

Senate Engrossed

early ballots; signatures; electronic pollbooks

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

# SENATE BILL 1201

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.