENDITURES OR IN-KIND GOODS OR SERVICES THAT ARE CONTRIBUTED
23 DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY BY A FOREIGN NATIONAL TO INFLUENCE THE
24 OUTCOME OF AN ELECTION ON A BALLOT MEASURE.

25 C. A PERSON, ENTITY OR COMMITTEE THAT IS REQUIRED TO
26 FILE CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTS PURSUANT TO SECTION 16-926
27 SHALL:

28 1. CERTIFY UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY IN THOSE REPORTS
29 THAT THE PERSON, ENTITY OR COMMITTEE HAS NOT KNOWINGLY OR
30 WILFULLY RECEIVED, SOLICITED, ACCEPTED OR USED CONTRIBUTIONS,
31 EXPENDITURES OR IN-KIND GOODS OR SERVICES IN VIOLATION OF
32 SUBSECTION B OF THIS SECTION.

33 2. AFFIRM THAT EACH PERSON THAT CONTRIBUTED TO
34 INFLUENCE THE OUTCOME OF AN ELECTION ON A BALLOT MEASURE IS
35 NOT A FOREIGN NATIONAL AND HAS NOT KNOWINGLY OR WILFULLY
36 RECEIVED, SOLICITED OR ACCEPTED, WHETHER DIRECTLY OR
37 INDIRECTLY, CONTRIBUTIONS, EXPENDITURES OR IN-KIND GOODS OR
38 SERVICES FROM ONE OR MORE PROHIBITED SOURCES AGGREGATING MORE
39 THAN \$100,000 WITHIN THE FOUR-YEAR PERIOD IMMEDIATELY
40 PRECEDING THE DATE ON WHICH THE CONTRIBUTION IS MADE.

1 D. THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL REQUIRE ANY PERSON,
2 ENTITY OR COMMITTEE THAT FILES A STATEMENT OF ORGANIZATION
3 PURSUANT TO SECTION 16-906 WITH THE INTENT OR PURPOSE OF
4 INFLUENCING THE OUTCOME OF AN ELECTION ON A BALLOT MEASURE TO
5 CERTIFY THAT NO PRELIMINARY ACTIVITY WAS FUNDED BY PROHIBITED
6 SOURCES, WHETHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY.

7 E. A PERSON THAT MAKES A CONTRIBUTION TO A PERSON,
8 ENTITY OR COMMITTEE THAT IS REQUIRED TO FILE A CAMPAIGN
9 FINANCE REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 16-926 FOR INFLUENCING THE
10 OUTCOME OF AN ELECTION ON A BALLOT MEASURE OR A PERSON THAT
11 MAKES A BALLOT MEASURE EXPENDITURE THAT IS REQUIRED TO BE
12 REPORTED UNDER SECTION 16-926 SHALL PROVIDE WITHIN FORTY-EIGHT
13 HOURS AFTER MAKING THAT CONTRIBUTION OR EXPENDITURE A
14 CERTIFICATION TO THE PERSON, THE ENTITY OR THE COMMITTEE
15 TREASURER, IF APPLICABLE, AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE THAT
16 INCLUDES A DATED AND SWORN STATEMENT UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY
17 THAT THE PERSON IS NOT A FOREIGN NATIONAL, THAT THE PERSON HAS
18 NOT KNOWINGLY OR WILFULLY RECEIVED, SOLICITED OR ACCEPTED,
19 WHETHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, CONTRIBUTIONS, EXPENDITURES OR
20 IN-KIND GOODS OR SERVICES FROM ONE OR MORE PROHIBITED SOURCES
21 AGGREGATING MORE THAN \$100,000 WITHIN THE FOUR-YEAR PERIOD
22 IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE DATE ON WHICH THE CONTRIBUTION OR
23 EXPENDITURE IS MADE AND THAT THE PERSON WILL NOT ACCEPT
24 CONTRIBUTIONS, EXPENDITURES OR IN-KIND GOODS OR SERVICES FROM
25 A FOREIGN NATIONAL UNTIL AFTER THE DATE OF THE ELECTION IN
26 WHICH THE BALLOT MEASURE WILL APPEAR ON THE BALLOT. THIS
27 SUBSECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO A PERSON OR ORGANIZATION WHEN
28 PROVIDING COMMON GOODS.

29 F. THE CERTIFICATIONS PRESCRIBED BY THIS SECTION ARE IN
30 ADDITION TO ANY REPORTS REQUIRED BY SECTION 16-926.

31 G. THIS SECTION DOES NOT CREATE OR ELIMINATE ANY
32 EXISTING DONOR DISCLOSURE RIGHTS OR DUTIES BEYOND THOSE
33 ENUMERATED IN THIS SECTION.

34 H. A DETERMINATION THAT A PERSON THAT IS REQUIRED TO
35 PROVIDE THE CERTIFICATION PRESCRIBED BY THIS SECTION HAS
36 ACCEPTED CONTRIBUTIONS, EXPENDITURES OR IN-KIND GOODS OR
37 SERVICES FROM FOREIGN NATIONALS IN AN AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF MORE
38 THAN \$100,000 WITHIN THE APPLICABLE FOUR-YEAR PERIOD
39 ESTABLISHES A PRESUMPTION THAT THE PERSON IS IN VIOLATION OF
40 THIS SECTION.

41 I. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION:

42 1. "COMMON GOODS" MEANS ITEMS THAT ARE COMMONLY USED
43 ACROSS A WIDE VARIETY OF ORGANIZATIONS AND THAT ARE NOT
44 SPECIFIC TO INFLUENCING THE OUTCOME OF AN ELECTION ON A BALLOT
45 MEASURE.

1 2. "DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY" MEANS ACTING EITHER ALONE
2 OR JOINTLY WITH, THROUGH OR ON BEHALF OF ANY OTHER INDIVIDUAL,
3 PERSON, COMMITTEE OR ENTITY.

4 3. "FOREIGN NATIONAL":

5 (a) MEANS:

6 (i) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS NOT A CITIZEN OR LAWFUL
7 PERMANENT RESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

8 (ii) A GOVERNMENT, SUBDIVISION OR MUNICIPALITY OF A
9 FOREIGN COUNTRY.

10 (iii) A FOREIGN POLITICAL PARTY.

11 (iv) ANY ENTITY THAT IS ORGANIZED UNDER THE LAWS OF OR
12 HAS ITS PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY.

13 (v) ANY UNITED STATES ENTITY THAT IS WHOLLY OR MAJORITY
14 OWNED BY ANY FOREIGN NATIONAL UNLESS ANY CONTRIBUTION OR
15 EXPENDITURE THE ENTITY MAKES IS DERIVED ENTIRELY FROM MONIES
16 GENERATED BY THE ENTITY'S OPERATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES AND
17 ALL DECISIONS CONCERNING THE CONTRIBUTION OR EXPENDITURE ARE
18 MADE BY INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE UNITED STATES CITIZENS OR
19 PERMANENT RESIDENTS, EXCEPT FOR DECISIONS SETTING OVERALL
20 BUDGET AMOUNTS.

21 (b) DOES NOT INCLUDE FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED SOVEREIGN
22 TRIBAL NATIONS.

23 4. "PERSON" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL OR A CORPORATION OR
24 OTHER ENTITY.

25 5. "PRELIMINARY ACTIVITY" INCLUDES CONDUCTING A POLL OR
26 FOCUS GROUP, DRAFTING BALLOT MEASURE LANGUAGE, MAKING
27 TELEPHONE CALLS OR TRAVELING.

28 6. "PROHIBITED SOURCES" MEANS CONTRIBUTIONS, IN-KIND
29 GOODS OR SERVICES OR EXPENDITURES BY A FOREIGN NATIONAL.

30 Sec. 13. Title 16, chapter 6, article 1.3, Arizona
31 Revised Statutes, is amended by adding section 16-923, to
32 read:

33 16-923. Ballot measure expenditures; recordkeeping

34 A. ANY PERSON THAT MAKES A BALLOT MEASURE EXPENDITURE
35 SHALL KEEP AND PRESERVE A RECORD OF THE EXPENDITURE FOR TWO
36 YEARS FOLLOWING THE END OF THE ELECTION CYCLE DURING WHICH THE
37 EXPENDITURE WAS MADE.

38 B. A PERSON, ENTITY OR COMMITTEE THAT IS REQUIRED TO
39 FILE CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTS PURSUANT TO SECTION 16-926 AND
40 THAT RECEIVES A BALLOT MEASURE EXPENDITURE SHALL KEEP AND
41 PRESERVE A RECORD OF THE EXPENDITURE FOR TWO YEARS FOLLOWING
42 THE END OF THE ELECTION CYCLE IN WHICH THE BALLOT MEASURE
43 EXPENDITURE WAS RECEIVED.

1 Sec. 14. Severability

2 If a provision of this act or its application to any
3 person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does
4 not affect other provisions or applications of the act that
5 can be given effect without the invalid provision or
6 application, and to this end the provisions of this act are
7 severable.

8 Sec. 15. Legislative findings

9 The legislature finds that:

10 1. Arizona takes far longer than most other states to
11 report its final vote tabulations for elections.

12 2. The most significant causal factor in Arizona's
13 delayed vote count is matching signatures to the signatures in
14 the voter file for envelopes for early ballots that are
15 returned on or shortly before election day, sometimes called
16 "late early ballots".

17 3. Another cause of administrative delays in Arizona
18 elections is the recent surge in emergency voting during the
19 weekend before election day. Originally intended to
20 accommodate voters with bona fide last-minute emergencies that
21 would otherwise interfere with voting, emergency voting has
22 recently shifted to an unauthorized expansion of the early
23 voting period without any meaningful confirmation that voters
24 are, in fact, burdened by a last-minute emergency that would
25 otherwise prevent them from voting. This recent expansion of
26 emergency voting diverts scarce resources from elections
27 officials' offices at the very end of the election cycle, when
28 time and manpower are most precious, that otherwise could be
29 used to fully process early ballots, ensure smooth operations
30 on election day and facilitate the prompt reporting of
31 election results.

32 4. Arizona's delayed results are sometimes perceived as
33 evidence of election worker incompetence or inefficiency or as
34 an opportunity for unscrupulous participants to affect the
35 ballot tabulation process improperly. In this way, Arizona's
36 delay in reporting final numbers reduces public confidence in
37 Arizona's voting system.

38 5. By decentralizing and streamlining the process for
39 confirming voter identity associated with late early ballots
40 and eliminating emergency voting during the days immediately
41 before election day, Arizona can substantially reduce
42 administrative burdens, speed up the ballot tabulation process
43 and increase confidence in the electoral system.

1 6. By enlarging the overall early voting period and
2 maintaining other voting rights and processes such as
3 in-person early voting, in person election day voting, early
4 voting by mail through the Friday before election day, special
5 election boards, accessible voting systems and translations
6 for protected language groups, the proposed changes in Arizona
7 election administration processes will not have a substantial
8 net effect on either access to or the ease of voting in
9 Arizona.

10 Sec. 16. Short title

11 This act may be cited as the "Arizona Secure Elections
12 Act".

13 2. The Secretary of State shall submit this proposition to the
14 voters at the next general election as provided by article IV, part 1,
15 section 1, Constitution of Arizona.