

REFERENCE TITLE: **countywide elections; vote by mail**

State of Arizona
Senate
Fifty-fifth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2022

SB 1149

Introduced by
Senators Bowie: Gabaldon, Gonzales, Otondo, Terán; Representatives
Espinoza, Jermaine, Pawlik

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 16-409, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

2 Section 1. Section 16-409, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 16-409. Certain counties, cities, towns and school districts;
5 mail ballot elections; report

6 A. Notwithstanding section 16-558: ~~—~~

7 1. A city, town or school district may conduct a mail ballot
8 election.

9 2. A COUNTY MAY CONDUCT A MAIL BALLOT ELECTION FOR ANY ELECTION
10 ADMINISTERED BY THAT COUNTY, INCLUDING ELECTIONS ADMINISTERED FOR FEDERAL
11 AND STATE OFFICES AND MEASURES, AND ELECTIONS ADMINISTERED FOR THAT COUNTY
12 AND FOR A CITY, TOWN, SCHOOL DISTRICT OR SPECIAL DISTRICT AND FOR ANY
13 OTHER JURISDICTION'S ELECTION ADMINISTERED BY THAT COUNTY. A COUNTYWIDE
14 MAIL BALLOT ELECTION MAY BE CONDUCTED ONLY AFTER A VOTE OF APPROVAL BY THE
15 COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THAT COUNTY AND IF SIXTY PERCENT OR MORE
16 OF THE COUNTY'S REGISTERED VOTERS ARE ON THE ACTIVE EARLY VOTING LIST
17 PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 16-544.

18 B. A mail ballot election shall be conducted as otherwise
19 prescribed by article 8.1 of this chapter.

20 ~~B.~~ C. COUNTIES, cities, towns or school districts that conduct
21 mail ballot elections pursuant to subsection A of this section shall
22 report to the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of
23 representatives by January 1 of each year immediately following a mail
24 ballot election. The report shall include the following:

25 1. Changes in voter turnout.

26 2. Relative costs of mail ballot elections compared to traditional
27 elections.

28 3. Suggestions for improvements or refinements in the mail ballot
29 program.

30 4. Frequency and severity of mail ballot irregularities.

31 5. Voter satisfaction with the election process.

32 6. Number of nondeliverable ballots.