

REFERENCE TITLE: **early ballots; signatures; electronic pollbooks**

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

SB 1201

Introduced by
Senator Kavanagh

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 16-550, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, AS AMENDED BY LAWS
2021, CHAPTER 271, SECTION 2; 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 16-550, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by
3 Laws 2021, chapter 271, section 2, is amended to read:

4 16-550. Receipt of voter's ballot; cure period

5 A. Except for early ballots tabulated as prescribed in section
6 16-579.02, on receipt of the envelope containing the early ballot and the
7 ballot affidavit, the county recorder or other officer in charge of
8 elections shall compare the signatures ~~thereon~~ ON THE ENVELOPE with the
9 signature of the elector on the elector's registration record. SIGNATURES
10 ON POLLING PLACE OR VOTING CENTER ELECTRONIC POLLBOOKS MAY NOT BE USED FOR
11 SIGNATURE COMPARISONS PRESCRIBED BY THIS SECTION. If the signature is
12 inconsistent with the elector's signature on the elector's registration
13 record, the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall
14 make reasonable efforts to contact the voter, advise the voter of the
15 inconsistent signature and allow the voter to correct or the county to
16 confirm the inconsistent signature. The county recorder or other officer
17 in charge of elections shall allow signatures to be corrected not later
18 than the fifth business day after a primary, general or special election
19 that includes a federal office or the third business day after any other
20 election. If the signature is missing, the county recorder or other
21 officer in charge of elections shall make reasonable efforts to contact
22 the elector, advise the elector of the missing signature and allow the
23 elector to add the elector's signature not later than 7:00 p.m. on
24 election day. If satisfied that the signatures correspond, the recorder
25 or other officer in charge of elections shall hold the envelope containing
26 the early ballot and the completed affidavit unopened in accordance with
27 the rules of the secretary of state.

28 B. The recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall
29 thereafter safely keep the affidavits and early ballots in the recorder's
30 or other officer's office and may deliver them for tallying pursuant to
31 section 16-551. Tallying of ballots may begin immediately after the
32 envelope and completed affidavit are processed pursuant to this section
33 and delivered to the early election board.

34 C. The county recorder shall send a list of all voters who were
35 issued early ballots to the election board of the precinct in which the
36 voter is registered.

37 D. This section does not apply to:

38 1. A special taxing district that is authorized pursuant to section
39 16-191 to conduct its own elections.

40 2. A special district mail ballot election that is conducted
41 pursuant to article 8.1 of this chapter.