

REFERENCE TITLE: Maricopa county; division; new counties

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

## **SB 1137**

Introduced by  
Senators Hoffman: Borrelli, Kern, Wadsack; Representatives Chaplik, Heap,  
Jones, Kolodin, McGarr, Parker B, Parker J, Pingerelli, Smith

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 11-109, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; AMENDING TITLE 11,  
CHAPTER 1, ARTICLE 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTIONS 11-118,  
11-119 AND 11-120; RELATING TO LOCATION OF COUNTIES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

2 Section 1. Section 11-109, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
3 read:

4 11-109. Maricopa county

5 Maricopa county, the county seat of which is Phoenix, is bounded as  
6 follows:

7 ~~Commencing at a point where the meridian line one hundred thirteen~~  
8 ~~degrees twenty minutes west longitude, as defined by the Atwood survey of~~  
9 ~~1918, intersects the second standard parallel south, being the northwest~~  
10 ~~corner of Pima county; thence north on such survey line and along the east~~  
11 ~~boundaries of Yuma and La Paz counties to the point where the meridian~~  
12 ~~line one hundred thirteen degrees twenty minutes west longitude, as~~  
13 ~~surveyed, intersects the thirty-fourth parallel north latitude, as defined~~  
14 ~~by the Thompson survey of 1924; thence east on the thirty-fourth parallel~~  
15 ~~north latitude, as defined, and along the southern boundary of Yavapai~~  
16 ~~county to the point where the Hassayampa river intersects such parallel;~~  
17 ~~thence southeast in a direct line following the Thompson survey of 1924 to~~  
18 ~~a point in the Agua Fria river two miles southerly and below the mouth of~~  
19 ~~Humbug creek; thence northerly up the Agua Fria river to a point two miles~~  
20 ~~southerly and below the place where the residence of J. W. Swilling stood~~  
21 ~~on January 31, 1877; thence easterly in a direct line following the~~  
22 ~~Thompson survey of 1924 to the point where the thirty-fourth parallel~~  
23 ~~north latitude, as defined by such survey, intersects the Verde river;~~  
24 ~~thence east on such parallel to the point where the parallel as surveyed~~  
25 ~~intersects the summit of the Mazatzal range of mountains; thence southerly~~  
26 ~~along the summit of the Mazatzal range of mountains to the point where~~  
27 ~~such range of mountains intersects the centerline of the Salt river;~~  
28 ~~thence easterly up the Salt river to the mouth of Tonto creek; thence~~  
29 ~~southerly in a direct line toward a mountain known as the "Water Shed,"~~  
30 ~~and along the western boundary of Gila county to the point where such line~~  
31 ~~and boundary intersects the north line of township one north; thence west~~  
32 ~~on the north line of township one north and along the northern boundary of~~  
33 ~~Pinal county to the point where such line intersects the eastern line of~~  
34 ~~range seven east; thence south on the eastern line of range seven east to~~  
35 ~~the point where such line intersects the southern line of township two~~  
36 ~~south; thence west on such line to the point where such line intersects~~  
37 ~~the Gila river; thence northerly and westerly down the Gila river to the~~  
38 ~~point where the river intersects the eastern line of range one east, being~~  
39 ~~the northwest corner of Pinal county; thence south on such line to the~~  
40 ~~point where such line intersects the second standard parallel south, being~~  
41 ~~the southwest corner of Pinal county; thence west on such parallel to the~~  
42 ~~point where it intersects the meridian line one hundred thirteen degrees~~  
43 ~~twenty minutes west longitude, as defined by the Atwood survey of 1918,~~  
44 ~~being the place of beginning.~~ COMMENCING AT THE NORTHWESTERN BORDER OF THE  
45 CITY OF GLENDALE AT 75TH AVENUE AND PINNACLE PEAK ROAD, THENCE EAST ALONG

1 THE BOUNDARY OF THE CITY OF GLENDALE; THENCE SOUTH ALONG THE BOUNDARY OF  
2 THE CITY OF GLENDALE TO THE POINT WHERE THE BOUNDARY INTERSECTS  
3 THUNDERBIRD ROAD; THENCE EAST ALONG THUNDERBIRD ROAD TO THE POINT WHERE  
4 THUNDERBIRD ROAD INTERSECTS CAVE CREEK ROAD; THENCE EAST FOLLOWING ALONG  
5 CACTUS ROAD TO THE POINT WHERE CACTUS ROAD INTERSECTS TATUM BOULEVARD;  
6 THENCE SOUTH ALONG TATUM BOULEVARD TO THE NORTHWEST BOUNDARY OF THE TOWN  
7 OF PARADISE VALLEY; THENCE SOUTH FOLLOWING THE BOUNDARY OF THE CITY OF  
8 PHOENIX TO THE POINT WHERE THE BOUNDARY OF THE CITY OF PHOENIX INTERSECTS  
9 THE BOUNDARY OF THE CITY OF TEMPE ON MCDOWELL ROAD, THENCE SOUTH AND  
10 THENCE EAST FOLLOWING THE BOUNDARY OF THE CITY OF TEMPE CONTINUING TO THE  
11 POINT WHERE THE BOUNDARY OF THE CITY OF TEMPE INTERSECTS THE BOUNDARY OF  
12 THE CITY OF PHOENIX; THENCE SOUTH ALONG THE WESTERN BORDER OF THE CITY OF  
13 CHANDLER; THENCE EAST ALONG THE SOUTHERN BORDER OF THE CITY OF CHANDLER;  
14 THENCE SOUTH TO WHERE IT INTERSECTS THE MERIDIAN LINE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEEN  
15 DEGREES TWENTY MINUTES WEST LONGITUDE; THENCE WEST ALONG THE NORTHERN  
16 BOUNDARY OF PINAL COUNTY TO THE POINT WHERE SUCH LINE INTERSECTS THE  
17 EASTERN LINE OF RANGE SEVEN EAST; THENCE SOUTH ON THE EASTERN LINE OF  
18 RANGE SEVEN EAST TO THE POINT WHERE SUCH LINE INTERSECTS THE SOUTHERN LINE  
19 OF TOWNSHIP TWO SOUTH; THENCE WEST ON SUCH LINE TO THE POINT WHERE SUCH  
20 LINE INTERSECTS THE GILA RIVER; THENCE NORTHERLY AND WESTERLY DOWN THE  
21 GILA RIVER TO THE POINT WHERE THE RIVER INTERSECTS THE EASTERN LINE OF  
22 RANGE ONE EAST, BEING THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF PINAL COUNTY; THENCE SOUTH  
23 TO THE THIRTY-THIRD PARALLEL FOLLOWING A DIRECT LINE ALONG THE SOUTHERN  
24 BOUNDARY OF THE GILA RIVER INDIAN RESERVATION; THENCE NORTH ALONG THE  
25 EASTERN BOUNDARY OF THE CITY OF GOODYEAR; THENCE NORTH ALONG THE WESTERN  
26 BOUNDARY OF THE CITY OF AVONDALE TO WHERE INTERSECTS THE BOUNDARY OF THE  
27 CITY OF GLENDALE; THENCE FOLLOWING THE BOUNDARY OF THE CITY OF GLENDALE TO  
28 THE NORTHWESTERN BOUNDARY OF THE CITY OF GLENDALE, WHICH IS THE PLACE OF  
29 BEGINNING.

30 Sec. 2. Title 11, chapter 1, article 1, Arizona Revised Statutes,  
31 is amended by adding sections 11-118, 11-119 and 11-120, to read:

32 11-118. Hohokam county

33 HOHOKAM COUNTY IS BOUNDED AS FOLLOWS:

34 SOUTH ON THE NORTHWESTERN POINT WHERE GILA COUNTY TO THE POINT WHERE  
35 SUCH LINE INTERSECTS THE SECOND STANDARD PARALLEL SOUTH, BEING THE  
36 SOUTHWEST CORNER OF PINAL COUNTY; THENCE WEST ON SUCH PARALLEL TO THE  
37 POINT WHERE IT INTERSECTS THE MERIDIAN LINE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEEN DEGREES  
38 TWENTY MINUTES WEST LONGITUDE TO THE WESTERN BORDER OF SUN LAKES AT PRICE  
39 ROAD; THENCE NORTH ALONG THE WESTERN BORDER OF THE CITY OF CHANDLER;  
40 THENCE WEST ALONG THE SOUTHERN BORDER OF THE CITY OF CHANDLER; THENCE  
41 NORTH ALONG THE WESTERN BORDER OF THE CITY OF CHANDLER; THENCE EAST ALONG  
42 THE NORTHERN BORDER OF THE CITY OF CHANDLER; THENCE NORTH ALONG THE BORDER  
43 OF THE CITY OF MESA CONTINUING TO THE NORTHWESTERN POINT WHERE GILA COUNTY  
44 INTERSECTS, WHICH IS THE PLACE OF BEGINNING.

1 11-119. Mogollon county

2 MOGOLLON COUNTY IS BOUNDED AS FOLLOWS:

3 COMMENCING AT THE AGUA FRIA RIVER TWO MILES SOUTHERLY AND BELOW THE  
4 MOUTH OF HUMBUG CREEK; THENCE NORTHERLY UP THE AGUA FRIA RIVER TO A POINT  
5 TWO MILES SOUTHERLY AND BELOW THE PLACE WHERE THE RESIDENCE OF J. W.  
6 SWILLING STOOD ON JANUARY 31, 1877; THENCE EASTERLY IN A DIRECT LINE  
7 FOLLOWING THE THOMPSON SURVEY OF 1924 TO THE POINT WHERE THE THIRTY-FOURTH  
8 PARALLEL NORTH LATITUDE, AS DEFINED BY SUCH SURVEY, INTERSECTS THE VERDE  
9 RIVER; THENCE EAST ON SUCH PARALLEL TO THE POINT WHERE THE PARALLEL AS  
10 SURVEYED INTERSECTS THE SUMMIT OF THE MAZATZAL RANGE OF MOUNTAINS; THENCE  
11 SOUTHERLY ALONG THE SUMMIT OF THE MAZATZAL RANGE OF MOUNTAINS TO THE POINT  
12 WHERE SUCH RANGE OF MOUNTAINS INTERSECTS THE CENTERLINE OF THE SALT RIVER;  
13 THENCE EASTERLY UP THE SALT RIVER TO THE MOUTH OF TONTO CREEK; THENCE  
14 SOUTHERLY IN A DIRECT LINE TOWARD A MOUNTAIN KNOWN AS THE "WATER SHED" AND  
15 ALONG THE WESTERN BOUNDARY OF GILA COUNTY TO THE POINT WHERE SUCH LINE AND  
16 BOUNDARY INTERSECTS THE NORTH LINE OF TOWNSHIP ONE NORTH; THENCE WEST  
17 FOLLOWING THE NORTHERN BOUNDARY OF THE CITY OF MESA TO THE SOUTHERN BORDER  
18 OF THE SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN RESERVATION TO THE BORDER OF THE  
19 CITY OF SCOTTSDALE TO THE SOUTHERN BORDER OF THE TOWN OF PARADISE VALLEY  
20 CONTINUING NORTHWARD TO THE NORTHWESTERN BOUNDARY OF THE TOWN OF PARADISE  
21 VALLEY AT SHEA BOULEVARD AND TATUM BOULEVARD; THENCE NORTH FOLLOWING TATUM  
22 BOULEVARD TO CACTUS ROAD; THENCE WEST FOLLOWING CACTUS ROAD TO THE POINT  
23 WHERE CACTUS ROAD INTERSECTS CAVE CREEK ROAD; THENCE WEST FOLLOWING  
24 THUNDERBIRD ROAD TO THE POINT WHERE THUNDERBIRD ROAD INTERSECTS THE  
25 BOUNDARY OF THE CITY OF GLENDALE; THENCE NORTH FOLLOWING THE EASTERN  
26 BOUNDARY OF THE CITY OF GLENDALE; THENCE NORTH FOLLOWING THE WESTERN  
27 BOUNDARY OF THE CITY OF PHOENIX; THENCE WEST FOLLOWING THE NORTHERN BORDER  
28 OF THE CITY OF PEORIA TO THE POINT ON THE AGUA FRIA RIVER, WHICH IS THE  
29 PLACE OF BEGINNING.

30 11-120. O'odham county

31 O'ODHAM COUNTY IS BOUNDED AS FOLLOWS:

32 COMMENCING AT A POINT WHERE THE MERIDIAN LINE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEEN  
33 DEGREES TWENTY MINUTES WEST LONGITUDE, AS DEFINED BY THE ATWOOD SURVEY OF  
34 1918, INTERSECTS THE SECOND STANDARD PARALLEL SOUTH, BEING THE NORTHWEST  
35 CORNER OF PIMA COUNTY; THENCE NORTH ON SUCH SURVEY LINE AND ALONG THE EAST  
36 BOUNDARIES OF YUMA AND LA PAZ COUNTIES TO THE POINT WHERE THE MERIDIAN  
37 LINE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEEN DEGREES TWENTY MINUTES WEST LONGITUDE, AS  
38 SURVEYED, INTERSECTS THE THIRTY-FOURTH PARALLEL NORTH LATITUDE, AS DEFINED  
39 BY THE THOMPSON SURVEY OF 1924; THENCE EAST ON THE THIRTY-FOURTH PARALLEL  
40 NORTH LATITUDE, AS DEFINED, AND ALONG THE SOUTHERN BOUNDARY OF YAVAPAI  
41 COUNTY TO THE POINT WHERE THE HASSAYAMPA RIVER INTERSECTS SUCH PARALLEL;  
42 THENCE SOUTHEAST IN A DIRECT LINE FOLLOWING THE THOMPSON SURVEY OF 1924 TO  
43 THE THIRTY-FOURTH PARALLEL NORTH LATITUDE WHERE IT INTERSECTS THE BORDER  
44 OF THE CITY OF PEORIA BOUNDARIES; THENCE EAST FOLLOWING THE BORDER OF THE  
45 CITY OF PEORIA AND SOUTH FOLLOWING THE BOUNDARY OF THE CITY OF PEORIA AND

1 WEST ALONG NORTHERN AVENUE CONTINUING ALONG THE SOUTHERN BOUNDARY OF THE  
2 CITY OF EL MIRAGE, THENCE NORTH ALONG THE BOUNDARY OF THE CITY OF EL  
3 MIRAGE TO THE SOUTHERN BOUNDARY OF THE CITY OF SURPRISE TO THE  
4 NORTHWESTERN BOUNDARY OF THE CITY OF GLENDALE THENCE SOUTH FOLLOWING THE  
5 EASTERN BOUNDARY OF THE CITY OF GOODYEAR TO THE THIRTY-THIRD PARALLEL  
6 NORTH LATITUDE IN A DIRECT LINE TO THE SOUTHERN BOUNDARY OF THE GILA RIVER  
7 INDIAN RESERVATION TO WHERE IT INTERSECTS THE BORDER OF PINAL COUNTY;  
8 THENCE SOUTH FOLLOWING THE BORDER OF PINAL COUNTY TO WHERE IT INTERSECTS  
9 THE BORDER OF PIMA COUNTY; THEN WEST FOLLOWING THE NORTHERN BORDER OF PIMA  
10 COUNTY TO THE COMMENCEMENT POINT, WHICH IS THE PLACE OF BEGINNING.

11 Sec. 3. Maricopa county division; procedures

12 A. Maricopa county operations shall continue in their existing form  
13 through a transition period of not more than three years after the  
14 effective date of this act. On the election of the boards of supervisors  
15 in Hohokam, Maricopa, Mogollon and O'odham counties, the existing Maricopa  
16 county operations shall continue under the supervision of the intercounty  
17 oversight and accountability board for the duration of the transition  
18 period. The current Maricopa county board of supervisors shall retain  
19 authority over the operation of Maricopa county during the transition  
20 period until the boards of supervisors in Hohokam, Maricopa, Mogollon and  
21 O'odham counties are sworn into office. The swearing in shall take place  
22 not later than June 15, 2024.

23 B. The boards of supervisors in Hohokam, Maricopa, Mogollon and  
24 O'odham counties shall be elected at a special election within one hundred  
25 twenty days after the effective date of this act. The supervisors shall  
26 be elected to staggered, abbreviated terms to serve until the next  
27 presidential election. Supervisors shall be elected at large for their  
28 initial terms and shall be elected by supervisorial district at subsequent  
29 elections. The board of supervisors shall approve supervisorial districts  
30 within one hundred eighty days after being sworn in.

31 C. Currently elected Maricopa county supervisors will continue in  
32 their elected capacities for the remainder of their terms. If a currently  
33 elected Maricopa county supervisor's supervisory district is located  
34 within Hohokam, Mogollon or O'odham counties, that supervisor will  
35 continue the supervisor's currently elected term in the new county in  
36 which the supervisory district is located.

37 D. The chairperson of each county's board of supervisors shall  
38 serve on an intercounty oversight and accountability board during the  
39 three-year transition period. The board shall make intercounty decisions  
40 and enter into mutually beneficial shared use or intergovernmental  
41 agreements for the continuation of services for Hohokam, Maricopa,  
42 Mogollon and O'odham counties. The board will terminate at the end of the  
43 transition period. The board may be continued if approved by a majority  
44 of the boards of supervisors of Hohokam, Maricopa, Mogollon and O'odham  
45 counties.

1 E. Control of existing special districts will be assumed by the  
2 county in which the special district is located. If a special district is  
3 located within more than one county, the counties shall enter into an  
4 intergovernmental agreement regarding control of the special district  
5 within one year after the election of the county board of supervisors.

6 F. The elected boards of supervisors in Hohokam, Mogollon and  
7 O'odham counties will determine an application process for municipalities  
8 to apply to be the county seat. The county seat shall be determined at a  
9 special election to take place not more than one hundred twenty days after  
10 the election of the boards of supervisors in Hohokam, Mogollon and O'odham  
11 counties.

12 G. Hohokam, Maricopa, Mogollon and O'odham counties may enter into  
13 a ten-year shared use agreement for the use of existing shared capital  
14 assets. The counties shall divide furniture, fixtures and equipment on a  
15 pro-rata basis based on the furniture, fixtures and equipment located in  
16 each county.

17 H. The election of unfilled elected county seats in Hohokam,  
18 Maricopa, Mogollon and O'odham counties shall take place at the same time  
19 as the election of the boards of supervisors in Hohokam, Maricopa,  
20 Mogollon and O'odham counties. Current elected officials shall finish  
21 their current terms in the county in which they reside.

22 I. Hohokam, Maricopa, Mogollon and O'odham counties shall enter  
23 into an intergovernmental agreement for the continued operation of  
24 community colleges for a period of not less than ten years after the  
25 effective date of this act.

26 Sec. 4. Conforming legislation

27 The legislative council staff shall prepare proposed legislation  
28 conforming the Arizona Revised Statutes to the provisions of this act for  
29 consideration in the fifty-sixth legislature, second regular session.

30 Sec. 5. Effective date

31 This act is effective from and after December 31, 2023.