

Senate Engrossed House Bill
ballots; signature verification; observers

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-sixth Legislature
First Regular Session
2023

HOUSE BILL 2305

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 16, CHAPTER 4, ARTICLE 8, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY
ADDING SECTION 16-546; 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. Title 16, chapter 4, article 8, Arizona Revised
3 Statutes, is amended by adding section 16-546, to read:

4 16-546. Signature verification; political party observers;
5 challenge review; violation; classification

6 A. FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBT AND NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER LAW,
7 THE COUNTY RECORDER AND COUNTY OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS SHALL ALLOW
8 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TWO LARGEST POLITICAL PARTIES ENTITLED TO CONTINUED
9 REPRESENTATION ON THE BALLOT TO OBSERVE EACH STAGE OF THE SIGNATURE
10 VERIFICATION PROCESS FOR EARLY, PROVISIONAL AND CONDITIONAL PROVISIONAL
11 BALLOTS.

12 B. FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBT, OBSERVERS SHALL BE ALLOWED TO
13 OBSERVE FROM A DISTANCE OF SIX FEET SO THAT THEY CAN REASONABLY,
14 COMFORTABLY AND CLEARLY VIEW THE CONTENTS OF ANY SCREENS OR MONITORS THAT
15 ARE USED TO DISPLAY INFORMATION OR OTHER MATERIALS RELATED TO SIGNATURE
16 VERIFICATION, INCLUDING OBSERVERS WHO ARE IN AN AREA SEPARATE FROM THE
17 AREA WHERE SIGNATURE VERIFICATION IS OCCURRING AND WHO ARE OBSERVING THE
18 SIGNATURE VERIFICATION PROCESS BY VIEWING IT ON A SCREEN OR OTHER SIMILAR
19 MONITOR. FOR ANY ELECTION WORKERS WHO ARE CONDUCTING SIGNATURE
20 VERIFICATION ACTIVITIES WHILE WORKING FROM HOME, OBSERVERS SHALL NOT BE
21 ALLOWED TO OBSERVE IN THE ELECTION WORKER'S HOME.

22 C. OBSERVERS PRESCRIBED BY THIS SECTION SHALL NOT NOTE, TRANSCRIBE
23 OR OTHERWISE HOLD OR DISCLOSE ANY VOTER'S PERSONAL IDENTIFYING
24 INFORMATION, INCLUDING THE VOTER'S MONTH AND DAY OF BIRTH, DRIVER LICENSE
25 NUMBER, NONOPERATING IDENTIFICATION LICENSE NUMBER, FATHER'S NAME,
26 MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME AND STATE AND COUNTY OF BIRTH, THE RECORDS THAT
27 CONTAIN A VOTER'S SIGNATURE AND THE VOTER'S EMAIL ADDRESS.

28 D. FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBT, THE COUNTY RECORDER AND COUNTY
29 OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS SHALL MAINTAIN ELECTION BOARD WORKER AND
30 EMPLOYEE DOCUMENTATION IN THE FORM OF A LOG AT EACH STAGE OF THE SIGNATURE
31 AND AFFIDAVIT VERIFICATION PROCESS BY ALL ELECTION BOARD WORKERS AND
32 EMPLOYEES INVOLVED IN EACH PHASE OF REVIEW AND SHALL PROVIDE FOR FULL
33 ACCOUNTING AND DISCLOSURE OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SIGNATURE VERIFICATIONS
34 PERFORMED BY EACH ELECTION BOARD WORKER AND EMPLOYEE INCLUDING THE
35 DETERMINATION MADE BY EACH ELECTION BOARD WORKER AND EMPLOYEE INCLUDING,
36 THE NAME OF THE ELECTION BOARD WORKER WHO CONDUCTED THE SIGNATURE
37 VERIFICATION, THE DATE THE REVIEW WAS CONDUCTED, THE BATCH NUMBERS AND
38 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SIGNATURE VERIFICATIONS PERFORMED AND THE TOTAL NUMBER
39 OF DETERMINATIONS IN EACH CATEGORY, ACCEPTED, REJECTED, SENT FOR FURTHER
40 REVIEW, AND THE FINAL DETERMINATION MADE AT SUBSEQUENT PHASES OR LEVELS OF
41 REVIEW. THE COUNTY RECORDER AND COUNTY OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS
42 SHALL MAINTAIN COMPLETE LOGS OF ALL SIGNATURE VERIFICATIONS PROCESSED
43 DAILY AND THESE MUST BE MADE AVAILABLE DAILY TO ANY POLITICAL PARTY AND
44 ALL CANDIDATES ON REQUEST.

45 E. A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A CLASS 5
46 FELONY.