

REFERENCE TITLE: elections; signatures; public record

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-sixth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2024

HB 2469

Introduced by
Representatives McGarr: Hendrix, Jones, Willoughby

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 16-550, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO EARLY VOTING.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:
2 Section 1. Section 16-550, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:
4 16-550. Receipt of voter's ballot; cure period; tracking
5 system; public record
6 A. Except for early ballots tabulated as prescribed in section
7 16-579.02, on receipt of the envelope containing the early ballot and the
8 ballot affidavit, the county recorder or other officer in charge of
9 elections shall compare the ~~signatures thereon~~ SIGNATURE ON THE ENVELOPE
10 with the signature of the elector on the elector's registration
11 record. If the signature is inconsistent with the elector's signature on
12 the elector's registration record, the county recorder or other officer in
13 charge of elections shall make reasonable efforts to contact the voter,
14 advise the voter of the inconsistent signature and allow the voter to
15 correct or the county to confirm the inconsistent signature. The county
16 recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall allow signatures to
17 be corrected not later than the fifth business day after a primary,
18 general or special election that includes a federal office or the third
19 business day after any other election. If the signature is missing, the
20 county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall make
21 reasonable efforts to contact the elector, advise the elector of the
22 missing signature and allow the elector to add the elector's signature not
23 later than 7:00 p.m. on election day. If satisfied that the signatures
24 correspond, the recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall
25 hold the envelope containing the early ballot and the completed affidavit
26 unopened in accordance with the rules of the secretary of state.
27 B. The recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall
28 thereafter safely keep the affidavits and early ballots in the recorder's
29 or other officer's office and may deliver them for tallying pursuant to
30 section 16-551. Tallying of ballots may begin immediately after the
31 envelope and completed affidavit are processed pursuant to this section
32 and delivered to the early election board.
33 C. The county recorder shall send a list of all voters who were
34 issued early ballots to the election board of the precinct in which the
35 voter is registered.
36 D. For a county that uses early ballots, the county recorder or
37 other officer in charge of elections shall provide an early ballot
38 tracking system that indicates whether the voter's early ballot has been
39 received and whether the early ballot has been verified and sent to be
40 tabulated or rejected. The county recorder or other officer in charge of
41 elections shall provide voters with access to the early ballot tracking
42 system on the county's website.

1 E. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER LAW, A VOTER'S SIGNATURE ON THE
2 VOTER'S REGISTRATION RECORD AND A VOTER'S SIGNATURE ON AN EARLY BALLOT
3 AFFIDAVIT ARE PUBLIC RECORDS AND MAY BE REQUESTED BY ANY CANDIDATE OR
4 OTHER PERSON. WITHIN FORTY-EIGHT HOURS AFTER A REQUEST AND IF REQUESTED
5 FOR A NONCOMMERCIAL PURPOSE, THE COUNTY RECORDER OR OTHER OFFICER IN
6 CHARGE OF ELECTIONS SHALL PROVIDE ACCESS TO OR COPIES OF THE VOTER'S
7 SIGNATURES ON THE VOTER'S REGISTRATION RECORD AND EARLY BALLOT AFFIDAVIT.

8 ~~E.~~ F. This section does not apply to:

9 1. A special taxing district that is authorized pursuant to section
10 16-191 to conduct its own elections.

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