REFERENCE TITLE: registrations; counting procedures; observers; verification

State of Arizona Senate Fifty-sixth Legislature First Regular Session 2023

SB 1132

Introduced by Senator Kavanagh

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 16-168 AND 16-544, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; AMENDING SECTION 16-550, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, AS AMENDED BY LAWS 2022, CHAPTER 271, SECTION 2; AMENDING SECTIONS 16-590, 16-602 AND 16-621, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; AMENDING TITLE 16, CHAPTER 4, ARTICLE 10, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 16-621.01; RELATING TO ELECTIONS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona: Section 1. Section 16-168, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

16-168. Precinct registers; date of preparation; contents; copies; reports; statewide database; violation; classification

- A. By the tenth day preceding the primary and general elections the county recorder shall prepare from the original registration forms or from electronic media at least four lists that are printed or typed on paper, or at least two electronic media poll lists, or any combination of both, of all qualified electors in each precinct in the county, and the lists shall be the official precinct registers.
- B. The official precinct registers for use at the polling place shall contain at least the names in full, party preference, date of registration and residence address of each qualified elector in the respective precincts. The names shall be in alphabetical order and, in a column to the left of the names, shall be numbered consecutively beginning with number 1 in each precinct register.
- C. For the purposes of transmitting voter registration information as prescribed by this subsection, electronic media shall be the principal media. A county or state chairman who is eligible to receive copies of precinct lists as prescribed by this subsection may request that the recorder provide a paper copy of the precinct lists. In addition to preparing the official precinct lists, the county recorder shall provide a means for electronically reproducing the precinct lists. Unless otherwise agreed, the county recorder shall deliver one electronic media copy of each precinct list in the county without charge and on the same day within eight days after the close of registration for the primary and general elections to the county chairman and one electronic media copy to the state chairman of each party that has at least four candidates other than presidential electors appearing on the ballot in that county at the current election. The secretary of state shall establish a single format that prescribes the manner and template in which all county recorders provide this data to the secretary of state to ensure that the submissions are uniform from all counties in this state, that all submissions are identical in format, including the level of detail for voting history, and that information may readily be combined from two or more counties. The electronic media copies of the precinct lists that are delivered to the party chairmen shall include for each elector the following information:
 - 1. Name in full and appropriate title.
 - 2. Party preference.
 - 3. Date of registration.
 - 4. Residence address.

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- 5. Mailing address, if different from residence address.
- 6. Zip code.
- 7. Telephone number if given.
- 8. Birth year.
- 9. Occupation if given.
- 10. Voting history for all elections in the prior four years and any other information regarding registered voters that the county recorder or city or town clerk maintains electronically and that is public information.
- 11. All data relating to early voters, including ballot requests and ballot returns.
- D. The names on the precinct lists shall be in alphabetical order and the precinct lists in their entirety, unless otherwise agreed, shall be delivered to each county chairman and each state chairman within ten business days of the close of each date for counting registered voters prescribed by subsection G of this section other than the primary and general election registered voter counts in the same format and media as prescribed by subsection C of this section. During the thirty-three days immediately preceding an election and on request from a county or state chairman, the county recorder shall provide at no cost a daily list of persons who have requested an early ballot and shall provide at no cost a weekly listing of persons who have returned their early ballots. The recorder shall provide the daily and weekly information through the Friday preceding the election. On request from a county chairman or state chairman, the county recorder of a county with a population of more than eight hundred thousand persons shall provide at no cost a daily listing of persons who have returned their early ballots. The daily listing shall be provided Mondays through Fridays, beginning with the first Monday following the start of early voting and ending on the Monday before the election.
- E. Precinct registers and other lists and information derived from registration forms may be used only for purposes relating to a political or political party activity, a political campaign or an election, for revising election district boundaries or for any other purpose specifically authorized by law and may not be PUBLICLY POSTED OR used for a commercial purpose as defined in section 39-121.03. The sale of registers, lists and information derived from registration forms to a candidate or a registered political committee for a use specifically authorized by this subsection does not constitute use for a commercial purpose. The county recorder, the secretary of state and other officers in charge of elections, SHALL PROVIDE FOR ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO VOTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION, AND on a request for an authorized A NONCOMMERCIAL use and within thirty days from receipt of the request, shall prepare additional copies of an official precinct list and furnish them to any person requesting them on payment of WHO ESTABLISHES AN

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ELECTRONIC PROFILE WITH THE INFORMATION PROVIDER, WHO ATTESTS THAT THE INFORMATION WILL NOT BE USED FOR A COMMERCIAL PURPOSE AND WHO PAYS a fee equal to the following amounts for the following number of voter registration records provided:

- 1. For one to one hundred twenty-four thousand nine hundred ninety-nine records, \$93.75 plus \$0.0005 per record.
- 2. For one hundred twenty-five thousand to two hundred forty-nine thousand nine hundred ninety-nine records, \$156.25 plus \$0.000375 per record.
- 3. For two hundred fifty thousand to four hundred ninety-nine thousand nine hundred ninety-nine records, \$203.13 plus \$0.00025 per record.
- 4. For five hundred thousand to nine hundred ninety-nine thousand nine hundred ninety-nine records, \$265.63 plus \$0.000125 per record.
- 5. For one million or more records, \$328.13 plus \$0.0000625 per record.
- F. Any person in possession of a precinct register or list, in whole or part, or any reproduction of a precinct register or list, shall not permit the register or list to be used, bought, sold or otherwise transferred for any purpose except for uses otherwise authorized by this section. A person in possession of information derived from voter registration forms or precinct registers shall not distribute, post or otherwise provide access to any portion of that information through the internet except as authorized by subsection I of this section. Nothing in This section shall DOES NOT preclude public inspection of voter registration records at the office of the county recorder for the purposes prescribed by this section, except that the month and day of birth date, the social security number or any portion thereof, the driver license number or nonoperating identification license number, the Indian census number, the father's name or mother's maiden name, the state or country of birth and the records containing a voter's signature and a voter's e-mail EMAIL address shall not be accessible or reproduced by any person other than the voter, by an authorized government official in the scope of the official's duties, for any purpose by an entity designated by the secretary of state as a voter registration agency pursuant to the national voter registration act of 1993 (P.L. 103-31; 107 Stat. 77), for signature verification on petitions and candidate filings, for election purposes and for news gathering purposes by a person engaged in newspaper, radio, television or reportorial work, or connected with or employed by a radio or television station or pursuant to order. Notwithstanding any other law, a voter's e-mail EMAIL address may not be released for any purpose. A person who violates this subsection or subsection E of this section is guilty of a class 6 felony.

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- G. The county recorder shall count the registered voters by political party by precinct, legislative district and congressional district as follows:
- 1. In even numbered years, the county recorder shall count all persons who are registered to vote as of:
 - (a) January 2.
 - (b) April 1.
- (c) The last day on which a person may register to be eligible to vote in the next primary election.
- (d) The last day on which a person may register to be eligible to vote in the next general election.
- (e) The last day on which a person may register to be eligible to vote in the next presidential preference election.
- 2. In odd numbered years, the county recorder shall count all persons who are registered to vote as of:
 - (a) January 2.
 - (b) April 1.
 - (c) July 1.
 - (d) October 1.
- H. The county recorder shall report the totals to the secretary of state as soon as is practicable following each of the dates prescribed in subsection G of this section. The report shall include completed registration forms returned in accordance with section 16-134, subsection B. The county recorder shall also provide the report in a uniform electronic computer media format that shall be agreed on between the secretary of state and all county recorders. The secretary of state shall then prepare a summary report for the state and shall maintain that report as a permanent record.
- I. The county recorder and the secretary of state shall protect access to voter registration information in an auditable format and method specified in the secretary of state's electronic voting system instructions and procedures manual that is adopted pursuant to section 16-452.
- J. The secretary of state shall develop and administer a statewide database of voter registration information that contains the name and registration information of every registered voter in this state. The statewide database is a matter of statewide concern and is not subject to modification or further regulation by a political subdivision. The database shall include an identifier that is unique for each individual voter. The database shall provide for access by voter registration officials and shall allow expedited entry of voter registration information after it is received by county recorders. As a part of the statewide voter registration database, county recorders shall provide for the electronic transmittal of that information to the secretary of state on a real time basis. The secretary of state shall provide for

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 maintenance of the database, including provisions regarding removal of ineligible voters that are consistent with the national voter registration act of 1993 (P.L. 103-31; 107 Stat. 77; 52 United States Code sections 20501 through 20511) and the help America vote act of 2002 (P.L. 107-252; 116 Stat. 1666; 52 United States Code sections 20901 through 21145), provisions regarding removal of duplicate registrations and provisions to ensure that eligible voters are not removed in error. For the purpose of maintaining compliance with the help America vote act of 2002, each county voter registration system is subject to approval by the secretary of state for compatibility with the statewide voter registration database system.

- K. Except as provided in subsection L of this section, for requests for the use of registration forms and access to information as provided in subsections E and F of this section, the county recorder shall receive and respond to requests regarding federal, state and county elections.
- L. Beginning January 1, 2008, recognized political parties shall request precinct lists and access to information as provided in subsections E and F of this section during the time periods prescribed in subsection C or D of this section and the county recorder shall receive and respond to those requests. If the county recorder does not provide the requested materials within the applicable time prescribed for the county recorder pursuant to subsection C or D of this section, a recognized political party may request that the secretary of state provide precinct lists and access to information as provided in subsections E and F of this section for federal, state and county elections. The secretary of state shall not provide access to precinct lists and information for recognized political parties unless the county recorder has failed or refused to provide the lists and materials as prescribed by this section. The secretary of state may charge the county recorder a fee determined by rule for each name or record produced.
- M. For municipal registration information in those municipalities in which the county administers the municipal elections, county and state party chairmen shall request and obtain voter registration information and precinct lists from the city or town clerk during the time periods prescribed in subsection C or D of this section. If the city or town clerk does not provide that information within the same time prescribed for county recorders pursuant to subsection C or D of this section, the county or state party chairman may request and obtain the information from the county recorder. The county recorder shall provide the municipal voter registration and precinct lists within the time prescribed in subsection C or D of this section.
- N. The county recorders and the secretary of state shall not prohibit any person or entity prescribed in subsection C of this section from distributing a precinct list to any person or entity that is deemed to be using the precinct list in a lawful manner as prescribed in subsections E and F of this section.

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 Sec. 2. Section 16-544, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

16-544. Active early voting list; civil penalty; violation; classification; definition

- A. Any voter may request to be included on a list of voters to receive an early ballot by mail for any election for which the county voter registration roll is used to prepare the election register. The county recorder of each county shall maintain the active early voting list as part of the voter registration roll.
- B. In order to be included on the active early voting list, the voter shall make a written request specifically requesting that the voter's name be added to the active early voting list for all elections in which the applicant is eligible to vote. An early voter request form conform to requirements prescribed in the instructions procedures manual issued pursuant to section 16-452. The application shall allow for the voter to provide the voter's name, residence address, mailing address in the voter's county of residence, date of birth and signature and shall state that the voter is attesting that the voter is a registered voter who is eligible to vote in the county of residence. The voter shall not list a mailing address that is outside of this state for the purpose of the active early voting list unless the voter is an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter as defined in the uniformed and overseas citizens absentee voting act of 1986 (P.L. 99-410; 52 United States Code section 20310). In lieu of the application, the applicant may submit a written request that contains the required information.
- C. On receipt of a request to be included on the active early voting list, the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall compare the signature on the request form with the voter's signature on the voter's registration form and, if the request is from the voter, shall mark the voter's registration file as an active early ballot request.
- D. Not less than ninety days before any polling place election scheduled in March or August, the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall mail to all voters who are eligible for the election and who are included on the active early voting list an election notice by nonforwardable mail that is marked with the statement required by the postmaster to receive an address correction notification. If an election is not formally called by a jurisdiction by the one hundred twentieth day before the election, the recorder or other officer in charge of elections is not required to send the election notice. The notice shall include the dates of the elections that are the subject of the notice, the dates that the voter's ballot is expected to be mailed and the address where the ballot will be mailed. If the upcoming election is a partisan open primary election and the voter is not registered as a member of one of the political parties that is recognized for purposes of that

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primary, the notice shall include information on the procedure for the voter to designate a political party ballot. The notice shall be delivered with return postage prepaid and shall also include a means for the voter to do any of the following:

- 1. Change the mailing address for the voter's ballot to another location in the voter's county of residence.
- 2. Update the voter's residence address in the voter's county of residence.
- 3. Request that the voter not be sent a ballot for the upcoming election or elections indicated on the notice.
- E. If the notice that is mailed to the voter is returned undeliverable by the postal service, the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall take the necessary steps to contact the voter at the voter's new residence address in order to update that voter's address or to move the voter to inactive status as prescribed in section 16-166, subsection A. If a voter is moved to inactive status, the voter shall be removed from the active early voting list. If the voter is removed from the active early voting list, the voter shall only be added to the active early voting list again if the voter submits a new request pursuant to this section.
- F. Not later than the first day of early voting, the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall mail an early ballot to all eligible voters included on the active early voting list in the same manner prescribed in section 16-542, subsection C. If the voter has not returned the notice or otherwise notified the election officer within forty-five days before the election that the voter does not wish to receive an early ballot by mail for the election or elections indicated, the ballot shall automatically be scheduled for mailing.
- G. If a voter who is on the active early voting list is not registered as a member of a recognized political party and fails to notify the county recorder of the voter's choice for political party ballot within forty-five days before a partisan open primary election, the following apply:
- 1. The voter shall not automatically be sent a ballot for that partisan open primary election only and the voter's name shall remain on the active early voting list for future elections.
- 2. To receive an early ballot for the primary election, the voter shall submit the voter's choice for political party ballot to the county recorder.
- H. After a voter has requested to be included on the active early voting list, the voter shall be sent an early ballot by mail automatically for any election at which a voter at that residence address is eligible to vote until any of the following occurs:

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- 1. The voter requests in writing to be removed from the active early voting list OR MAKES A VERBAL REQUEST THAT INCLUDES INFORMATION SUFFICIENT TO VERIFY THE VOTER'S IDENTITY.
- 2. The voter's registration or eligibility for registration is moved to inactive status or canceled as otherwise provided by law.
- 3. The notice sent by the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections is returned undeliverable and the county recorder or officer in charge of elections is unable to contact the voter to determine the voter's continued desire to remain on the list.
- 4. The voter fails to vote an early ballot in all elections for two consecutive election cycles. For the purposes of this paragraph, "election" means any regular primary or regular general election for which there was a federal race on the ballot or for which a city or town candidate primary or first election or city or town candidate second, general or runoff election was on the ballot. This paragraph does not apply to:
- (a) A special taxing district that is authorized pursuant to section 16-191 to conduct its own elections.
- (b) A special district mail ballot election that is conducted pursuant to article 8.1 of this chapter.
- I. A voter may make a written request at any time to be removed from the active early voting list. The request shall include the voter's name, residence address, date of birth and signature. On receipt of a completed request to remove a voter from the active early voting list, the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall remove the voter's name from the list as soon as practicable.
- J. An absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter as defined in the uniformed and overseas citizens absentee voting act $\frac{\text{of }1986}{\text{OP.L. }99\text{-}410}$; 52 United States Code section 20310) is eligible to be placed on the active early voting list pursuant to this section.
- K. A voter's failure to vote an early ballot once received does not constitute grounds to remove the voter from the active early voting list, except that a county recorder shall remove a voter from the active early voting list if both of the following apply:
- 1. The county recorder or other officer in charge of elections complies with subsection M of this section.
- 2. The voter fails to vote using an early ballot in all of the following elections for two consecutive election cycles:
- (a) A regular primary and regular general election for which there was a federal race on the ballot.
- (b) A city or town candidate primary or first election and a city or town candidate second, general or runoff election.
- L. On or before January 15 of each odd-numbered year, the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall send a notice to each voter who is on the active early voting list and who did not vote an

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early ballot in all elections for two consecutive election cycles as prescribed by subsection K of this section. If the voter has provided the voter's telephone or mobile phone number or email address to the county recorder, the county recorder may additionally provide the notice to the voter by telephone call, text message or email. The notice shall inform the voter that if the voter wishes to remain on the active early voting list, the voter shall do both of the following with the notice received:

- 1. Confirm in writing the voter's desire to remain on the active early voting list.
- 2. Return the completed notice to the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections within ninety days after the notice is sent to the voter. The notice shall be signed by the voter and shall contain the voter's address and date of birth.
- M. If a voter receives a notice as prescribed by subsection L of this section and the voter fails to respond within the ninety-day period, the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall remove the voter's name from the active early voting list.
- N. A candidate, political committee or other organization may distribute active early voting list request forms to voters. If the active early voting list request forms include a printed address for return, that address shall be the political subdivision that will conduct the election. Failure to use the political subdivision as the return addressee is punishable by a civil penalty of up to three times the cost of the production and distribution of the active early voting list request.
- O. All original and completed active early voting list request forms that are received by a candidate, political committee or other organization shall be submitted within six business days after receipt by a candidate or political committee or eleven days before the election day, whichever is earlier, to the political subdivision that will conduct the election. Any person, political committee or other organization that fails to submit a completed active early voting list request form within the prescribed time is subject to a civil penalty of up to \$25 per day for each completed form withheld from submittal. Any person who knowingly fails to submit a completed active early voting list request form before the submission deadline for the election immediately following the completion of the form is guilty of a class 6 felony.
- P. For the purposes of this section, "election cycle" means the two-year period beginning on January 1 in the year after a statewide general election or, for cities and towns, the two-year period beginning on the first day of the calendar quarter after the calendar quarter in which the city's or town's second, runoff or general election is scheduled and ending on the last day of the calendar quarter in which the city's or town's immediately following second, runoff or general election is scheduled, however that election is designated by the city or town.

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Sec. 3. Section 16-550, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by Laws 2022, chapter 271, section 2, is amended to read:

16-550. Receipt of voter's ballot; cure period

- A. Except for early ballots tabulated as prescribed in section 16-579.02, on receipt of the envelope containing the early ballot and the ballot affidavit, the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall compare the signatures thereon SIGNATURE ON THE ENVELOPE the signature of the elector on the elector's registration record. FOR ANY COMPARISON WITH THE ELECTOR'S REGISTRATION RECORD, THE COUNTY RECORDER OR OTHER OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS SHALL REDACT THE ELECTOR'S DESIGNATED POLITICAL PARTY. If the signature is inconsistent with the elector's signature on the elector's registration record, the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall make reasonable efforts to contact the voter, advise the voter of the inconsistent signature and allow the voter to correct or the county to confirm the inconsistent signature. The county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall allow signatures to be corrected not later than the fifth business day after a primary, general or special election that includes a federal office or the third business day after any other election. If the signature is missing, the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall make reasonable efforts to contact the elector, advise the elector of the missing signature and allow the elector to add the elector's signature not later than 7:00 p.m. on election day. If satisfied that the signatures correspond, the recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall hold the envelope containing the early ballot and the completed affidavit unopened in accordance with the rules of the secretary of state.
- B. The recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall thereafter safely keep the affidavits and early ballots in the recorder's or other officer's office and may deliver them for tallying pursuant to section 16-551. Tallying of ballots may begin immediately after the envelope and completed affidavit are processed pursuant to this section and delivered to the early election board.
- C. The county recorder shall send a list of all voters who were issued early ballots to the election board of the precinct in which the voter is registered.
 - D. This section does not apply to:
- 1. A special taxing district that is authorized pursuant to section 16-191 to conduct its own elections.
- 2. A special district mail ballot election that is conducted pursuant to article 8.1 of this chapter.

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44 45 Sec. 4. Section 16-590, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

16-590. Appointment of challengers and party representatives

- A. The county chairman CHAIRPERSON of each party may, for each written appointment addressed to the bу board, designate a party agent or representative and alternates for a polling place in the precinct, A VOTING CENTER IN THE PRECINCT OR A LOCATION AT WHICH ELECTRONIC PROCESSING OF BALLOTS OCCURS who may act as challengers for the party which THAT appointed him THEM. IF THE COUNTY PARTY CHAIRPERSON FAILS TO APPOINT A PARTY AGENT OR REPRESENTATIVE FOR A LOCATION, THE STATE PARTY CHAIRPERSON MAY MAKE THOSE APPOINTMENTS, AND IF PARTY CHAIRPERSON FAILS TO APPOINT A PARTY AGENT OR REPRESENTATIVE, THE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT CHAIRPERSON IN THE AREA IN WHICH THE POLLING PLACE, VOTING CENTER OR OTHER LOCATION IS LOCATED MAY MAKE THOSE APPOINTMENTS FOR A LOCATION.
- B. At each voting place, one challenger for each political party may be present and act, but $\frac{100}{100}$ A challenger may NOT enter a voting booth except to mark $\frac{1}{100}$ THAT CHALLENGER'S ballot.
- C. Not more than the number of party representatives for each party which WHO were mutually agreed upon ON by each political party represented on the ballot shall be in the polling place OR VOTING CENTER at one time. If such AN agreement cannot be reached, the number of representatives shall be limited to one in the polling place at one time for each political party.
- D. A challenger or party representative shall be a resident of this state and registered to vote in this state.
- Sec. 5. Section 16-602, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

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16-602. Removal of ballots from ballot boxes; designated margin; hand counts; vote count verification committee
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- A. For any primary, special or general election in which the votes are cast on an electronic voting machine or tabulator, the election judge shall compare the number of votes cast as indicated on the machine or tabulator with the number of votes cast as indicated on the poll list and the number of provisional ballots cast and that information shall be noted in a written report prepared and submitted to the officer in charge of elections along with other tally reports.
- B. For each countywide primary, special, general and presidential preference election, the county officer in charge of the election shall conduct a hand count at one or more secure facilities. The hand count shall be conducted as prescribed by this section and in accordance with hand count procedures established by the secretary of state in the official instructions and procedures manual adopted pursuant to section 16-452. THE COUNTY OFFICER IN CHARGE OF THE ELECTION SHALL PUBLISH THE

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PROCEDURES FOR THE HAND COUNT, INCLUDING THE TIMES AND LOCATIONS, ON THE COUNTY'S WEBSITE NOT LATER THAN THE TUESDAY BEFORE ELECTION DAY. The hand count is not subject to the live video requirements of section 16-621, subsection D, but AND the party representatives who are observing the hand count may bring their own video cameras in order to record the hand count. The recording shall not interfere with the conduct of the hand count and the officer in charge of the election may prohibit from recording or remove from the facility persons who are taking actions to disrupt the count. The sole act of recording the hand count does not constitute sufficient grounds for the officer in charge of the election to prohibit observers from recording or to remove them from the facility. The hand count shall be conducted in the following order:

- 1. At least two percent of the precincts in that county, or two precincts, whichever is greater, shall be selected at random from a pool consisting of every precinct in that county. The county political party chairman CHAIRPERSON for each political party that is entitled to ballot representation on the state or the chairman's continued CHAIRPERSON'S designee shall conduct the selection of the precincts to be hand counted. The precincts shall be selected by lot without the use of a computer, and the order of selection by the county political party chairmen CHAIRPERSONS shall also be by lot. The selection of the precincts shall not begin until all ballots voted in the precinct polling places have been delivered to the central counting center. The unofficial vote totals from all precincts shall be made public before selecting the precincts to be hand counted. Only the ballots cast in the polling places and ballots from direct recording electronic machines shall be included in the hand counts conducted pursuant to this section. Provisional ballots, conditional provisional ballots and write-in votes shall not be included in the hand counts and the early ballots shall be grouped separately by the officer in charge of elections for purposes of a separate manual audit pursuant to subsection F of this section.
- 2. The races to be counted on the ballots from the precincts that were selected pursuant to paragraph 1 of this subsection for each primary, special and general election shall include up to five contested races. After the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections separates the primary ballots by political party, the races to be counted shall be determined by selecting by lot without the use of a computer from those ballots as follows:
- (a) For a general election, one statewide ballot measure, unless there are no measures on the ballot.
 - (b) One contested statewide race for statewide office.
- (c) One contested race for federal office, either United States senate or United States house of representatives. If the United States house of representatives race is selected, the names of the candidates may vary among the sampled precincts.

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- (d) One contested race for state legislative office, either state house of representatives or state senate. In either case, the names of the candidates may vary among the sampled precincts.
- (e) If there are fewer than four contested races resulting from the selections made pursuant to subdivisions (a) through (d) of this section PARAGRAPH and if there are additional contested federal, statewide or legislative races or ballot measures, additional contested races shall be selected by lot not using a computer until four races have been selected or until no additional contested federal, statewide or legislative races or ballot measures are available for selection.
- (f) If there are no contested races as prescribed by this paragraph, a hand count shall not be conducted for that precinct for that election.
- 3. For the presidential preference election, select by lot two percent of the polling places designated and used pursuant to section 16-248 and perform the hand count of those ballots.
- 4. For the purposes of this section, a write-in candidacy in a race does not constitute a contested race.
- 5. In elections in which there are candidates for president, the presidential race shall be added to the four categories of hand counted races.
- 6. Each county chairman CHAIRPERSON of a political party that is entitled to continued representation on the state ballot or the chairman's CHAIRPERSON'S designee shall select by lot the individual races to be hand counted pursuant to this section.
- 7. The county chairman CHAIRPERSON of each political party shall designate and provide the number of election board members as designated by the county officer in charge of elections who shall perform the hand count under the supervision of the county officer in charge of elections. For each precinct that is to be audited, the county chairmen CHAIRPERSONS shall designate at least two board workers who are registered members of any or no political party to assist with the audit. qualified elector from this state may be a board worker without regard to party designation. IF THE COUNTY PARTY CHAIRPERSON FAILS TO DESIGNATE A SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF BOARD WORKERS, THE STATE PARTY CHAIRPERSON SHALL DESIGNATE QUALIFIED ELECTORS TO BE BOARD WORKERS. IF THE STATE PARTY CHAIRPERSON FAILS TO DESIGNATE A SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF BOARD WORKERS, THE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT CHAIRPERSON OF THE DISTRICT IN WHICH THE HAND COUNT IS TO OCCUR SHALL DESIGNATE QUALIFIED ELECTORS TO BE BOARD WORKERS. county election officer shall provide for compensation for those board workers, not to include travel, meal or lodging expenses. If there are less than two persons for each audited precinct available to participate on behalf of each recognized political party, the recorder or officer in charge of elections, with the approval of at least two county party chairpersons in the county in which the shortfall occurs, shall substitute

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additional individual electors who are provided by any political party from anywhere in the state without regard to party designation to conduct the hand count. A county party chairman CHAIRPERSON shall approve only those substitute electors who are provided by the county chairman's CHAIRPERSON'S political party. The political parties shall provide to the recorder or officer in charge of elections in writing the names of those persons intending to participate in the hand count at the audited precincts not later than 5:00 p.m. on the Tuesday preceding the election. If the total number of board workers provided by all parties is less than four times the number of precincts to be audited, the recorder or officer in charge of elections shall notify the parties of the shortage by 9:00 a.m. on the Wednesday preceding the election. IF, BY 9:00 A.M. ON THE THURSDAY PRECEDING THE ELECTION, THE NUMBER OF PERSONS PROVIDED BY THE POLITICAL PARTIES IS ESTIMATED TO BE INSUFFICIENT TO PERFORM THE HAND COUNT BY THE COUNTY OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS, THE COUNTY OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS SHALL PREPARE A LIST OF QUALIFIED ELECTORS WHO ARE PROVIDED BY ANY POLITICAL PARTY IN THIS STATE. THE COUNTY OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS SHALL PROVIDE THE LIST OF THOSE PERSONS TO THE COUNTY CHAIRPERSON OF EACH RECOGNIZED POLITICAL PARTY IN THE COUNTY NOT LATER THAN 5:00 P.M. ON THE FRIDAY PRECEDING THE ELECTION. THE SELECTION OF PERSONS TO PERFORM THE HAND COUNT SHALL ENSURE WHEN PRACTICABLE THAT NOT MORE THAN SEVENTY-FIVE PERCENT OF THE PERSONS CONDUCTING THE HAND COUNT ARE MEMBERS OF THE SAME POLITICAL PARTY, EXCEPT THAT IF A RECOGNIZED POLITICAL PARTY PROVIDES AN INSUFFICIENT NUMBER OF QUALIFIED ELECTORS OR NO QUALIFIED ELECTORS AS DETERMINED BY THE COUNTY RECORDER OR OTHER OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS BY 9:00 A.M. ON THE WEDNESDAY FOLLOWING THE ELECTION, THE HAND COUNT SHALL PROCEED WITHOUT REGARD TO THE POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS OF THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS CONDUCTING COUNT. THE HAND COUNT SHALL NOT PROCEED UNLESS THE RECOGNIZED POLITICAL PARTIES PROVIDE IN WRITING TO THE COUNTY OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS BEFORE 5:00 P.M. ON THE THURSDAY FOLLOWING THE ELECTION THE NAMES OF A SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF QUALIFIED ELECTORS OR UNLESS ANY POLITICAL PARTY PROVIDES IN WRITING TO THE COUNTY OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS BEFORE 5:00 P.M. ON THE THURSDAY FOLLOWING THE ELECTION THE NAMES OF A SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF QUALIFIED ELECTORS AS PRESCRIBED IN THIS SUBSECTION AND A SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF THOSE PERSONS ARRIVE TO PERFORM THE HAND COUNT. The hand count shall not proceed unless the political parties provide the recorder or officer in charge of elections, in writing, a sufficient number of persons by NOT LATER THAN 5:00 p.m. on the Thursday preceding FOLLOWING the election and a sufficient number of persons, pursuant to this paragraph, arrive to perform the hand count. The recorder or officer in charge of elections may prohibit persons from participating in the hand count if they are taking actions to disrupt the count or are unable to perform the duties as assigned. For the hand count to proceed, not more

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 than seventy-five percent of the persons performing the hand count shall be from the same political party.

- 8. If a political party is not represented by a designated chairperson within a county, the state chairperson for that political party, or a person designated by the state chairperson, may perform the actions required by the county chairperson as specified in this section.
- C. If the randomly selected races result in a difference in any race that is less than the designated margin when compared to the electronic tabulation of those same ballots, the results of the electronic tabulation constitute the official count for that race. If the randomly selected races result in a difference in any race that is equal to or greater than the designated margin when compared to the electronic tabulation of those same ballots, a second hand count of those same ballots and races shall be performed. If the second hand count results in a difference in any race that is less than the designated margin when compared to the electronic tabulation for those same ballots, the electronic tabulation constitutes the official count for that race. If the second hand count results in a difference in any race that is equal to or greater than the designated margin when compared to the electronic tabulation for those same ballots, the hand count shall be expanded to include a total of twice the original number of randomly selected precincts. Those additional precincts shall be selected by lot without the use of a computer.
- D. In any expanded count of randomly selected precincts, if the randomly selected precinct hand counts result in a difference in any race that is equal to or greater than the designated margin when compared to the electronic tabulation of those same ballots, the final hand count shall be extended to include the entire jurisdiction for that race. If the jurisdictional boundary for that race would include any portion of more than one county, the final hand count shall not be extended into the precincts of that race that are outside of the county that is conducting the expanded hand count. If the expanded hand count results in a difference in that race that is less than the designated margin when compared to the electronic tabulation of those same ballots, the electronic tabulation constitutes the official count for that race.
- E. If a final hand count is performed for an entire jurisdiction for a race, the final hand count shall be repeated for that race until a hand count for that race for the entire jurisdiction results in a count that is identical to one other hand count for that race for the entire jurisdiction and that hand count constitutes the official count for that race.
- F. After the electronic tabulation of early ballots and at one or more times selected by the chairman CHAIRPERSON of the political parties entitled to continued representation on the ballot or the chairman's CHAIRPERSON'S designee, the chairmen CHAIRPERSONS or the chairmen's

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44 45 CHAIRPERSONS' designees shall randomly select one or more batches of early ballots that have been tabulated to include at least one batch from each machine used for tabulating early ballots and those ballots shall be securely sequestered by the county recorder or officer in charge of elections along with their unofficial tally reports for a postelection manual audit. The chairmen CHAIRPERSONS or the chairmen's CHAIRPERSONS' designees shall randomly select from those sequestered early ballots a number equal to one percent of the total number of early ballots cast or five thousand early ballots, whichever is less. From those randomly selected early ballots, the county officer in charge of elections shall conduct a manual audit of the same races that are being hand counted pursuant to subsection B of this section. If the manual audit of the early ballots results in a difference in any race that is equal to or greater than the designated margin when compared to the electronically tabulated results for those same early ballots, the manual audit shall be repeated for those same early ballots. If the second manual audit results in a difference in that race that is equal to or greater than the designated margin when compared to the electronically tabulated results for those same early ballots, the manual audit shall be expanded only for that race to a number of additional early ballots equal to one percent of the total early ballots cast or an additional five thousand ballots, whichever is less, to be randomly selected from the batch or batches of sequestered early ballots. If the expanded early ballot manual audit results in a difference for that race that is equal to or greater than the designated margin when compared to any of the earlier manual counts for that race, the manual counts shall be repeated for that race until a manual count results in a difference in that race that is less than the designated margin. If at any point in the manual audit of early ballots the difference between any manual count of early ballots is less than the designated margin when compared to the electronic tabulation of those ballots, the electronic tabulation shall be included in the canvass and no further manual audit of the early ballots shall be conducted.

- G. During any hand count of early ballots, the county officer in charge of elections and election board workers shall attempt to determine the intent of the voter in casting the ballot.
- H. Notwithstanding any other law, the county officer in charge of elections shall retain custody of the ballots for purposes of performing any required hand counts and the officer shall provide for security for those ballots.
- I. The hand counts prescribed by this section shall begin within twenty-four hours after the closing of the polls and shall be completed before the canvassing of the election for that county. THE COUNTY SHALL MAKE AVAILABLE ON THE COUNTY'S WEBSITE the results of those hand counts AND shall be provided PROVIDE THEM to the secretary of state, who shall make those results publicly available on the secretary of state's website.

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- J. For any county in which a hand count has been expanded to all precincts in the jurisdiction, the secretary of state shall make available the escrowed source code for that county to the superior court. The superior court shall appoint a special master to review the computer master shall have expertise in software. The special engineering, shall not be affiliated with an election software vendor nor with a candidate, shall sign and be bound by a nondisclosure agreement regarding the source code itself and shall issue a public report to the court and to the secretary of state regarding the special master's findings on the reasons for the discrepancies. The secretary of state shall consider the reports for purposes of reviewing the certification of that equipment and software for use in this state.
- K. The vote count verification committee is established in the office of the secretary of state and all of the following apply:
- 1. At least thirty days before the 2006 primary election, the secretary of state shall appoint seven persons to the committee, not more than three of whom are members of the same political party.
- 2. Members of the committee shall have expertise in any two or more of the areas of advanced mathematics, statistics, random selection methods, systems operations or voting systems.
- 3. A person is not eligible to be a committee member if that person has been affiliated with or received any income in the preceding five years from any person or entity that provides election equipment or services in this state.
- 4. The vote count verification committee shall meet and establish one or more designated margins to be used in reviewing the hand counting of votes as required pursuant to this section. The committee shall review and consider revising the designated margins every two years for use in the applicable elections. The committee shall provide the designated margins to the secretary of state at least ten days before the primary election and at least ten days before the general election, and the secretary of state shall make that information publicly available on the secretary of state's website.
- 5. Members of the vote count verification committee are not eligible to receive compensation but are eligible for reimbursement of expenses pursuant to title 38, chapter 4, article 2. The committee is a public body and its meetings are subject to title 38, chapter 3, article 3.1 and its reports and records are subject to title 39, chapter 1.
- Sec. 6. Section 16-621, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

16-621. <u>Proceedings at the counting center and hand count</u> locations

A. All proceedings at the counting center AND AT THE HAND COUNT LOCATIONS PRESCRIBED IN SECTION 16-602 shall be under the direction of the board of supervisors or other officer in charge of elections and shall be

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42 43 conducted in accordance with the approved instructions and procedures manual issued pursuant to section 16-452 under the observation of representatives of each political party and the public. The proceedings at the counting center AND AT THE HAND COUNT LOCATIONS may also be observed by up to three additional people representing a candidate for nonpartisan office, or representing a political committee in support of or in opposition to a ballot measure, proposition or question. A draw by lot determine which three groups or candidates shall representatives participate in the observation at the counting center AND AT THE HAND COUNT LOCATIONS. Persons representing a candidate for nonpartisan office or persons or groups representing a political committee in support of or in opposition to a ballot measure, proposition or question, who are interested in participating in the observation, shall notify the officer in charge of elections of their desire to be included in the draw not later than seventeen days before the election. After the deadline to receive submissions from the interested persons or groups, but prior to fourteen days before the election, the county officer in charge of elections shall draw by lot, from the list of those that expressed interest, three persons or groups and those selected shall be notified and allowed to observe the proceedings at the counting center AND AT THE HAND COUNT LOCATIONS. If a group is selected the group may alter who represents that group for different days of observation but on any given observation day a selected group shall not send more than one observer. A group may rotate an observer throughout the day. Only those persons who are authorized for the purpose shall touch any ballot or ballot card or return. All persons who are engaged in processing and counting of the ballots shall be qualified electors, shall be deputized in writing and shall take an oath that they will faithfully perform their assigned duties. There shall be no preferential counting of ballots for the purpose of projecting the outcome of the election. If any ballot, including any ballot received from early voting, is damaged or defective so that it cannot properly be counted by the automatic tabulating equipment, a true duplicate copy shall be made of the damaged or defective ballot SHALL BE MADE BY HAND in the presence of witnesses and substituted for the damaged or defective ballot. All duplicate ballots created pursuant to this subsection shall be clearly labeled "duplicate" and shall bear a serial number that shall be recorded on the damaged or defective ballot.

B. If the counting center automatic tabulating equipment includes an electronic vote adjudication feature that has been certified for use as prescribed by section 16-442 and the board of supervisors or officer in charge of elections authorizes the use of this feature at the counting center, all of the following apply:

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- 1. The electronic vote adjudication feature shall be included in the tabulation system logic and accuracy testing prescribed by section 16-449.
- 2. The board of supervisors or officer in charge of elections shall appoint an electronic vote adjudication board that consists of two judges who are overseen by an inspector, with the two judges equally divided between the two largest political parties as prescribed by section 16-531, subsection D to adjudicate and submit for tabulation a ballot that is read by the tabulation machine as blank in order to determine if voter intent is clear on a portion or all of the ballot, or any portion of any ballot as prescribed by section 16-610 or 16-611, or to tally write-in choices as prescribed by section 16-612.
- 3. The electronic vote adjudication process used by the electronic vote adjudication board shall provide for:
- (a) A method to track and account for the original ballot and the digital duplicate of the ballot created by the electronic vote adjudication feature that includes a serial number on the digital image that can be used to track electronic vote adjudication board actions.
- (b) The creation and retention of comprehensive logs of all digital duplication and adjudication actions performed by an electronic vote adjudication board.
- (c) The retention of the original ballot and the digital duplicate of the ballot.
- (d) THE OBSERVATION OF THE ELECTRONIC VOTE ADJUDICATION BOARD'S ACTIVITIES BY OBSERVERS AS PRESCRIBED IN THIS SECTION.
- C. If for any reason it becomes impracticable to count all or a part of the ballots with tabulating equipment, the officer in charge of elections may direct that they be counted manually, following as far as practicable the provisions governing the counting of paper ballots.
- D. For any statewide, county or legislative election, the county recorder or officer in charge of elections shall provide for a live video recording of the custody of all ballots while the ballots are present in a tabulation room in the counting center AND WHILE AT THE HAND COUNT LOCATIONS PRESCRIBED IN SECTION 16-602. The live video recording shall include date and time indicators and shall be linked to the secretary of state's website. The secretary of state shall post links to the video coverage for viewing by the public. The county recorder or officer in charge of elections shall record the video coverage of the ballots at the counting center AND AT THE HAND COUNT LOCATIONS and shall retain those recordings as a public record for at least as long as the challenge period for the general election. If the live video feed is disrupted or disabled, the recorder or officer in charge of elections is not liable for the disruption but shall attempt to reinstate video coverage as soon as is practicable. Any disruption in video coverage shall not affect or prevent

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the continued tabulation of ballots. This subsection is contingent on legislative appropriation.

E. The county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall maintain records that record the chain of custody for all election equipment and ballots during early voting through the completion of provisional voting tabulation.

Sec. 7. Title 16, chapter 4, article 10, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended by adding section 16-621.01, to read:

16-621.01. Affidavit envelope processing centers; observers

THE COUNTY CHAIRMAN OF EACH PARTY, BY WRITTEN APPOINTMENT ADDRESSED TO THE COUNTY OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS, MAY DESIGNATE A PARTY REPRESENTATIVE TO OBSERVE THE PROCEEDINGS AT A THIRD-PARTY VENDOR THAT PROCESSES RETURNED AFFIDAVIT ENVELOPES ON BEHALF OF A COUNTY. THE COUNTY OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ELECTIONS SHALL FORWARD THAT INFORMATION TO THE VENDOR. IF MORE THAN ONE COUNTY CONTRACTS WITH THE SAME VENDOR OR IF THE COUNTY PARTY CHAIRMAN DOES NOT APPOINT A PARTY REPRESENTATIVE, THE STATE PARTY CHAIRMAN MAY MAKE THE DESIGNATION.

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