

REFERENCE TITLE: **homeless encampment; crime enforcement**

State of Arizona  
Senate  
Fifty-sixth Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2024

## **SB 1593**

Introduced by  
Senator Wadsack: Representative Hernandez C

### AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 9, CHAPTER 4, ARTICLE 8, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY  
ADDING SECTION 9-500.50; AMENDING TITLE 11, CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE 4, ARIZONA  
REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 11-269.29; RELATING TO HOMELESS  
ENCAMPMENTS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

2 Section 1. Title 9, chapter 4, article 8, Arizona Revised Statutes,  
3 is amended by adding section 9-500.50, to read:

4 9-500.50. Homeless encampments; indoor shelter options; crime  
5 enforcement; definition

6 A. A MUNICIPALITY SHALL ALLOW THE EXISTENCE OF A HOMELESS  
7 ENCAMPMENT ONLY IF THERE ARE NO OTHER OPTIONS FOR INDOOR SHELTER IN THE  
8 MUNICIPALITY.

9 B. THE EXISTENCE OF A HOMELESS ENCAMPMENT IS PROHIBITED IF OTHER  
10 OPTIONS FOR INDOOR SHELTER EXIST IN THE MUNICIPALITY. IF OTHER OPTIONS  
11 FOR INDOOR SHELTER EXIST IN THE MUNICIPALITY, THE MUNICIPALITY SHALL  
12 REMOVE ALL HOMELESS ENCAMPMENTS IN THE MUNICIPALITY.

13 C. PERSONS LIVING AT A HOMELESS ENCAMPMENT WHO ARE ENGAGING IN  
14 CRIMINAL ACTIVITY SHALL BE ARRESTED BY MUNICIPAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES  
15 AND PROSECUTED.

16 D. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "HOMELESS ENCAMPMENT" MEANS  
17 ONE OR MORE TENTS, STRUCTURES OR ASSEMBLIES OF CAMPING EQUIPMENT OR OTHER  
18 STRUCTURES WHERE ONE OR MORE PERSONS ARE KNOWINGLY, INTELLIGENTLY AND  
19 REGULARLY USING THE AREA AS AN INDEFINITE PLACE OF DOMICILE OR RESIDENCE.

20 Sec. 2. Title 11, chapter 2, article 4, Arizona Revised Statutes,  
21 is amended by adding section 11-269.29, to read:

22 11-269.29. Homeless encampments; indoor shelter options;  
23 crime enforcement; definition

24 A. A COUNTY SHALL ALLOW THE EXISTENCE OF A HOMELESS ENCAMPMENT ONLY  
25 IF THERE ARE NO OTHER OPTIONS FOR INDOOR SHELTER IN THE COUNTY.

26 B. THE EXISTENCE OF A HOMELESS ENCAMPMENT IS PROHIBITED IF OTHER  
27 OPTIONS FOR INDOOR SHELTER EXIST IN THE COUNTY. IF OTHER OPTIONS FOR  
28 INDOOR SHELTER EXIST IN THE COUNTY, THE COUNTY SHALL REMOVE ALL HOMELESS  
29 ENCAMPMENTS IN THE COUNTY.

30 C. PERSONS LIVING AT A HOMELESS ENCAMPMENT WHO ARE ENGAGING IN  
31 CRIMINAL ACTIVITY SHALL BE ARRESTED BY COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND  
32 PROSECUTED.

33 D. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "HOMELESS ENCAMPMENT" MEANS  
34 ONE OR MORE TENTS, STRUCTURES OR ASSEMBLIES OF CAMPING EQUIPMENT OR OTHER  
35 STRUCTURES WHERE ONE OR MORE PERSONS ARE KNOWINGLY, INTELLIGENTLY AND  
36 REGULARLY USING THE AREA AS AN INDEFINITE PLACE OF DOMICILE OR RESIDENCE.