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PROPOSED

SENATE AMENDMENTS TO S.B. 1263

(Reference to printed bill)

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2 "Section 1. Section 15-445, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

15-445. Residents of unorganized territory; school district

<u>elections</u>

- A. The county school superintendent, on receiving notification from the state school superintendent pursuant to section 15-825.02, subsection B, shall do all of the following before calling an election:
- 1. Establish the boundaries of the proposed school district, taking into consideration communities of interest and excluding Indian reservations and other federal lands where reasonable to do so. During the period that the county school superintendent is considering the new school district boundaries, the county school superintendent shall conduct at least two public meetings at which public testimony is heard and questions are answered.
- 2. Identify adjacent school districts that accept at least twenty-five per cent PERCENT of their open enrollment or certificate of educational convenience students from the unorganized territory and that are willing to accept the unorganized territory into the existing school district. If there is only one adjacent school district that meets these criteria, the boundaries of that school district shall be reestablished to include the unorganized territory without an election.
- 3. If there is more than one adjacent school district that meets the criteria prescribed in paragraph 2 of this subsection, prepare a pamphlet and a ballot question that includes the proposed boundaries and identifies

existing adjacent school districts that are willing to accept the unorganized territory into the existing school district. The pamphlet shall be mailed to each household with one or more qualified electors. The pamphlet and ballot shall require the voters within the boundaries proposed by the county school superintendent to join an existing adjacent school district. The pamphlet and ballot shall include the full cash value, the assessed valuation and the estimated amount of the primary property taxes and the estimated amount of the secondary property taxes under each of the ballot options for each of the following:

- (a) An owner occupied residence whose assessed valuation is the average assessed valuation of property classified as class three, as prescribed by section 42-12003 for the current year in the school district.
- (b) An owner occupied residence whose assessed valuation is one-half of the assessed valuation of the residence in subdivision (a).
- (c) An owner occupied residence whose assessed valuation is twice the assessed valuation of the residence in subdivision (a).
- (d) A business whose assessed valuation is the average of the assessed valuation of property classified as class one, as prescribed by section 42-12001, paragraphs PARAGRAPH 12 and 13 for the current year in the school district.
- B. The county school superintendent shall schedule the election on the next available general election date allowed by law.
- C. On a canvass of the vote and a determination by the county school superintendent that a majority of the voters approve joining an existing adjacent school district, the county school superintendent shall notify the existing school district of the following:
- 1. That the boundaries of the school district shall be revised to include the property identified in the boundaries established by the county school superintendent.
- 2. That the school district shall provide the same educational services that are currently provided to students who reside in current

boundaries of the school district to all students within the revised boundaries at the beginning of the next school year.

- D. If the adjacent school district is a common school district that is within the boundaries of a union high school district, the unorganized territory shall join both the common school district and the union high school district. If the adjacent school district is a common school district that is not within the boundaries of a UNION high school district, the unorganized territory shall join the common school district, and high school pupils who reside in the previously unorganized territory shall be educated in the same manner as high school pupils who reside in the common school district.
- Sec. 2. Section 15-448, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

15-448. Formation of unified school district; board membership; budget

- A. One or more common school districts and a high school district with coterminous or overlapping boundaries may establish a unified school district pursuant to this section. Unification of a common school district and a high school district is not authorized by this section if any of the high school facilities owned by the new unified school district would not be located within its boundaries.
- B. Formation of a unified school district shall be by resolutions approved by the governing boards of the unifying school districts and certification of approval by such governing boards to the county school superintendent of the county or counties in which such individual school districts are located. A common school district and high school district that unify pursuant to this section shall not exclude from the same unification a common school district that has overlapping boundaries with the high school district and that wishes to unify. Except as provided in subsection D of this section, the formation of a unified school district becomes effective on July 1 of the next fiscal year following the certification of the county school superintendent. An election is not

required to form a unified school district pursuant to this section. Notice of the proposed vote of the governing boards on the resolutions prescribed in this subsection shall be posted in at least three public places in each of the school districts proposed to be unified at least ninety days before the proposed vote. At least ninety days before the governing boards vote on the resolutions prescribed in this subsection, the governing boards shall mail a pamphlet to each household with one or more qualified electors that lists the full cash value, the assessed valuation and the estimated amount of the primary property taxes and the estimated amount of the secondary property taxes under the proposed unification for each of the following:

- 1. An owner-occupied residence whose assessed valuation is the average assessed valuation of property classified as class three, as prescribed by section 42-12003 for the current year in the school district.
- 2. An owner-occupied residence whose assessed valuation is one-half of the assessed valuation of the residence in paragraph 1 of this subsection.
- 3. An owner-occupied residence whose assessed valuation is twice the assessed valuation of the residence in paragraph 1 of this subsection.
- 4. A business whose assessed valuation is the average of the assessed valuation of property classified as class one, as prescribed by section 42-12001, paragraphs PARAGRAPH 12 and 13 for the current year in the school district.
- C. The boundaries of the unified school district shall be the boundaries of the former common school district or districts that unify. The boundaries of the common school district or districts that are not unifying remain unchanged. The county school superintendent, immediately on receipt of the approved resolutions prescribed by subsection B of this section, shall file with the board of supervisors, the county assessor and the superintendent of public instruction a transcript of the boundaries of the unified school district. The boundaries shown in the transcript shall

become the legal boundaries of the school districts on July 1 of the next fiscal year.

- D. On formation of the unified school district, the governing board consists of the members of the former school district governing boards and the members shall hold office until January 1 following the first general election after formation of the district. For the purpose of all actions that are necessary to operate the unified district for the next year, the unified school district governing board is constituted and may conduct meetings after the adoption of the unification resolutions prescribed by subsection B of this section.
- E. Beginning on January 1 following the first general election after formation of the unified school district, the governing board shall have five members. At the first general election after the formation of the district, members shall be elected in the following manner:
- 1. The three candidates receiving the highest, the second highest and the third highest number of votes shall be elected to four-year terms.
- 2. The two candidates receiving the fourth and fifth highest number of votes shall be elected to two-year terms. Thereafter all offices shall have four-year terms.
- F. The new unified school district may appoint a resident of the remaining common school district to serve as a nonvoting member of the governing board to represent the interests of the high school pupils who reside in the remaining common school district and who attend school in the unified school district.
- G. For the first year of operation, the unified school district governing board shall prepare a consolidated budget based on the student counts from the school districts comprising the unified school district. The unified school district may budget for unification assistance pursuant to section 15-912.01.
- H. The governing board of the unified school district shall prepare policies, curricula and budgets for the district. These policies shall require that:

- 1. The base compensation of each certificated teacher for the first year of operation of the new unified school district shall not be lower than the certificated teacher's base compensation for the prior year in the previously existing school districts.
- 2. The certificated teacher's years of employment in the previously existing school districts shall be included in determining the teacher's certificated years of employment in the new unified school district.
- I. On formation of a unified school district, any existing override authorization of the former high school district and the former common school district or districts shall continue until expiration based on the revenue control limit of the school district or districts that had override authorization before unification. The unified school district may request new override authorization for the budget year as provided in section 15-481 based on the combined revenue control limit of the new district after unification. If the unified school district's request for override authorization is approved, it will replace any existing override for the budget year.
- J. The unified school district shall admit high school pupils who reside in a common school district that was located within the boundaries of the former high school district. For the purposes of determining student count and for apportionment of state aid, the school membership of these pupils is deemed to be enrollment in the unified school district.
- K. All assets and liabilities of the unifying school districts shall be transferred and assumed by the new unified school district. Any existing bonded indebtedness of a common school district or a high school district unifying pursuant to this section shall be assumed by the new unified school district and shall be regarded as an indebtedness of the new unified school district for the purpose of determining the debt incurring authority of the district. Taxes for the payment of such bonded indebtedness shall be levied on all taxable property in the new unified school district, but nothing in this subsection shall be construed to relieve from liability to taxation for the payment of all taxable property

of the former high school district if necessary to prevent a default in the payment of any bonded indebtedness of the former high school district. The residents of a common school district that does not unify shall not vote in bond or override elections of the unified school district and shall not be assessed taxes as a result of a bond or override election of the unified school district.

- L. If the remaining common school district had authorization for an override as provided in section 15-481 or 15-482, the override authorization continues for the remaining common school district or districts in the same manner as before the formation of the unified school district.
- M. The bonding authorization and bonding limitations continue for the remaining common school district or districts in the same manner as before the formation of the unified school district.
- N. This section does not relieve a school district formed pursuant to section 15-457 or 15-458 of its liability for any outstanding bonded indebtedness.
- 0. For school districts that become unified after July 1, 2004 and where all of the common schools were eligible for the small school district weight pursuant to section 15-943, paragraph 1, subdivision (a) when computing their base support level and base revenue control limit before unification, the unified school district may continue to use the small school district weight as follows:
- 1. Annually determine the common school student count and the weighted student count pursuant to section 15-943, paragraph 1, subdivision (a) for each common school district before unification.
- 2. Calculate the sum of the common school districts' student counts and weighted student counts determined in paragraph 1 of this subsection.
- 3. Divide the sum of the weighted student counts by the sum of the student counts determined in paragraph 2 of this subsection.
- 4. The amount determined in paragraph 3 of this subsection shall be the weight for the common schools in the unified school district.

- P. A unified school district may calculate its revenue control limit and district support level by using subsection 0 of this section as follows:
- 1. Determine the number of individual school districts that existed before unification into a single school district.
- 2. Multiply the amount determined in paragraph 1 of this subsection by six hundred.
- 3. Multiply the amount determined in paragraph 2 of this subsection by 0.80.
- 4. If the amount determined in paragraph 3 of this subsection exceeds the student count of the unified school district, the unified school district is eligible to use subsection 0 of this section.
- Q. Subsections O and P of this section shall remain in effect until the aggregate student count of the common school districts before unification exceeds the aggregate number of students of the common school districts before unification authorized to utilize section 15-943, paragraph 1, subdivision (a).
- Sec. 3. Section 15-459, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

15-459. Consolidation of districts; petition; election; notice; report; ballots; canvass of votes; governing board

A. On the request of the governing boards of two or more school districts in the same county or in adjacent counties or on receipt of petitions bearing the signatures of ten percent or more of the number of qualified electors who voted in whichever of the last two general elections resulted in the higher number of ballots cast and who reside in each of two or more school districts in the same county or in adjacent counties to consolidate the school districts or parts of the districts, the county school superintendent of each of the counties affected, within ten days, shall call an election to determine the question on consolidation.

- B. Consolidations allowed pursuant to subsection A of this section include:
 - 1. To change the boundaries of a school district to include any part of an adjacent school district.
 - 2. If all the common school districts within the boundaries of an existing union high school district desire to consolidate into one common school district.
 - 3. If two or more adjacent school districts of the same type, both or all being common, union high or unified school districts, desire to consolidate into one common, union high or unified school district.
 - 4. If a common school district that is not a part of a union high school district desires to consolidate with an adjacent unified school district.
 - 5. If two or more common school districts desire to consolidate into one school district and unify the consolidated district with a union high school district to form one unified school district.
 - 6. To change the boundaries of a school district that has received a letter grade of A or B pursuant to section 15-241 to include another school district within twenty miles.
 - C. If a school district provides only financing for pupils who are instructed by another school district in the same county or in an adjacent county, the school district or any part of the school district may be consolidated with the school district providing the instructional program as follows:
 - 1. The governing board of the financing school district approves the consolidation or ten percent of the qualified electors residing in the school district, or that part of the school district proposed for consolidation, petitions the county school superintendent to call an election to approve the proposed consolidation.
 - 2. At an election called by the county school superintendent of each of the counties affected, a majority of the persons voting in the school district, or that part of the school district providing financing, approve

the proposed consolidation and a majority of the persons voting in the district providing instruction approve the proposed consolidation.

- D. Elections held as provided in subsection C of this section shall be conducted in the same manner as elections prescribed in subsections F through J of this section and shall be held concurrently as prescribed in section 15-458.
- E. Sections 15-457, 15-975 and 15-997 apply to school districts that are consolidated as provided in subsection C of this section.
- F. Notice of the election to determine consolidation of school districts shall be posted in at least three public places in each of the school districts proposed to be consolidated at least ninety days before the election.
- G. The county school superintendent shall prepare and the governing board shall distribute a report on the proposed boundary changes in a manner similar to that prescribed in section 15-481, subsection B. The report shall contain the following information:
 - 1. The date of the election.
 - 2. The polling places and times they are open.
- 3. The full cash value, the assessed valuation and the estimated amount of the primary property taxes and the estimated amount of the secondary property taxes under the proposed boundary changes for each of the following:
- (a) An owner-occupied residence whose assessed valuation is the average assessed valuation of property classified as class three, as prescribed by section 42-12003 for the current year in the school district.
- (b) An owner-occupied residence whose assessed valuation is one-half of the assessed valuation of the residence in subdivision (a) of this paragraph.
- (c) An owner-occupied residence whose assessed valuation is twice the assessed valuation of the residence in subdivision (a) of this paragraph.

- (d) A business whose assessed valuation is the average of the assessed valuation of property classified as class one, as prescribed by section 42-12001, paragraphs PARAGRAPH 12 and 13 for the current year in the school district.
 - 4. A consolidation plan to include:
 - (a) The proposed boundary changes.
- (b) The impact of the proposed boundary changes, including where pupils will attend school, changes in pupil transportation services, changes in availability of special education services, changes in pupil-teacher ratio and operational costs.
- (c) If subsection P of this section applies to one or more of the existing school districts, a detailed description of desegregation funding and expenses for the resulting school district as set forth in subsection P of this section.
- (d) Any other information the county school superintendent deems appropriate to include.
- H. Ballots shall be prepared by the county school superintendent, shall be delivered to the inspector at least forty-eight hours before the opening of the polls as prescribed in section 16-509 and shall contain the information prescribed in subsection G, paragraph 3 of this section and the following statement: "Do you support consolidation under the specified provisions of the consolidation plan? Yes () No ()." If the election is to simultaneously consolidate and unify two or more common school districts, the ballot shall contain: "Do you support the consolidation of the <u>(insert names of common school districts)</u> and the subsequent unification of the consolidated districts with the <u>(insert name of union high school district)</u> to form one unified school district under the consolidation and unification plan? Yes () No ()."
- I. The county school superintendent shall hold the election during the fiscal year preceding the fiscal year consolidation is proposed to be effective on a date prescribed by section 16-204. The election shall be held in the manner and electors shall possess qualifications as prescribed

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for the election of governing board members. The results of the election shall be reported to the county school superintendent.

- J. The county school superintendent and the chairman of the board of supervisors, on the seventh day after the election, shall canvass the vote. If a majority of the votes cast in each district approved the consolidation, the districts are consolidated and become one district from and after June 30 next following the election. If parts of two or more school districts are proposed to be consolidated, a majority of the voters in the part of a school district or districts not included in the proposed consolidation and a majority of the voters in the part of the school district or districts proposed for consolidation must approve the consolidation.
- K. If the consolidated district includes territory located in two or more counties, the county of jurisdiction is the county in which the largest number of qualified electors of the consolidated school district resides, except that if all of the existing school buildings are in one county, that county is the county of jurisdiction. The county school superintendent of the jurisdictional county shall perform all duties for and with respect to the consolidated school district as required to be performed by county school superintendents. The board of supervisors of the jurisdictional county shall perform all duties for and with respect to the consolidated school district as required to be performed by boards of supervisors, except that school district taxes to be levied on property in the portion of the consolidated school district lying in another county shall be levied by the board of supervisors of the other county or counties and on receipt shall be transferred to the county of jurisdiction. All school buildings located within the consolidated school district, together with all equipment and furnishings, become the property of the consolidated school district. Any assumed indebtedness is an indebtedness of the consolidated school district for the purpose of determining the debt incurring authority of the consolidated school district.

- L. Consolidation pursuant to this section is not allowed if the resulting school district would have a student count for the current year of more than ten percent of the total student count of all school districts in this state.
- M. The governing board is constituted, may conduct meetings and shall prepare policies, curricula and budgets for the new school district after the canvass pursuant to subsection J of this section demonstrates that a majority of the votes cast in each school district approved the consolidation. These policies shall require that:
- 1. The base salary and benefits of each employee for the first year of operation of the new school district shall not be lower than the employee's base salary and benefits for the prior year in the previously existing school district.
- 2. The employee's years of employment in the previously existing school district shall be included in determining the employee's years of employment in the new school district. An employee who was entitled to continuing employment contract status in the previously existing school district is entitled to continuing employment contract status in the new school district.
- 3. Notwithstanding paragraphs 1 and 2 of this subsection and pursuant to section 15-544, this section does not restrict the ability of the governing board to implement a reduction in force or to scale back salaries of certified teachers, administrators or noncertificated employees for reasons of economy or to improve the efficient conduct of schools within the district following a school district consolidation.
- N. If all of the districts to be consolidated have authorization for an override as provided in section 15-481 that would have continued after the consolidation, the override authorization continues for the new district and expires at the time that the earliest override would have expired.
- 0. If one or more, but not all, of the districts to be consolidated have authorization for an override as provided in section 15-481 that would

have continued after the consolidation, the override authorization shall only apply to the schools included under the terms of the prior override authorization. Consolidation of school districts does not consolidate or pool the liability to be taxed for the override, and only property that was located within the boundaries of the district that approved the override before consolidation is to pay taxes to support the override. This subsection also applies if all of the districts to be consolidated have authorization for overrides, but the authorizations are pursuant to different subsections of section 15-481 or the override amounts are not the same percentage of the revenue control limit.

- P. Notwithstanding section 15-457, consolidation of school districts does not consolidate or pool the liability of the former school districts into the resulting school district. Outstanding indebtedness incurred by a school district before consolidation shall be repaid without interruption according to existing debt schedules as determined by the county board of supervisors. If a school district consolidates after July 1, 2004, the new school district may pay tuition to the district of attendance when a pupil is precluded by distance or lack of transportation from attending school in the district of a pupil's residence.
- Q. If one or more of the previously existing school districts were authorized to budget for expenses of complying with or continuing to implement activities that were required or permitted by court order of desegregation or administrative agreement with the United States department of education office for civil rights directed toward remediating alleged or proven racial discrimination pursuant to section 15-910, this authorization does not expire on the effective date of consolidation but only applies to schools included in the court order or administrative agreement.
- R. If the formation of a new consolidated and unified school district is authorized, the terms of the governing board members of the common and union high school districts do not expire on the effective date of the unification. The governing board members of the previously existing school districts shall serve as provided in section 15-430, except that the

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power of the governing board members of the previously existing school districts acting as the governing board of the unified school district is limited to the maintenance and operation of the previously existing school districts and compliance with the consolidation and unification plan.

Sec. 4. Section 15-481, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

15-481. Override election: budget increases: informational pamphlet; notice; ballot; effect

A. If a proposed budget of a school district exceeds the aggregate budget limit for the budget year, at least ninety days before the proposed election the governing board shall order an override election to be held on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in November as prescribed by section 16-204, subsection F for the purpose of presenting the proposed budget to the qualified electors of the school district who by a majority of those voting either shall affirm or reject the budget. At the same time as the order of the election, the governing board shall publicly declare the deadline for submitting arguments, as set by the county school superintendent pursuant to subsection B, paragraph 9 of this section, to be submitted in the informational pamphlet and shall immediately post the deadline in a prominent location on the district's website. In addition, the governing board shall prepare an alternate budget that does not include an increase in the budget of more than the amount allowed as provided in section 15-905. If the qualified electors approve the proposed budget, the governing board of the school district shall follow the procedures prescribed in section 15-905 for adopting a budget that includes the authorized increase. If the qualified electors disapprove the proposed budget, the governing board shall follow the procedures prescribed in section 15-905 for adopting a budget that does not include the proposed increase or the portion of the proposed increase that exceeds the amount authorized by a previously approved budget increase as prescribed in subsection P of this section.

- B. The county school superintendent shall prepare an informational pamphlet on the proposed increase in the budget and a sample ballot and, at least forty days before the election, shall transmit the informational pamphlet and the sample ballot to the governing board of the school district. The governing board, on receipt of the informational pamphlet and the ballot, shall mail or distribute the informational pamphlet and the ballot to the households in which qualified electors reside within the school district at least thirty-five days before the election. Any distribution of material concerning the proposed increase in the budget shall not be conducted by children enrolled in the school district. The informational pamphlet shall contain the following information:
 - 1. The date of the election.
 - 2. The voter's polling place and the times it is open.
- 3. The proposed total increase in the budget that exceeds the amount allowed pursuant to section 15-905.
- 4. The total amount of the current year's budget, the total amount of the proposed budget and the total amount of the alternate budget.
- 5. If the override is for a period of more than one year, a statement indicating the number of years the proposed increase in the budget would be in effect and the percentage of the school district's revenue control limit that the district is requesting for the future years.
- 6. The proposed total amount of revenues that will fund the increase in the budget and the amount that will be obtained from a levy of taxes on the taxable property within the school district for the first year for which the budget increase was adopted.
- 7. The proposed amount of revenues that will fund the increase in the budget and that will be obtained from other than a levy of taxes on the taxable property within the school district for the first year for which the budget increase was adopted.
- 8. The dollar amount and the purpose for which the proposed increase in the budget is to be expended for the first year for which the budget increase was adopted. The purpose statement shall only present factual

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information in a neutral manner. Advocacy for the expenditures is strictly limited to the arguments submitted pursuant to paragraph 9 of this subsection.

9. At least two arguments, if submitted, but not more than ten arguments for and two arguments, if submitted, but not more than ten arguments against the proposed increase in the budget. The arguments shall be in a form prescribed by the county school superintendent, and each argument shall not exceed two hundred words. Arguments for the proposed increase in the budget shall be provided in writing and signed by the governing board. The ballot arguments for the proposed increase in the budget shall be signed as the governing board of the school district without listing any member's individual name for the arguments for the proposed increase. If submitted, additional arguments in favor of the proposed increase in the budget shall be provided in writing with a signed, sworn statement by those in favor. Arguments against the proposed increase in the budget shall be provided in writing with a signed, sworn statement by those in opposition. If the argument is submitted by an organization, it shall contain the sworn statement of two executive officers of the organization. If the argument is submitted by a political committee, it shall contain the sworn statement of the committee's chairperson or treasurer. If the argument is submitted by an individual and not on behalf of an organization, a political committee or any other group, the person INDIVIDUAL shall submit the argument with a sworn, notarized statement. The names of persons and entities submitting written arguments shall be included in the informational pamphlet. Persons signing the argument shall identify themselves by giving their residence address and telephone number, which may not appear in the informational pamphlet, except that the person's city or town and state of residence shall appear in the pamphlet. Any argument that is submitted and that does not comply with this paragraph may not be included in the pamphlet. The county school superintendent shall review all factual statements contained in the written arguments and correct any inaccurate statements of fact. The superintendent shall not

review and correct any portion of the written arguments that are identified as statements of the author's opinion. The county school superintendent shall make the written arguments available to the public as provided in title 39, chapter 1, article 2. A deadline for submitting arguments to be included in the informational pamphlet shall be set by the county school superintendent.

- 10. A statement that the alternate budget shall be adopted by the governing board if the proposed budget is not adopted by the qualified electors of the school district.
- 11. The current limited property value and the net assessed valuation provided by the department of revenue, the first year tax rate for the proposed override and the estimated amount of the secondary property taxes if the proposed budget is adopted for each of the following:
- (a) An owner-occupied residence whose assessed valuation is the average assessed valuation of property classified as class three, as prescribed by section 42-12003 for the current year in the school district.
- (b) An owner-occupied residence whose assessed valuation is one-half of the assessed valuation of the residence in subdivision (a) of this paragraph.
- (c) An owner-occupied residence whose assessed valuation is twice the assessed valuation of the residence in subdivision (a) of this paragraph.
- (d) A business whose assessed valuation is the average of the assessed valuation of property classified as class one, as prescribed by section 42-12001, paragraphs PARAGRAPH 12 and 13 for the current year in the school district.
- 12. If the election is conducted pursuant to subsection L or M of this section, the following information:
- (a) An executive summary of the school district's most recent capital improvement plan submitted to the school facilities oversight board.

- (b) A complete list of each proposed capital improvement that will be funded with the budget increase and a description of the proposed cost of each improvement, including a separate aggregation of capital improvements for administrative purposes as defined by the school facilities oversight board.
- (c) The tax rate associated with each of the proposed capital improvements and the estimated cost of each capital improvement for the owner of a single family home that is valued at \$80,000.
- C. For the purpose of this section, the school district may use its staff, equipment, materials, buildings or other resources only to distribute the informational pamphlet at the school district office or at public hearings and to produce such information as required in subsection B of this section. This subsection does not preclude school districts from holding or participating in any public hearings at which testimony is given by at least one person for the proposed increase and one person against the proposed increase. Any written information provided by the district pertaining to the override election shall include financial information showing the estimated first year tax rate for the proposed budget override amount.
- D. If any amount of the proposed increase will be funded by a levy of taxes in the district, the election prescribed in subsection A of this section shall be held on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in November as prescribed by section 16-204, subsection F. If the proposed increase will be fully funded by revenues from other than a levy of taxes, the elections prescribed in subsection A of this section shall be held on any date prescribed by section 16-204. The elections shall be conducted as nearly as practicable in the manner prescribed in article 1 of this chapter. AND sections 15-422, through 15-423, 15-424 and section 15-426, relating to special elections, except that:

- 1. The notices required pursuant to section 15-403 shall be posted not less than twenty-five days before the election.
- 2. Ballots shall be counted pursuant to title 16, chapter 4, article 10.
- E. If the election is to exceed the revenue control limit and if the proposed increase will be fully funded by a levy of taxes on the taxable property within the school district, the ballot shall contain the words "budget increase, yes" and "budget increase, no", and the voter shall signify the voter's desired choice. The ballot shall also contain the amount of the proposed increase of the proposed budget over the alternate budget, a statement that the amount of the proposed increase will be based on a percentage of the school district's revenue control limit in future years, if applicable, as provided in subsection P of this section and the following statement:

Any budget increase authorized by this election shall be entirely funded by a levy of taxes on the taxable property within this school district for the year for which adopted and for ____ subsequent years, shall not be realized from monies furnished by the state and shall not be subject to the limitation on taxes specified in article IX, section 18, Constitution of Arizona. Based on the current net assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes, to fund the proposed increase in the school district's budget would require an estimated tax rate of \$_____ per \$100 of net assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes and is in addition to the school district's tax rate that will be levied to fund the school district's revenue control limit allowed by law.

F. If the election is to exceed the revenue control limit and if the proposed increase will be fully funded by revenues from other than a levy of taxes on the taxable property within the school district, the ballot shall contain the words "budget increase, yes" and "budget increase, no",

and the voter shall signify the voter's desired choice. The ballot shall also contain:

- 1. The amount of the proposed increase of the proposed budget over the alternate budget.
- 2. A statement that the amount of the proposed increase will be based on a percentage of the school district's revenue control limit in future years, if applicable, as provided in subsection P of this section.

3. The following statement:

Any budget increase authorized by this election shall be entirely funded by this school district with revenues from other than a levy of taxes on the taxable property within the school district for the year for which adopted and for _____ subsequent years and shall not be realized from monies furnished by the state.

- G. Except as provided in subsection H of this section, the maximum budget increase that may be requested and authorized as provided in subsection E or F of this section or the combination of subsections E and F of this section is fifteen percent of the revenue control limit as provided in section 15-947, subsection A for the budget year. If a school district requests an override pursuant to section 15-482 or to continue with a budget override pursuant to section 15-482 for pupils in kindergarten programs and grades one through three that was authorized before December 31, 2008, the maximum budget increase that may be requested and authorized as provided in subsection E or F of this section or the combination of subsections E and F of this section is ten percent of the revenue control limit as provided in section 15-947, subsection A for the budget year.
- H. Special budget override provisions for school districts with a student count of less than one hundred fifty-four in kindergarten programs and grades one through eight or with a student count of less than one hundred seventy-six in grades nine through twelve are as follows:

whichever is appropriate:

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            1. The maximum budget increase that may be requested and authorized
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       as provided in subsections E and F of this section is the greater of the
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       amount prescribed in subsection G of this section or a limit computed as
4
       follows:
5
            (a) For common or unified districts with a student count of less
       than one hundred fifty-four in kindergarten programs and grades one through
6
7
       eight, the limit computed as prescribed in item (i) or (ii) of this
       subdivision, whichever is appropriate:
8
9
      (i)
          Small School Support Level Weight
10
                                                      Phase Down
11 Student Student for Small Isolated
                                                       Reduction
12 <u>Count Count Limit</u>
                       <u>School Districts</u> <u>Base Level</u> <u>Factor</u>
14
                        (500 - Student Count))
15
                                            Small Isolated
           Phase Down Phase Down
16
                                           School District
17
           Base
                        Reduction Factor <u>Elementary Limit</u>
18
           $150,000 - <u>$</u>
19 (ii)
          Small School Support Level Weight
20
                                                       Phase Down
21 Student Student for Small
                                                       Reduction
22 <u>Count Limit</u>
                       <u>School Districts</u>
                                            Base Level Factor
                                        x <u>$</u> = <u>$</u>
23 _____ - <u>125</u> x 1.278 + (0.0003 x
24
                        (500 - Student Count))
25
                                             Small
26
           Phase Down Phase Down
                                            School District
27
           Base
                        Reduction Factor Elementary Limit
           $150,000 - <u>$</u> = <u>$</u>
28
29
           (b) For unified or union high school districts with a student count
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       of less than one hundred seventy-six in grades nine through twelve, the
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       limit computed as prescribed in item (i) or (ii) of this subdivision,
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1 (i)
2
           Small School Support Level Weight
                                                      Phase Down
3 Student
          Student for Small Isolated
                                                       Reduction
4 <u>Count Limit</u>
                      School Districts
                                          Base Level Factor
5 _____ - <u>100</u> x 1.468 + (0.0005 x x $ = $
6
                       (500 - Student Count))
7
                                             Small Isolated
           Phase Down
                       Phase Down
8
                                             District
           Base
9
                       Reduction Factor
                                             <u>Secondary Limit</u>
10
           $350.000
     (ii)
11
12
           Small School Support Level Weight
                                                       Phase Down
13 Student Student
                      for Small
                                                       Reduction
14 <u>Count Count Limit</u>
                      <u>School Districts</u>
                                           Base Level Factor
15 _____ - <u>100</u> x 1.398 + (0.0004 x
                                          x $ = $
16
                       (500 - Student Count))
17
                                             Small
           Phase Down Phase Down
                                            School District
18
             Ba<u>se</u>
19
                       Reduction Factor
                                             Secondary Limit
                                          = $
20
           $350,000
                     - $
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- (c) If both subdivisions (a) and (b) of this paragraph apply to a unified school district, its limit for the purposes of this paragraph is the combination of its elementary limit and its secondary limit.
- (d) If only subdivision (a) or (b) of this paragraph applies to a unified school district, the district's limit for the purposes of this paragraph is the sum of the limit computed as provided in subdivision (a) or (b) of this paragraph plus ten percent of the revenue control limit attributable to those grade levels that do not meet the eligibility requirements of this subsection. If a school district budgets monies outside the revenue control limit pursuant to section 15-949, subsection E, the district's limit for the purposes of this paragraph is only the ten percent of the revenue control limit attributable to those grade levels

that are not included under section 15-949, subsection E. For the purposes of this subdivision, the revenue control limit is separated into elementary and secondary components based on the weighted student count as provided in section 15-971, subsection B, paragraph 2, subdivision (a).

- 2. If a school district utilizes this subsection to request an override of more than one year, the ballot shall include an estimate of the amount of the proposed increase in the future years in place of the statement that the amount of the proposed increase will be based on a percentage of the school district's revenue control limit in future years, as prescribed in subsections E and F of this section.
- 3. Notwithstanding subsection P of this section, the maximum period of an override authorized pursuant to this subsection is five years.
- 4. Subsection P, paragraphs 1 and 2 of this section do not apply to overrides authorized pursuant to this subsection.
- I. If the election is to exceed the revenue control limit as provided in section 15-482 and if the proposed increase will be fully funded by a levy of taxes on the taxable property within the school district, the ballot shall contain the words "budget increase, yes" and "budget increase, no", and the voter shall signify the voter's desired choice. The ballot shall also contain the amount of the proposed increase of the budget over the alternate budget, a statement that the amount of the proposed increase will be based on a percentage of the school district's revenue control limit in future years, if applicable, as provided in subsection Q of this section, and the following statement:

Any budget increase authorized by this election shall be entirely funded by a levy of taxes on the taxable property within this school district for the year for which adopted and for _____ subsequent years, shall not be realized from monies furnished by the state and shall not be subject to the limitation on taxes specified in article IX, section 18, Constitution of Arizona. Based on the current net assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes, to fund the

proposed increase in the school district's budget that will be funded by a levy of taxes on the taxable property within this school district would require an estimated tax rate of \$______ per \$100 of net assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes and is in addition to the school district's tax rate that will be levied to fund the school district's revenue control limit allowed by law.

J. If the election is to exceed the revenue control limit as provided in section 15-482 and if the proposed increase will be fully funded by revenues other than a levy of taxes on the taxable property within the school district, the ballot shall contain the words "budget increase, yes" and "budget increase, no", and the voter shall signify the voter's desired choice. The ballot shall also contain the amount of the proposed increase of the proposed budget over the alternate budget, a statement that the amount of the proposed increase will be based on a percentage of the school district's revenue control limit in future years, if applicable, as provided in subsection Q of this section and the following statement:

Any budget increase authorized by this election shall be entirely funded by this school district with revenues from other than a levy of taxes on the taxable property within the school district for the year for which adopted and for _____ subsequent years and shall not be realized from monies furnished by the state.

K. The maximum budget increase that may be requested and authorized as provided in subsection I or J of this section, or a combination of both of these subsections, is five percent of the revenue control limit as provided in section 15-947, subsection A for the budget year. For a common school district not within a high school district or a common school district within a high school district that offers instruction in high school subjects as provided in section 15-447, five percent of the revenue control limit means five percent of the revenue control limit attributable

to the weighted student count in preschool programs for children with disabilities, kindergarten programs and grades one through eight as provided in section 15-971, subsection B. For a unified school district, five percent of the revenue control limit means five percent of the revenue control limit attributable to the weighted student count in preschool programs for children with disabilities, kindergarten programs and grades one through twelve. For a union high school district, five percent of the revenue control limit means five percent of the revenue control limit attributable to the weighted student count in grades nine through twelve.

L. If the election is to exceed district additional assistance and if the proposed increase will be fully funded by a levy of taxes on the taxable property within the school district, the ballot shall contain the words "budget increase, yes" and "budget increase, no", and the voter shall signify the voter's desired choice. An election held pursuant to this subsection shall be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November. The ballot shall also contain the amount of the proposed increase of the proposed budget over the alternate budget and the following statement:

Any budget increase authorized by this election shall be entirely funded by a levy of taxes on the taxable property within this school district for the year in which adopted and for _____ subsequent years, shall not be realized from monies furnished by the state and shall not be subject to the limitation on taxes specified in article IX, section 18, Constitution of Arizona. Based on the current net assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes, to fund the proposed increase in the school district's budget would require an estimated tax rate of \$_____ per \$100 of net assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes and is in addition to the school district's tax rate that will be levied to fund the school district's district additional assistance allowed by law.

M. If the election is to exceed district additional assistance and if the proposed increase will be fully funded by revenues from other than a levy of taxes on the taxable property within the school district, the ballot shall contain the words "budget increase, yes" and "budget increase, no", and the voter shall signify the voter's desired choice. An election held pursuant to this subsection shall be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November. The ballot shall also contain the amount of the proposed increase of the proposed budget over the alternate budget and the following statement:

Any budget increase authorized by this election shall be entirely funded by this school district with revenues from other than a levy of taxes on the taxable property within the school district for the year in which adopted and for _____ subsequent years and shall not be realized from monies furnished by the state.

- N. If the election is to exceed a combination of the revenue control limit as provided in subsection E or F of this section, the revenue control limit as provided in subsection I or J of this section or district additional assistance as provided in subsection L or M of this section, the ballot shall be prepared so that the voters may vote on each proposed increase separately and shall contain statements required in the same manner as if each proposed increase were submitted separately.
- O. If the election provides for a levy of taxes on the taxable property within the school district, at least thirty days before the election, the department of revenue shall provide the school district governing board and the county school superintendent with the current net assessed valuation of the school district. The governing board and the county school superintendent shall use the current net assessed valuation of the school district to translate the amount of the proposed dollar increase in the budget of the school district over that allowed by law into a tax rate figure.

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- P. If the voters in a school district vote to adopt a budget in excess of the revenue control limit as provided in subsection E or F of this section, any additional increase shall be included in the aggregate budget limit for each of the years authorized. Any additional increase shall be excluded from the determination of equalization assistance. The school district governing board, however, may levy on the net assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes of the property in the school district the additional increase if adopted under subsection E of this section for the period of one year, two years or five through seven years as authorized. If an additional increase is approved as provided in subsection F of this section, the school district governing board may only use revenues derived from the school district's prior year's maintenance and operation fund ending cash balance to fund the additional increase. a budget increase was previously authorized and will be in effect for the budget year or budget year and subsequent years, as provided in subsection E or F of this section, the governing board may request a new budget increase as provided in the same subsection under which the prior budget increase was adopted, which shall not exceed the maximum amount allowed under subsection G of this section. If the voters in the school district authorize the new budget increase amount, the existing budget increase no longer is in effect. If the voters in the school district do not authorize the budget increase amount, the existing budget increase remains in effect for the time period for which it was authorized. The maximum additional increase authorized as provided in subsection E or F of this section and the additional increase that is included in the aggregate budget limit is based on a percentage of a school district's revenue control limit in future years, if the budget increase is authorized for more than one year. If the additional increase:
- 1. Is for two years, the proposed increase in the second year is equal to the initial proposed percentage increase.
- 2. Is for five years or more, the proposed increase is equal to the initial proposed percentage increase in the following years of the proposed

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increase, except that in the next to last year it is two-thirds of the initial proposed percentage increase and it is one-third of the initial proposed percentage increase in the last year of the proposed increase.

- Q. If the voters in a school district vote to adopt a budget in excess of the revenue control limit as provided in subsection I or J of this section, any additional increase shall be included in the aggregate budget limit for each of the years authorized. Any additional increase shall be excluded from the determination of equalization assistance. The school district governing board, however, may levy on the net assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes of the property in the school district the additional increase if adopted under subsection I of this section for the period of one year, two years or five through seven years as authorized. If an additional increase is approved as provided in subsection J of this section, the increase may only be budgeted and expended if sufficient monies are available in the maintenance and operation fund of the school district. If a budget increase was previously authorized and will be in effect for the budget year or budget year and subsequent years, as provided in subsection I or J of this section, the governing board may request a new budget increase as provided in the same subsection under which the prior budget increase was adopted that does not exceed the maximum amount permitted under subsection K of this section. the voters in the school district authorize the new budget increase amount, the existing budget increase no longer is in effect. If the voters in the school district do not authorize the budget increase amount, the existing budget increase remains in effect for the time period for which it was authorized. The maximum additional increase authorized as provided in subsection I or J of this section and the additional increase that is included in the aggregate budget limit is based on a percentage of a school district's revenue control limit in future years, if the budget increase is authorized for more than one year. If the additional increase:
- 1. Is for two years, the proposed increase in the second year is equal to the initial proposed percentage increase.

- 2. Is for five years or more, the proposed increase is equal to the initial proposed percentage increase in the following years of the proposed increase, except that in the next to last year it is two-thirds of the initial proposed percentage increase and it is one-third of the initial proposed percentage increase in the last year of the proposed increase.
- R. If the voters in a school district vote to adopt a budget in excess of district additional assistance as provided in subsection L of this section, any additional increase shall be included in the aggregate budget limit for each of the years authorized. The additional increase shall be excluded from the determination of equalization assistance. The school district governing board, however, may levy on the net assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes of the property in the school district the additional increase for the period authorized but not to exceed ten years. For overrides approved by a vote of the qualified electors of the school district at an election held from and after October 31, 1998, the period of the additional increase prescribed in this subsection shall not exceed seven years for any capital override election.
- S. If the voters in a school district vote to adopt a budget in excess of district additional assistance as provided in subsection M of this section, any additional increase shall be included in the aggregate budget limit for each of the years authorized. The additional increase shall be excluded from the determination of equalization assistance. The school district governing board may only use revenues derived from the school district's prior year's maintenance and operation fund ending cash balance and capital outlay fund ending cash balance to fund the additional increase for the period authorized but not to exceed ten years. For overrides approved by a vote of the qualified electors of the school district at an election held from and after October 31, 1998, the period of the additional increase prescribed in this subsection shall not exceed seven years for any capital override election.
- T. In addition to subsections P and S of this section, from the maintenance and operation fund and capital outlay fund ending cash

balances, the school district governing board shall first use any available revenues to reduce its primary tax rate to zero and shall use any remaining revenues to fund the additional increase authorized as provided in subsections F and M of this section.

- U. If the voters in a school district disapprove the proposed budget, the alternate budget that, except for any budget increase authorized by a prior election, does not include an increase in the budget in excess of the amount provided in section 15-905 shall be adopted by the governing board as provided in section 15-905.
- V. The governing board may request that any override election be cancelled if any change in chapter 9 of this title changes the amount of the aggregate budget limit as provided in section 15-905. The request to cancel the override election shall be made to the county school superintendent at least eighty days before the date of the scheduled override election.
- $\ensuremath{\mathsf{W}}.$ For any election conducted pursuant to subsection L or M of this section:
- 1. The ballot shall include the following statement in addition to any other statement required by this section:

The capital improvements that are proposed to be funded through this override election are to exceed the state standards and are in addition to monies provided by the state.

school district is proposing to increase its
budget by \$ to fund capital improvements over and
above those funded by the state. Under the students first
capital funding system, school district is entitled
to state monies for new construction and renovation of school $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1\right$
buildings in accordance with state law.

2. The ballot shall contain the words "budget increase, yes" and "budget increase, no", and the voter shall signify the voter's desired choice.

- 3. At least eighty-five days before the election, the school district shall submit proposed ballot language to the director of the Arizona legislative council. The director of the Arizona legislative council shall review the proposed ballot language to determine whether the proposed ballot language complies with this section. If the director of the Arizona legislative council determines that the proposed ballot language does not comply with this section, the director, within ten calendar days after receiving the proposed ballot language, shall notify the school district of the director's objections, and the school district shall resubmit revised ballot language to the director for approval.
- X. If the voters approve the budget increase pursuant to subsection L or M of this section, the school district shall not use the override proceeds for any purposes other than the proposed capital improvements listed in the informational pamphlet, except that up to ten percent of the override proceeds may be used for general capital expenses, including cost overruns of proposed capital improvements.
- Y. Each school district that currently increases its budget pursuant to this section shall hold a public meeting each year between September 1 and October 31 at which an update of the programs or capital improvements financed through the override is discussed and at which the public is allowed an opportunity to comment and:
- 1. If the increase is pursuant to subsection L or M of this section, at a minimum, the update shall include the progress of capital improvements financed through the override, a comparison of the current status and the original projections on the construction of capital improvements, the costs of capital improvements and the costs of capital improvements in progress or completed since the prior meeting and the future capital plans of the school district. The school district shall include in the public meeting a discussion of the school district's use of state capital aid and voter-approved bonding in funding capital improvements, if any.
- 2. If the increase is pursuant to subsection E, F, I or J of this section, the update shall include at a minimum the amount expended in the

previous fiscal year and the amount included in the current budget for each of the purposes listed in the informational pamphlet prescribed by subsection B of this section.

- Z. If a budget in excess of district additional assistance was previously adopted by the voters in a school district and will be in effect for the budget year or budget year and subsequent years, as provided in subsection L or M of this section, the governing board may request an additional budget in excess of district additional assistance. If the voters in a school district authorize the additional budget in excess of district additional assistance budget increase remains in effect.
- AA. Notwithstanding any other law, the maximum budget increase that may be authorized pursuant to subsection L or M of this section is ten percent of the school district's revenue control limit.
- BB. If the election is to continue to exceed the revenue control limit and if the proposed override will be fully funded by a continuation of a levy of taxes on the taxable property in the school district, the ballot shall contain the words "budget override continuation, yes" and "budget override continuation, no", and the voter shall signify the voter's desired choice. The ballot shall also contain the amount of the proposed continuation of the budget increase of the proposed budget over the alternate budget, a statement that the amount of the proposed increase will be based on a percentage of the school district's revenue control limit in future years, if applicable, as provided in subsection P of this section and the following statement:

Any budget increase continuation authorized by this election shall be entirely funded by a levy of taxes on the taxable property in this school district for the year for which adopted and for _____ subsequent years, shall not be realized from monies furnished by the state and shall not be subject to the limitation on taxes specified in article IX, section 18, Constitution of Arizona. Based on the current net assessed

valuation used for secondary property tax purposes, to fund the proposed continuation of the increase in the school district's budget would require an estimated continuation of a tax rate of \$______ per \$100 of assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes and is in addition to the school district's tax rate that will be levied to fund the school district's revenue control limit allowed by law.

CC. If the election is to continue to exceed the revenue control limit as provided in section 15-482 and if the proposed override will be fully funded by a continuation of a levy of taxes on the taxable property in the school district, the ballot shall contain the words "budget override continuation, yes" and "budget override continuation, no", and the voter shall signify the voter's desired choice. The ballot shall also contain the amount of the proposed continuation of the budget increase of the proposed budget over the alternate budget, a statement that the amount of the proposed increase will be based on a percentage of the school district's revenue control limit in future years, if applicable, as provided in subsection P of this section and the following statement:

Any budget increase continuation authorized by this election shall be entirely funded by a levy of taxes on the taxable property in this school district for the year for which adopted and for ______ subsequent years, shall not be realized from monies furnished by the state and shall not be subject to the limitation on taxes specified in article IX, section 18, Constitution of Arizona. Based on the current net assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes, to fund the proposed continuation of the increase in the school district's budget would require an estimated continuation of a tax rate of \$_____ per \$100 of net assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes and is in addition to the school district's tax rate that will be levied to fund the school district's revenue control limit allowed by law.

Sec. 4. Section 42-11054, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

42-11054. Standard appraisal methods and techniques

- A. Subject to subsection B of this section, The department shall:
- 1. Prescribe guidelines for applying standard appraisal methods and techniques that shall be used by the department and county assessors in determining the valuation of property.
- 2. Prepare and maintain manuals and other necessary guidelines, consistent with this section, reflecting the standard methods and techniques to perpetuate a current inventory of taxable property and the valuation of that property.
- B. Before they are adopted, the department shall submit each substantive proposed guideline, table and manual that is developed, amended or otherwise modified from and after December 31, 2006 to the joint legislative oversight committee on property tax assessment and appeals. The department shall not finally adopt, amend or otherwise modify a substantive guideline, table or manual for at least thirty days after submitting the measure to the committee. The committee may hold one or more informational hearings on the proposed measure within thirty days after submission. In adopting, amending or modifying the measure the department shall consider the committee's comments. If the committee fails to hold a hearing within thirty days after submission, the department may adopt, amend or modify the measure without further consideration.
- C. B. In applying prescribed standard appraisal methods and techniques:
- 1. Current usage shall be included in the formula for reaching a determination of full cash value.
- 2. Solar energy devices, as defined in section 44-1761, grid-tied photovoltaic systems and any other device or system designed to produce solar energy primarily for on-site consumption are considered to add no value to the property on which such a device or system is installed.

3. If characterized as personal property, subject to any applicable constitutional exemption from taxation, solar energy devices, as defined in section 44-1761, grid-tied photovoltaic systems and any other device or system designed to produce solar energy primarily for on-site consumption

- 4. 3. Energy efficient building components, renewable energy equipment and combined heat and power systems are considered to add no value to the property, if the property owner provides the county assessor with documentation of all elements that qualify pursuant to this paragraph, including documents showing actual acquisition and installation costs. The documentation must be submitted to the county assessor not later than six months before the notice of full cash value is issued for the initial evaluation year pursuant to section 42-15101 or, if the component is added
- (a) "Combined heat and power system" means a system that generates electricity or mechanical power and useful thermal energy in a single, integrated system such that the useful power output of the facility plus one-half the useful thermal output during any twelve-month period is not less than 42.5 percent of the total energy input of fuel to the facility.

after September 30 of the preceding year, not later than March 31 of the

initial valuation year. For the purposes of this paragraph:

- (b) "Energy efficient building components" means high performance sustainable building components installed so that the buildings or building components meet or exceed the energy efficiencies prescribed by the United States environmental protection agency energy star program or by a leadership in energy and environmental design green building rating standard developed by the United States green building council, or an equivalent green building standard, or that are at least fifteen percent more energy efficient than the international energy conservation code in effect at the time of building permit issuance.
- (c) "Renewable energy equipment" means equipment that is used to produce energy primarily for on-site consumption from renewable resources, including wind, forest thinnings, agricultural waste, biogas, biomass,

- geothermal, low-impact hydropower and solar energy not included under paragraph 2 of this subsection.
 - D. C. If the methods and techniques prescribe using market data as an indication of market value, the price paid for future anticipated property value increments shall be excluded.
 - E. D. For the purposes of determining full cash value the department and county assessors shall use and apply the ratio standard guidelines issued by the department for tax year 1993 in the same manner as they were applied in tax year 1993. This subsection does not apply to property that is valued according to prescribed statutory methods or to property for which values are determined in the year after an appeal pursuant to section 42-16002."
- 13 Renumber to conform

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- 14 Page 1, line 6, after the first "property" strike remainder of line
- 15 Line 7, strike "42-12002, paragraph 2, subdivision (a) or (b) and"
- 16 Line 8, after "or" strike remainder of line
- 17 Line 9, strike "pursuant to section 42-12001 and that is"; strike "as"
- 18 Page 1, line 10, strike "described in section 42-12001, paragraphs 8 through 11
- 19 or 13" insert "AND THAT IS NOT VALUED PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 14 OF THIS TITLE"
- 20 Between lines 21 and 22, insert:
- "Sec. 6. Section 42-12001, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:
- 23 42-12001. Class one property
 - For THE purposes of taxation, class one is established consisting of the following subclasses:
 - 1. Producing mines and mining claims, personal property used on mines and mining claims, improvements to mines and mining claims and mills and smelters operated in conjunction with mines and mining claims that are valued at full cash value pursuant to section 42-14053.
 - 2. Standing timber that is valued at full cash value.
- 3. Real and personal property of gas distribution companies, electric transmission companies, electric distribution companies,

- combination gas and electric transmission and distribution companies, and companies engaged in the generation of electricity that are valued at full cash value pursuant to section 42-14151.
- 4. Real and personal property of airport fuel delivery companies that are valued pursuant to section 42-14503.
- 5. Real and personal property that is used by producing oil, gas and geothermal resource interests that are valued at full cash value pursuant to section 42-14102.
- 6. Real and personal property of water, sewer and wastewater utility companies that are valued at full cash value pursuant to section 42-14151.
- 7. Real and personal property of pipeline companies that are valued at full cash value pursuant to section 42-14201.
- 8. Real and personal property of shopping centers that are valued at full cash value or pursuant to chapter 13, article 5 of this title, as applicable, other than property that is included in class nine.
- 9. Real and personal property of golf courses that are valued at full cash value or pursuant to chapter 13, article 4 of this title.
- 10. All REAL property, both real and personal, of manufacturers, assemblers or fabricators, other than property that is specifically included in another class described in this article, that is valued under this title.
- 11. Real and personal property that is used in communications transmission facilities and that provides public telephone or telecommunications exchange or interexchange access for compensation to effect two-way communication to, from, through or within this state.
- 12. Real property and improvements that are devoted to any other commercial or industrial use, other than property that is specifically included in another class described in this article, and that are valued at full cash value.
- 13. Personal property that is devoted to any other commercial or industrial use, other than property that is specifically included in

1 another class described in this article, and that is valued at full cash 2 value.

- 14. 13. Real and personal property of electric cooperatives that are valued at full cash value pursuant to section 42-14159.
- Sec. 7. Section 42-12002, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

42-12002. Class two property

For purposes of taxation, class two is established consisting of three subclasses:

- 1. Class two (R) consists of:
- (a) Real property and improvements to property that are used for agricultural purposes and that are valued at full cash value or pursuant to chapter 13, article 3 of this title, as applicable.
- (b) Real property and improvements to property that are primarily used for agricultural purposes to produce trees other than standing timber, vines, rosebushes, ornamental plants or other horticultural crops, regardless of whether the crop is grown in containers, soil or any other medium, that are not included in class one, three, four, six, seven or eight and that are valued at full cash value or pursuant to chapter 13, article 3 of this title, as applicable.
- (c) Real property and improvements to property that are owned and controlled by a nonprofit organization that is exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(3), (4), (7), (10) or (14) of the internal revenue code if the property is not used or intended for the financial benefit of members of the organization or any other individual or organization, unless the financial benefit is for charitable, religious, scientific, literary or educational purposes, and that are valued at full cash value.
- (d) Real property of golf courses that is valued at full cash value or pursuant to chapter 13, article 4 of this title.
- (e) Real property and improvements to property of a guest ranch that are valued pursuant to chapter 13, article 12 of this title.

(f) All other real property and improvements to property, if any, that are not included in class one, three, four, six, seven or eight and that are valued at full cash value.

2. Class two (P) consists of:

- (a) Personal property that is used for agricultural purposes and that is valued at full cash value or pursuant to chapter 13, article 3 of this title, as applicable.
- (b) Personal property that is primarily used for agricultural purposes to produce trees other than standing timber, vines, rosebushes, ornamental plants or other horticultural crops, regardless of whether the crop is grown in containers, soil or any other medium, that is not included in class one, three, four, six, seven or eight and that is valued at full cash value or pursuant to chapter 13, article 3 of this title, as applicable.
- (c) Personal property that is owned and controlled by a nonprofit organization that is exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(3), (4), (7), (10) or (14) of the internal revenue code if the property is not used or intended for the financial benefit of members of the organization or any other individual or organization, unless the financial benefit is for charitable, religious, scientific, literary or educational purposes, and that is valued at full cash value.
- (d) Personal property of golf courses that is valued at full cash value or pursuant to chapter 13, article 4 of this title.
- (e) Personal property of a guest ranch that is valued pursuant to chapter 13, article 12 of this title.
- (f) All other personal property that is not included in class one, three, four, six, seven or eight and that is valued at full cash value.
- 3. 2. Class two (C) consists of real property, and improvements to real property, that is burdened by a conservation easement that has been created and is currently in effect pursuant to title 33, chapter 2, article 4.

Sec. 8. Section 42-12004, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

42-12004. Class four property

- A. For the purposes of taxation, class four is established consisting of:
- 1. Real and personal property and improvements to the property that are used for residential purposes, including residential property that is owned in foreclosure by a financial institution, that is not otherwise included in another classification and that is valued at full cash value. The homesite that is included in class four may include:
- (a) Up to ten acres on a single parcel of real property on which the residential improvement is located.
- (b) More than ten, but not more than forty, acres on a single parcel of real property on which the residential improvement is located if it is zoned exclusively for residential purposes or contains legal restrictions or physical conditions that prevent the division of the parcel. For the purposes of this subdivision, "physical conditions" means topography, mountains, washes, rivers, roads or any other configuration that limits the residential usable land area.
- 2. Real and personal property and improvements to the property that are used for residential purposes and solely leased or rented, that are not included in class one, two, three, six, seven or eight and that are valued at full cash value.
- 3. Child care facilities that are licensed under title 36, chapter 7.1 and that are valued at full cash value.
- 4. Real and personal property and improvements to property that are used to operate nonprofit residential housing facilities that are structured to house or care for persons with disabilities or who are at least sixty-two years of age and that are valued at full cash value.

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- 5. Real and personal property and improvements that are used to operate licensed residential care institutions or licensed nursing care institutions that provide medical services, nursing services or health-related services and that are structured to house or care for persons with disabilities or who are at least sixty-two years of age and that are valued at full cash value.
- 6. Real and personal property consisting of not more than eight rooms of residential property that are leased or rented to transient lodgers, together with furnishing not more than a breakfast meal, by the owner who resides on the property and that is valued at full cash value.
- 7. Real and personal property that consists of residential dwellings maintained for occupancy by agricultural employees as a condition of employment or as a convenience to the employer, that is not included in class three and that is valued at full cash value. The land associated with these dwellings shall be valued as agricultural land pursuant to chapter 13, article 3 of this title.
- 8. Real property and improvements to property constituting common areas that are valued pursuant to chapter 13, article 9 of this title.
- 9. Real and personal property that is defined as timeshare property by section 32-2197 and valued pursuant to chapter 13, article 10 of this title, except for any property used for commercial, industrial or transient occupancy purposes and included in class one to the extent of that use.
- 10. Real and personal property and improvements that are used for residential purposes and that are leased or rented to lodgers, except for:
- (a) Property occupied by the owner of the property as the owner's primary residence and included in class three.
 - (b) Property used for commercial purposes and included in class one.
- 11. Low-income multifamily residential rental properties that are valued pursuant to chapter 13, article 13 of this title.
- B. Subsection A, paragraphs 4 and 5 of this section do not limit eligibility for exemption from taxation under chapter 11, article 3 of this title.

Sec. 9. Section 42-12006, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

42-12006. Class six property

For the purposes of taxation, class six is established consisting of:

- 1. Noncommercial historic property as defined in section 42-12101 and valued at full cash value.
- 2. Real and personal property that is located within the area of a foreign trade zone or subzone established under 19 United States Code sections 81a through 81u and title 44, chapter 18, that is activated for foreign trade zone use by the district director of the United States customs service pursuant to 19 Code of Federal Regulations section 146.6 and that is valued at full cash value. Property that is classified under this paragraph shall not thereafter be classified under paragraph 6 of this section.
- 3. Real and personal property and improvements that are located in a military reuse zone that is established under title 41, chapter 10, article 3 and that is devoted to providing aviation or aerospace services or to manufacturing, assembling or fabricating aviation or aerospace products, valued at full cash value and subject to the following terms and conditions:
- (a) Property may not be classified under this paragraph for more than five tax years.
- (b) Any new addition or improvement to property already classified under this paragraph qualifies separately for classification under this paragraph for not more than five tax years.
- (c) If a military reuse zone is terminated, the property in that zone that was previously classified under this paragraph shall be reclassified as prescribed by this article.
- (d) Property that is classified under this paragraph shall not thereafter be classified under paragraph 6 of this section.
- 4. Real and personal property and improvements or a portion of such property comprising an environmental technology manufacturing, producing or

processing facility that qualified under section 41-1514.02, valued at full cash value and subject to the following terms and conditions:

- (a) Property shall be classified under this paragraph for twenty tax years from the date placed in service.
- (b) Any addition or improvement to property already classified under this paragraph qualifies separately for classification under this subdivision for an additional twenty tax years from the date placed in service.
- (c) After revocation of certification under section 41-1514.02, property that was previously classified under this paragraph shall be reclassified as prescribed by this article.
- (d) Property that is classified under this paragraph shall not thereafter be classified under paragraph 6 of this section.
- 5. That portion of real and personal property that is used on or after January 1, 1999 specifically and solely for remediation of the environment by an action that has been determined to be reasonable and necessary to respond to the release or threatened release of a hazardous substance by the department of environmental quality pursuant to section 49-282.06 or pursuant to its corrective action authority under rules adopted pursuant to section 49-922, subsection B, paragraph 4 or by the United States environmental protection agency pursuant to the national contingency plan (40 Code of Federal Regulations part 300) and that is valued at full cash value. Property that is not being used specifically and solely for the remediation objectives described in this paragraph shall not be classified under this paragraph. For the purposes of this paragraph, "remediation of the environment" means one or more of the following actions:
- (a) Monitoring, assessing or evaluating the release or threatened release.
- (b) Excavating, removing, transporting, treating and disposing of contaminated soil.
 - (c) Pumping and treating contaminated water.

- (d) Treating, containing or removing $\frac{\mathbf{of}}{\mathbf{of}}$ contaminants in groundwater or soil.
- 6. Real and personal property and improvements constructed or installed from and after December 31, 2004 through December 31, 2024 and owned by a qualified business under section 41-1516 and used solely for the purpose of harvesting, transporting or processing qualifying forest products removed from qualifying projects as defined in section 41-1516. The classification under this paragraph is subject to the following terms and conditions:
- (a) Property may be initially classified under this paragraph only in valuation years 2005 through 2024.
- (b) Property may not be classified under this paragraph for more than five years.
- (c) Any new addition or improvement, constructed or installed from and after December 31, 2004 through December 31, 2024, to property already classified under this paragraph qualifies separately for classification and assessment under this paragraph for not more than five years.
- (d) Property that is classified under this paragraph shall not thereafter be classified under paragraph 2, 3 or 4 of this section.
- 7. Real and personal property and improvements to the property that are used specifically and solely to manufacture from and after December 31, 2006 through December 31, 2023 biodiesel fuel that is one hundred percent biodiesel and its by-products or motor vehicle biofuel and its by-products and that are valued at full cash value. This paragraph applies only to the portion of property that is used specifically for manufacturing and processing one hundred per cent PERCENT biodiesel fuel, or its related by-products, or motor vehicle biofuel, or its related by-products, from raw feedstock obtained from off-site sources, including necessary on-site storage facilities that are intrinsically associated with the manufacturing process. Any other commercial or industrial use disqualifies the entire property from classification under this paragraph. For the purposes of this paragraph, "motor vehicle biofuel" means a solid, liquid or gaseous

fuel that is derived from biological material such as plant or animal matter, excluding organic material that has been transformed by geological processes into substances such as coal or petroleum or derivatives thereof, and that:

- (a) Contains fuel additives in compliance with federal and state law.
 - (b) Is manufactured exclusively for use in a motor vehicle.
- 8. Real and personal property and improvements that are used for renewable energy manufacturing or headquarters operations as provided by section 42-12057. This paragraph applies only to property that is used in manufacturing and headquarters operations of renewable energy companies, including necessary on-site research and development, testing and storage facilities that are associated with the manufacturing process. Up to ten percent of the aggregate full cash value of the property may be derived from uses that are ancillary to and intrinsically associated with the manufacturing process or headquarters operation. Any additional ancillary property is not qualified for classification under this paragraph. No new properties may be classified pursuant to this paragraph from and after December 31, 2014. Property that is classified under this paragraph shall not thereafter be classified under any other paragraph of this section.
- Sec. 10. Section 42-12054, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

42-12054. Change in classification of owner-occupied residence

A. If a person purchases or converts property that is listed as class one pursuant to section 42-12001, paragraph 12 or 13, class two or class four pursuant to article 1 of this chapter and occupies the property as the person's primary residence, the person may have the classification reviewed for change to class three from the date of conversion and occupancy as a primary residence and may appeal from the decision resulting from the review in the same manner as provided by law for review of a valuation for ad valorem property taxes and appeal from that review.

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- B. If a person purchases or converts property that is listed as class one pursuant to section 42-12001, paragraph 12 or 13, class two or class four pursuant to article 1 of this chapter and the property is occupied by a member of the owner's immediate family as described in section 42-12053, the person may have the classification reviewed for change to class three from the date of occupancy and may appeal the decision resulting from the review in the same manner as provided by law for review of a valuation for ad valorem property taxes and appeal from that review.
- C. If a person makes such a conversion or occupancy or appeals the classification after the county assessor has closed the rolls, the person may petition the county board of supervisors to change the classification and reduce the assessed valuation from the date of conversion or occupancy.
- D. The board of supervisors shall entertain the petition in the same manner as a board of equalization hears a request for reduction in valuation.
- E. The petitioner may appeal the board of supervisors' decision in the same manner as provided in section 42-16111, except that the petitioner shall file the notice of appeal within fifteen days after the board's finding.
- F. If the board of supervisors finds that the property is in fact the owner's primary residence and should be listed as class three property, the board shall change the classification on the roll and fix the assessed valuation from the date of occupancy. The amount of taxes that is assessed against the property shall be computed by applying the current tax rate to the original assessed valuation prorated for the portion of the tax year before the property was occupied plus the current tax rate applied to the reassessed value of the property prorated for the balance of the year.
- G. The board of supervisors shall notify the department, assessor and county treasurer of the change in classification, the change in assessed valuation and the amount of tax assessed. The department and the assessor may appeal any such decision in the same manner as provided in

section 42-16111. The assessor and treasurer shall note the change on their records, and the treasurer may issue a future tax credit, endorsed by the board, to the person whose property is liable for the tax. The tax credit shall be used on the next or several succeeding property tax assessments that the person may owe thereafter.

Sec. 11. Section 42-12058, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

42-12058. Registry of real property burdened by conservation easements

- A. The county assessor in each county shall establish and maintain a public digital registry of each parcel of property in the county that is classified as class two (C) pursuant to section 42-12002, paragraph $\frac{3}{2}$ 2 from and after December 31, 2016 because it is burdened by a conservation easement.
- B. The registry shall include the following information regarding each parcel:
- 1. The name of the owner or owners of the real property that is burdened by the conservation easement.
- 2. The name of the holder of the conservation easement and the name of any governmental body, charitable corporation or trustee of a charitable trust having a third-party right of enforcement.
 - 3. The date the conservation easement was created or recorded.
- 4. Whether the conservation easement is perpetual or limited in duration and, if so limited, the date or conditions under which the conservation easement terminates.
- 5. The value of the real property that is burdened by the conservation easement as determined by an independent appraisal prior to the creation and recording of the conservation easement.
- C. The assessor shall periodically review and revise as necessary the information contained in the registry for the purpose of verifying that the listed properties should remain classified as class two (C).

1	Sec. 12. <u>Repeal</u>
2	Section 42-13054, Arizona Revised Statutes, is repealed.
3	Sec. 13. Section 42–13055, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
4	read:
5	42-13055. Reducing minimum value for property in use
6	A. Beginning in valuation year 2000, the department shall reduce the
7	minimum value prescribed for class one, paragraphs 8, 9, 10 and 13 and
8	class two (P) valued by the assessor by 2.5 per cent PERCENT good each
9	year.
10	B. This section does not require the department to reduce the
11	minimum value for any property in use below 2.5 per cent PERCENT good.
12	Sec. 14. Repeal
13	Section 42-13056, Arizona Revised Statutes, is repealed.
14	Sec. 15. Section 42-13304, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
15	read:
16	42-13304. <u>Exemptions from limitation</u>
17	The limitations prescribed by this article do not apply to:
18	1. Personal property, other than mobile homes. The full cash value
19	of personal property, other than mobile homes, shall be used for all
20	purposes in lieu of limited property value.
21	2. Property included in property class one under section 42-12001,
22	paragraphs 1 through 7, 11 and $\frac{14}{13}$. The full cash value of that property
23	shall be used for all purposes in lieu of limited property value."
24	Renumber to conform
25	Page 1, between lines 34 and 35, insert:
26	"Sec. 17. Section 42–15053, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
27	read:
28	42-15053. <u>Duty to report personal property; exemption;</u>
29	contents of report; confidentiality
30	A. On or before February 1 of each year, the assessor shall mail a
31	form, notice or demand to each person that owns or has charge or control of
32	taxable personal property in this state. Each person shall prepare and

deliver to the assessor a correct report of property on or before April 1 of each year. On written request and for good cause shown, the assessor may extend for up to thirty days the time for filing the report.

- B. Property that is not required to be reported as provided by subsection D of this section is exempt from the reporting requirement of subsection A of this section. The county assessor may not require a person that owns or has charge or control of property that is not required to be reported as provided by subsection D of this section to apply to be exempt from the reporting requirement of subsection A of this section.
- C. The duty to report taxable property pursuant to this section applies regardless of whether the person or entity that owns or has charge or control of the personal property also owns real property in the county with a value of \$200 or more.
 - D. The assessor shall not require a report of:
- 1. The breed, number, age or location of livestock on hand from individuals, corporations, partnerships or any other business if the livestock is exempt from taxation pursuant to article IX, section 13, Constitution of Arizona.
- 2. The personal property that is class two (P) property pursuant to section 42-12002, paragraph 2 and that is used for agricultural purposes or that is class one, subclasses 8 through 11 and 13 property pursuant to section 42-12001 and that is used in a trade or business AND that is exempt from taxation pursuant to article IX, section 2, subsection E, Constitution of Arizona, AND SECTION 42-11127.
- E. Every assessment made against property that is subject to taxation is valid whether or not the form, notice or demand was sent or received.
- F. The department shall prescribe in detail the contents of property reports including the specific wording to be used by county assessors and the method of reporting property. The report shall not include any question that is not germane to the valuation function.

- G. A report that is furnished under this section:
 - 1. Is not open to public inspection, but the report may be used as evidence in any prosecution brought under section 42-15055.
 - 2. May be subject to audit. On completing an audit or on discovering property that has not been reported, any property that was found to have escaped taxation is liable for the amount of taxes due determined under chapter 16, article 6 of this title, plus a penalty equal to ten percent of that amount. The county treasurer shall credit monies received as penalties under this paragraph to the county general fund."
- 10 Renumber to conform
- 11 Amend title to conform

J.D. MESNARD

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