



ARIZONA STATE SENATE
Fifty-Sixth Legislature, First Regular Session

AMENDED
FACT SHEET FOR S.C.R. 1027

cities; towns; elections

Purpose

Subject to voter approval, constitutionally determines that, for a city or town that provides for election of city or town council members by district, ward, precinct or other geographic designation, only voters who are qualified electors of the district, ward, precinct or other geographic designation are eligible to vote for that council member candidate in the city's or town's primary, general, runoff or other election.

Background

Nomination petitions must be signed by a number of qualified signers equal to between 5 and 10 percent of the designated party vote in the ward, precinct or other district, except that a city that chooses to hold nonpartisan elections may provide by ordinance that the minimum number of signatures required for the candidate be the lesser of 250 signatures or between 5 and 10 percent of the vote in the district ([A.R.S. § 16-322](#)).

For a partisan primary election, the candidate who receives the largest number of votes must be declared the party nominee for the office and a certificate of nomination must be issued by the county board of supervisors. In the general election, the candidate who receives the largest number of votes must be declared elected and the county board of supervisors or designee must issue a certificate of election ([EPM Ch. 13 \(13\)\(I\)](#)).

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the state General Fund associated with this legislation.

Provisions

1. Determines that, for a city or town that provides for election of city or town council members by district, ward, precinct or other geographic designation, only voters who are qualified electors of the district, ward, precinct or other geographic designation are eligible to vote for that council member candidate in the city's or town's primary, general, runoff or other election.
2. Prohibits a city or town election from allowing the ranking of candidates in any manner other than with a single vote for one candidate for each office to be filled.
3. Requires the Secretary of State to submit the proposition to the voters at the next general election.
4. Becomes effective if approved by the voters and on proclamation of the Governor.

Amendments Adopted by Committee

- Prohibits a city or town from allowing the ranking of candidates in any manner other than with a single vote for one candidate for each office to be filled.

Senate Action

GOV 2/16/23 DPA 5-3-0

Prepared by Senate Research

February 17, 2023

MG/AN/slp