



ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Fifty-fifth Legislature
First Regular Session

Senate: GOV DP 5-3-0-0 | 3rd Read 16-14-0-0

SB 1003: early voting; signature required; notice

Sponsor: Senator Ugenti-Rita, LD 23
Committee on Government & Elections

Overview

Requires the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections to make reasonable efforts to contact the elector and advise them of the missing signature on an early ballot envelope.

History

Accompanying an early ballot are printed instructions which the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections is required to provide. The instructions direct the voter to sign the affidavit on the ballot's envelope, mark the ballot and return both in the sealed, self-addressed envelope that complies with statute. The printed instructions are required to include a statement telling the voter that for the ballot to be counted, it must be delivered to the office of the county recorder or other officer in charge of the election no later than 7:00 p.m. on election day ([A.R.S. § 16-547](#)).

After an officer in charge of elections receives an early ballot, they compare the signature of the elector on the ballot with the elector's signature on their registration record. If the officer in charge of elections sees an inconsistency with the signature on the elector's registration record and the one on the ballot, they will make a reasonable effort to contact the voter and inform them of an inconsistent signature and allow them to correct or confirm the signature. The officer in charge of elections must allow signatures to be corrected up to five days after an election involving a federal office, and three days after any other election ([A.R.S. § 16-550](#)).

Provisions

1. Requires the printed early voter instructions to state that *the ballot will not be counted without the voter's signature on the envelope*. (Sec. 1)
2. Specifies that the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections must make reasonable efforts to contact the elector and advise them of the missing signature on an early ballot envelope and allow them to add their signature by 7:00 p.m. on election day. (Sec. 2)
3. Contains a legislative intent clause that states that these amendments do not provide for any substantive change in the law and are clarifying changes only. (Sec. 3)
4. Makes technical and conforming changes. (Sec. 1)

Prop 105 (45 votes) Prop 108 (40 votes) Emergency (40 votes) Fiscal Note