

REFERENCE TITLE: initiative; referendum; signatures; legislative districts

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Fifty-fifth Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2022

# HCR 2014

Introduced by  
Representative Dunn

## A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF ARIZONA; AMENDING ARTICLE IV, PART 1, SECTION 1, CONSTITUTION OF ARIZONA; RELATING TO INITIATIVES AND REFERENDA.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

3 1. Article IV, part 1, section 1, Constitution of Arizona, is  
4 proposed to be amended as follows if approved by the voters and on  
5 proclamation of the Governor:

6 1. Legislative authority; initiative and referendum

7 Section 1. (1) Senate; house of representatives;  
8 reservation of power to people. The legislative authority of  
9 the state shall be vested in the legislature, consisting of a  
10 senate and a house of representatives, but the people reserve  
11 the power to propose laws and amendments to the constitution  
12 and to enact or reject such laws and amendments at the polls,  
13 independently of the legislature; and they also reserve, for  
14 use at their own option, the power to approve or reject at the  
15 polls any act, or item, section, or part of any act, of the  
16 legislature.

17 (2) Initiative power. The first of these reserved  
18 powers is the initiative. FOR STATEWIDE MEASURES, under this  
19 power ten ~~per centum~~ PERCENT of the qualified electors FROM  
20 EACH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT shall have the right to propose any  
21 STATEWIDE measure, and fifteen ~~per centum~~ PERCENT OF THE  
22 QUALIFIED ELECTORS FROM EACH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT shall have  
23 the right to propose any amendment to the constitution.

24 (3) Referendum power; emergency measures; effective  
25 date of acts. The second of these reserved powers is the  
26 referendum. Under this power the legislature, or, FOR  
27 STATEWIDE MEASURES, five ~~per centum~~ PERCENT of the qualified  
28 electors FROM EACH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT, may order the  
29 submission to the people at the polls of any measure, or item,  
30 section, or part of any measure, enacted by the legislature,  
31 except laws immediately necessary for the preservation of the  
32 public peace, health, or safety, or for the support and  
33 maintenance of the departments of the state government and  
34 state institutions; but to allow opportunity for referendum  
35 petitions, no act passed by the legislature shall be operative  
36 for ninety days after the close of the session of the  
37 legislature enacting such measure, except such as require  
38 earlier operation to preserve the public peace, health, or  
39 safety, or to provide appropriations for the support and  
40 maintenance of the departments of the state and of state  
41 institutions; provided, that no such emergency measure shall  
42 be considered passed by the legislature unless it shall state  
43 in a separate section why it is necessary that it shall become  
44 immediately operative, and shall be approved by the  
45 affirmative votes of two-thirds of the members elected to each

1 house of the legislature, taken by roll call of ayes and nays,  
2 and also approved by the governor; and should such measure be  
3 vetoed by the governor, it shall not become a law unless it  
4 shall be approved by the votes of three-fourths of the members  
5 elected to each house of the legislature, taken by roll call  
6 of ayes and nays.

7 (4) Initiative and referendum petitions; filing. All  
8 petitions submitted under the power of the initiative shall be  
9 known as initiative petitions, and shall be filed with the  
10 secretary of state not less than four months preceding the  
11 date of the election at which the measures so proposed are to  
12 be voted upon. All petitions submitted under the power of the  
13 referendum shall be known as referendum petitions, and shall  
14 be filed with the secretary of state not more than ninety days  
15 after the final adjournment of the session of the legislature  
16 which shall have passed the measure to which the referendum is  
17 applied. The filing of a referendum petition against any  
18 item, section, or part of any measure shall not prevent the  
19 remainder of such measure from becoming operative.

20 (5) Effective date of initiative and referendum  
21 measures. Any measure or amendment to the constitution  
22 proposed under the initiative, and any measure to which the  
23 referendum is applied, shall be referred to a vote of the  
24 qualified electors, and shall become law when approved by a  
25 majority of the votes cast thereon and ~~upon~~ ON proclamation of  
26 the governor, and not otherwise.

27 (6) (A) Veto of initiative or referendum. The veto  
28 power of the governor shall not extend to an initiative  
29 measure approved by a majority of the votes cast thereon or to  
30 a referendum measure decided by a majority of the votes cast  
31 thereon.

32 (6) (B) Legislature's power to repeal initiative or  
33 referendum. The legislature shall not have the power to  
34 repeal an initiative measure approved by a majority of the  
35 votes cast thereon or to repeal a referendum measure decided  
36 by a majority of the votes cast thereon.

37 (6) (C) Legislature's power to amend initiative or  
38 referendum. The legislature shall not have the power to amend  
39 an initiative measure approved by a majority of the votes cast  
40 thereon, or to amend a referendum measure decided by a  
41 majority of the votes cast thereon, unless the amending  
42 legislation furthers the purposes of such measure and at least  
43 three-fourths of the members of each house of the legislature,  
44 by a roll call of ayes and nays, vote to amend such measure.

1 (6) (D) Legislature's power to appropriate or divert  
2 funds created by initiative or referendum. The legislature  
3 shall not have the power to appropriate or divert funds  
4 created or allocated to a specific purpose by an initiative  
5 measure approved by a majority of the votes cast thereon, or  
6 by a referendum measure decided by a majority of the votes  
7 cast thereon, unless the appropriation or diversion of funds  
8 furthers the purposes of such measure and at least  
9 three-fourths of the members of each house of the legislature,  
10 by a roll call of ayes and nays, vote to appropriate or divert  
11 such funds.

12 (7) Number of qualified electors. The whole number of  
13 votes cast for all candidates for governor at the general  
14 election last preceding the filing of any initiative or  
15 referendum petition on a state or county measure shall be the  
16 basis on which the number of qualified electors required to  
17 sign such petition shall be computed.

18 (8) Local, city, town or county matters. The powers of  
19 the initiative and the referendum are hereby further reserved  
20 to the qualified electors of every incorporated city,  
21 town,~~—~~ and county as to all local, city, town,~~—~~ or county  
22 matters on which such incorporated cities, towns,~~—~~ and  
23 counties are or shall be empowered by general laws to  
24 legislate. Such incorporated cities, towns,~~—~~ and counties may  
25 prescribe the manner of exercising said powers within the  
26 restrictions of general laws. Under the power of the  
27 initiative fifteen ~~per centum~~ PERCENT of the qualified  
28 electors may propose measures on such local, city, town,~~—~~ or  
29 county matters, and ten ~~per centum~~ PERCENT of the electors may  
30 propose the referendum on legislation enacted within and by  
31 such city, town,~~—~~ or county. Until provided by general law,  
32 said cities and towns may prescribe the basis on which said  
33 percentages shall be computed.

34 (9) Form and contents of initiative and of referendum  
35 petitions; verification. Every initiative or referendum  
36 petition shall be addressed to the secretary of state in the  
37 case of petitions for or on state measures, and to the clerk  
38 of the board of supervisors, city clerk,~~—~~ or corresponding  
39 officer in the case of petitions for or on county, city,~~—~~ or  
40 town measures; and shall contain the declaration of each  
41 petitioner, for himself, that he is a qualified elector of the  
42 state (and in the case of petitions for or on city, town,~~—~~ or  
43 county measures, of the city, town, or county affected), his  
44 post office address, the street and number, if any, of his  
45 residence, and the date on which he signed such petition.

1 Each sheet containing petitioners' signatures shall be  
2 attached to a full and correct copy of the title and text of  
3 the measure so proposed to be initiated or referred to the  
4 people, and every sheet of every such petition containing  
5 signatures shall be verified by the affidavit of the person  
6 who circulated said sheet or petition, setting forth that each  
7 of the names on said sheet was signed in the presence of the  
8 affiant and that in the belief of the affiant each signer was  
9 FOR STATEWIDE MEASURES a qualified elector of the APPROPRIATE  
10 LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT AND THIS state, or in the case of a city,  
11 town, or county measure, of the city, town, or county  
12 affected by the measure so proposed to be initiated or  
13 referred to the people.

14 (10) Official ballot. When any initiative or referendum  
15 petition or any measure referred to the people by the  
16 legislature ~~shall be~~ IS filed, in accordance with this  
17 section, with the secretary of state, ~~he~~ THE SECRETARY OF  
18 STATE shall cause to be printed on the official ballot at the  
19 next regular general election the title and number of said  
20 measure, together with the words "yes" and "no" in such manner  
21 that the electors may express at the polls their approval or  
22 disapproval of the measure.

23 (11) Publication of measures. The text of all measures  
24 to be submitted shall be published as proposed amendments to  
25 the constitution are published, and in submitting such  
26 measures and proposed amendments the secretary of state and  
27 all other officers shall be guided by the general law until  
28 legislation shall be especially provided therefor.

29 (12) Conflicting measures or constitutional amendments.  
30 If two or more conflicting measures or amendments to the  
31 constitution shall be approved by the people at the same  
32 election, the measure or amendment receiving the greatest  
33 number of affirmative votes shall prevail in all particulars  
34 as to which there is conflict.

35 (13) Canvass of votes; proclamation. It shall be the  
36 duty of the secretary of state, in the presence of the  
37 governor and the chief justice of the supreme court, to  
38 canvass the votes for and against each such measure or  
39 proposed amendment to the constitution within thirty days  
40 after the election, and upon the completion of the canvass the  
41 governor shall forthwith issue a proclamation, giving the  
42 whole number of votes cast for and against each measure or  
43 proposed amendment, and declaring such measures or amendments  
44 as are approved by a majority of those voting thereon to be  
45 law.

1           (14) Reservation of legislative power. This section  
2 shall not be construed to deprive the legislature of the right  
3 to enact any measure except that the legislature shall not  
4 have the power to adopt any measure that supersedes, in whole  
5 or in part, any initiative measure approved by a majority of  
6 the votes cast thereon or any referendum measure decided by a  
7 majority of the votes cast thereon unless the superseding  
8 measure furthers the purposes of the initiative or referendum  
9 measure and at least three-fourths of the members of each  
10 house of the legislature, by a roll call of ayes and nays,  
11 vote to supersede such initiative or referendum measure.

12           (15) Legislature's right to refer measure to the people.  
13 Nothing in this section shall be construed to deprive or limit  
14 the legislature of the right to order the submission to the  
15 people at the polls of any measure, item, section, or part of  
16 any measure.

17           (16) Self-executing. This section of the constitution  
18 shall be, in all respects, self-executing.

19           2. The Secretary of State shall submit this proposition to the  
20 voters at the next general election as provided by article XXI,  
21 Constitution of Arizona.