



**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
AND POSSIBLE EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE
STATE OF ARIZONA
CITIZENS CLEAN ELECTIONS COMMISSION**

Location: Citizens Clean Elections Commission
1110 W. Washington, Suite 250
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Date: Thursday, April 23, 2026

Time: 10:00 a. m.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the Commissioners of the Citizens Clean Elections Commission and the general public that the Citizens Clean Elections Commission will hold a regular meeting, which is open to the public on April 23, 2026. This meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. **This meeting will be held in person and virtually. The meeting location will be open by 9:45 a.m. at the latest.** Instructions on how the public may participate in this meeting are below. For additional information, please call (602) 364-3477 or contact Commission staff at ccec@azcleelections.gov.

The meeting may be available for live streaming online at <https://www.youtube.com/c/AZCCEC>. You can also visit <https://www.azcleelections.gov/clean-elections-commission-meetings>. Members of the Citizens Clean Elections Commission may attend in person, by telephone, video, or internet conferencing.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86838844941>

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Please note that members of the public that choose to use the Zoom video link must keep their microphone muted for the duration of the meeting. If a member of the public wishes to speak, they may use the Zoom raise hand feature and once called on, unmute themselves on Zoom once the meeting is open for public comment.

Members of the public may participate via Zoom by computer, tablet or telephone. A dial-in option is also available but you will not be able to use the Zoom raise hand feature, so the meeting administrator will assist phone attendees. Please keep yourself muted unless you are prompted to speak.

The Commission may allow time for public comment on any item on the agenda. Commission members may not discuss items that are not specifically identified on the agenda. Therefore, pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.01(H), action taken as a result of public comment will be limited to directing Commission staff to study the matter, responding to any criticism, or scheduling the matter for further consideration and decision at a later date.

The Commission may vote to go into executive session, which will not be open to the public, for the purpose of obtaining legal advice on any item listed on the agenda, pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03 (A)(3). The Commission reserves the right at its discretion to address the agenda matters in an order different than outlined below.

Any person with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting the Commission at (602) 364-3477. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange accommodations.

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- I. Call to Order.
- II. Discussion and Possible Action on Meeting Minutes for March 26, 2026.
- III. Discussion and Possible Action on Executive Director’s Report, Enforcement and Regulatory Updates, and Legislative Update.

Note: The executive director’s report includes announcements and information about elections and campaign finance, a report on voter education activities, administrative information (including agreements with state budget units such as Arizona State University), information on candidates running clean, reports on legal proceedings involving Clean Elections and other Arizona election officials, a report on correspondence from other agencies, appointments, enforcement status, notice of closure of complaints, the regulatory agenda, reports of the Auditor General, and the Governor’s Regulatory Review Council. The legislative update includes bills that have or may be considered for action by the Arizona legislature or the Governor.

Materials are included in the Commission packet available on its website or by request at ceec@azcleaselections.gov.

- IV. Discussion and Possible Action on Voter Education 2026 Primary Survey.
- V. Discussion and Possible Action on Amendment to Administrative Rule R2-20 113 relating to the Commission Voter Education Guide.
- VI. Discussion and Possible Action on Order Assessing Penalties and Notice of Appealable Agency Action, MUR 25-03, Monica Timberlake.

VII. Public Comment.

This is the time for consideration of comments and suggestions from the public. Action taken as a result of public comment will be limited to directing staff to study the matter or rescheduling the matter for further consideration and decision at a later date or responding to criticism

VIII. Adjournment.

This agenda is subject to change up to 24 hours prior to the meeting. A copy of the agenda background material provided to the Commission (with the exception of material relating to possible executive sessions) is available for public inspection at the Commission's office, 1110 W Washington St, #250, Phoenix, AZ 85007.

Dated this 21st day of April, 2026
Citizens Clean Elections Commission
Thomas M. Collins, Executive Director

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THE STATE OF ARIZONA
CITIZENS CLEAN ELECTIONS COMMISSION

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC MEETING

Phoenix, Arizona
March 26, 2026
10:00 a.m.

By: Kathryn A. Blackwelder, RPR
Certified Reporter
Certificate No. 50666



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1 PUBLIC MEETING BEFORE THE CITIZENS CLEAN
2 ELECTIONS COMMISSION convened at 10:00 a.m. on March
3 26, 2026, at the State of Arizona, Clean Elections
4 Commission, 1110 West Washington, Conference Room,
5 Phoenix, Arizona, in the presence of the following
6 Board Members:
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8 Mr. Mark Kimble, Chairman
9 Mr. Galen Paton
10 Ms. Christina Werther
11 Mr. Sam Crump
12
13 OTHERS PRESENT:
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15 Thomas M. Collins, Executive Director
16 Paula Thomas, Executive Officer
17 Mike Becker, Policy Director
18 Gina Roberts, Voter Education Director
19 Alec Shaffer, Web Content Manager
20 Bill Richards, Richards & Moskowitz
21 Samantha Fox, Richards & Moskowitz
22 Craig Morgan, Taft Law
23 Cathy Herring, KCA
24 Rivko Knox, Member of the Public
25

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1 P R O C E E D I N G
2 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Good morning. I'm
3 Mark Kimble. And Agenda Item I this morning is the
4 call to order. It's 10:00 a.m. on March 26th, 2026. I
5 call this meeting of the Citizens Clean Elections
6 Commission to order.
7 With that, we will take attendance.
8 Commissioners, please identify yourselves for the
9 record.
10 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Christina Werther.
11 COMMISSIONER PATON: Galen Paton.
12 COMMISSIONER CRUMP: Sam Crump.
13 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: And I'm Mark Kimble.
14 And I'm just checking to see if we have
15 Commissioner Titla. We don't have him at this time,
16 but we've got four Commissioners, so we have a quorum.
17 Item II, discussion and possible action on
18 meeting minutes for February 19th, 2026 and March 19th,
19 2026. Commissioners, you have the minutes from the
20 February 19th and March 19th meetings in your packet.
21 Is there any discussion?
22 (No response.)
23 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Hearing none, is there a
24 motion to approve the minutes for both of these
25 meetings?

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1 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Mr. Chairman, I move
2 to approve the meeting minutes for February 19th and
3 March 19th, 2026.
4 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you,
5 Commissioner Werther.
6 Is there a second?
7 COMMISSIONER PATON: I'll second.
8 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: I'll call the roll.
9 Commissioner Werther.
10 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Aye.
11 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Paton.
12 COMMISSIONER PATON: Aye.
13 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Crump.
14 COMMISSIONER CRUMP: Aye.
15 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Chair votes aye.
16 The minutes are approved.
17 Item III, the Executive Director's Report,
18 including enforcement, regulatory, and legislative
19 updates.
20 Tom.
21 MR. COLLINS: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman.
22 Commissioners, a couple of things I wanted
23 to highlight. First, our -- our debate schedule is
24 live on our website and will be -- we've announced now
25 two -- our two debate series, our broadcast debate and

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1 our legislative and other debate series, one with
2 Riester and the Arizona Media Association and one with
3 the Arizona -- Arizona Agenda and KCA, and we will look
4 forward --
5 Bless you.
6 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Excuse me.
7 MR. COLLINS: -- look forward to those
8 starting soon. We're very excited about that. We're
9 already here getting questions from candidates about
10 scheduling and that kind of thing.
11 And similarly, with respect to the folks'
12 candidate profiles and getting ready for the Voter
13 Education Guide, you know, we're getting lots of
14 questions from candidates and lots of feedback. And
15 I'm happy to, you know, report that our -- you know,
16 among all of our staff members, particularly Alec, we
17 have -- very responsive to solving problems and
18 getting -- getting folks set up. Because there's
19 nothing a candidate cares more about than making sure
20 their picture is on the website when they want it on
21 the website, and so we -- so we're -- we're doing that
22 while getting ready for the local elections coming up
23 in May on the website, so that's a lot of work.
24 I also wanted to mention in April -- on
25 April 18, so I think before our next meeting, we'll

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<p>1 have our water town hall. So this will be our third 2 town hall event. We had education in the fall and then 3 we had a healthcare-related one in winter and then this 4 will be water. And this will be in coordination with 5 ABC15, their studios, I believe, and then it will be 6 broadcast or available to our media partners. So I 7 wanted to mention all of that.</p> <p>8 On the legislative front, I think the one 9 thing I wanted to highlight is we are working with 10 legislators and staff members and other election 11 officials on trying to get us some adjustments made to 12 this measure that would change the primary date from 13 July, or summertime, to May. The reason why that 14 matters for Clean Elections' purposes is twofold.</p> <p>15 First, the way that the statute is set up, 16 the schedule is built around a summertime primary. 17 Excuse me. And so if you were to move the primary to 18 May, you would essentially supersede the schedule for 19 clean candidates qualifying. In other words, clean 20 candidates, instead of having the period of time 21 between the beginning of the qualifying period and the 22 period when they can file their candidacy to collect \$5 23 qualifying contributions, that would be reversed, and 24 so they wouldn't -- they would not even be able to file 25 their -- excuse me -- their candidate paperwork --</p>	<p>1 that the -- the program is -- it really is not 2 superseded.</p> <p>3 And I keep using that word because that's a 4 Voter Protection Act term. So even if you wouldn't 5 necessarily be amending the Clean Elections Act, you 6 still can't supersede it.</p> <p>7 We will talk about, obviously, the Fontes -- 8 Clean Elections v. Fontes matter in a minute.</p> <p>9 On the Proposition 211 cases, after -- you 10 know, after you all voted last -- was it last week -- 11 last week we filed our cross appeal there.</p> <p>12 So I think those are the main things that I 13 wanted to highlight. Yeah, I think those are the main 14 things.</p> <p>15 Obviously there is a -- you know, we have a 16 rule that allows the Executive Director to close a 17 complaint in the event that, you know -- that, you 18 know, we get a response and we evaluate that. And 19 those reports, those -- that -- under that rule I give 20 notice to you all, and that's in the Executive 21 Director's Report. I'm highlighting that because 22 that's started up now for this election cycle, so we 23 have one of those in the packet.</p> <p>24 So I think that's all I have, Mr. Chairman. 25 Thank you.</p>
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<p>1 their clean candidate paperwork until after they had 2 filed their petition. So it really short circuits the 3 funding process.</p> <p>4 And then for our overall budget, it creates a 5 situation where some spending, especially on -- 6 potentially on voter education, will get pushed into 7 the odd year. And the way our budget works, for, you 8 know, those of you as we -- when you think about we do 9 this in December, we're set up to set these caps that 10 run calendar year to calendar year. So if all of a 11 sudden you have something that comes in at the end of 12 the year, you know, that would compress things again. 13 So we're trying to see if we can get that -- you know, 14 keep everything at the same level, but just extend the 15 window for a two- -- for a two-year window rather than 16 a one-year window, right, so --</p> <p>17 So there is an amendment out there that was 18 discussed at committee. It did not get adopted at 19 committee, but the sponsor of the bill seemed 20 interested in working with -- with us on that, so -- 21 and my goal at this point and Mike's goal has been to 22 work on language that doesn't actually change anything, 23 right. So we're not trying to get any increase in 24 funding for candidates or anything like that. We're 25 just trying to essentially move the dates around so</p>	<p>1 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Are there any comments or 2 questions from Members of the Commission? 3 (No response.) 4 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Hearing none, thank you, 5 Tom.</p> <p>6 Item IV, discussion and possible action, 7 Arizona Citizens Clean Elections Commission versus 8 Fontes. This item concerns the Commission's ongoing 9 litigation with the Secretary of State.</p> <p>10 First of all, the bottom line, we prevailed 11 in court. And I want to personally thank our legal 12 team of Bill Richards, Samantha Fox, and Isabela Von 13 Dehl. Very excellent job in the court proceeding last 14 week.</p> <p>15 I wanted to first update Commissioners that 16 in public statements the Secretary of State indicates 17 they will not participate in an appeal, while the 18 party's chairman told the Arizona Republic that the 19 party would appeal. Secondly, I wanted to recognize 20 this decision will avoid a tremendous amount of 21 confusion and cost to the State and to voters.</p> <p>22 Bill, did you want to briefly explain what 23 the court ruled? And we may discuss this more in 24 executive session, but maybe you can give us an 25 overview of where we are now.</p>

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<p>1 MR. RICHARDS: Sure. Thank you. 2 Members of the Commission, the court has 3 granted a final judgment in favor of all three of the 4 plaintiff parties, so it was the Democratic Party, 5 Republican Party, and the Citizens Clean Elections 6 Commission. We had the first lawsuit filed. Each of 7 the parties filed their own. We consolidated all those 8 into one. 9 And the court has ruled in our favor across 10 the board, determining that the decision of the 11 Secretary of State to approve and recognize a name 12 change for the No Labels Party to the Arizona 13 Independent Party was legally unauthorized, exceeded 14 the authority granted under law to the Secretary of 15 State, and therefore that not only can the name change 16 not be recognized at this time, but the guidance that 17 the Secretary of State had provided to all the County 18 election officials, to include things like change the 19 party registrations for all No Labels Party voters to 20 Arizona Independent Party, none of that can be 21 implemented and none of it needs to be honored by the 22 County election officials. 23 So that fully resolves that issue. The court 24 has determined that the only way for a Secretary of 25 State to recognize a new party name would be to follow</p>	<p>1 COMMISSIONER CRUMP: I have a question. 2 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Yes, Commissioner Crump. 3 COMMISSIONER CRUMP: Yeah. I'm just curious, 4 for the candidates who went out and gathered signatures 5 under the Arizona Independent Party, what will happen 6 with those signatures now? 7 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Bill, is that something you 8 feel comfortable answering? 9 MR. RICHARDS: Well, it's something I don't 10 have a final answer to, but I have a very, very brief 11 answer to it, which is the -- initially I believe what 12 will happen is the Secretary of State will have to make 13 a formal decision on how to recognize -- or, whether to 14 recognize those candidates' petitions as petitions for 15 a No Labels Party candidate. And at that point in 16 time, other -- other interested parties could challenge 17 that decision and take it right back to court if 18 they -- if they elected to. And I can't predict the 19 outcome of that. I think that's a pretty novel issue. 20 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you, Bill. 21 Tom, did you want to add anything to this? 22 MR. COLLINS: Yeah, just -- Mr. Chairman, 23 Commissioner Crump, just, as you know, all -- the 24 candidate challenge period for nominating petitions 25 will, you know, be happening, I think -- well, I think</p>
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<p>1 the existing procedures under 16-801, 16-803 and go 2 through the petitioning process that a new party that's 3 never been recognized before would have to go through. 4 Obviously none of that was attempted here. So, for the 5 party involved, if they elected to continue with a name 6 change, if you want to call it that, they would have to 7 go back through that process, according to the court's 8 ruling. 9 They have an opportunity to appeal, as I 10 think the Chairman indicated. They've indicated, at 11 least in the press, that the party intends to file an 12 appeal. To do that, they would have to, I believe, 13 move on a very expedited basis given all of the other 14 collateral concerns with the election process and where 15 we are in it right now. 16 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: So just to summarize, they 17 are back to being the No Labels Party as of -- as of 18 now? 19 MR. RICHARDS: Yes. As recognized by the 20 Secretary of State formerly, they are recognized as the 21 No Labels Party. 22 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Okay. Thank you. 23 We're going to discuss possible next steps in 24 executive session, but are there any questions of 25 Mr. Richards -- of Bill in open session?</p>	<p>1 it's -- does it start on Friday, is that right? 2 MS. ROBERTS: We're in it right now. 3 MR. COLLINS: We're in it now. Okay. 4 So -- so any candidate can be challenged, you 5 know, for any number of things, as you know. I think 6 that -- so we don't know if that challenge is going to 7 manifest itself yet. 8 And, you know, I think that the thing that 9 makes this a little novel, as Bill put it, is that, you 10 know, someone will say, you know, well, this name -- 11 they used this name on a petition rather than that 12 name. The candidate, I think, inevitably will turn 13 around and say, well, I was relying on this, you know, 14 good faith on what was going on with this. And so, you 15 know, I think that -- you know, I think that -- 16 Which, I would just be candid with you all, I 17 mean, I have sympathy for the candidates on that front. 18 I mean, I do. I mean, I think that if you were in a 19 position where you had -- you know, if you were to go 20 on the E-Equal portal in the last few months and -- to 21 try to pick a candidate, your options were to pick -- 22 the options that were presented to you were AIP or, if 23 it was an independent candidate, no party, you know. 24 It is not at all clear to me that that was a decision 25 made by those candidates to select that, for example,</p>

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1 on the online portal. And in our case, you know, one
2 of the -- one of the, I think, 11 or so candidates
3 actually tried to intervene on that basis, and the
4 court didn't want to expand the proceeding.
5 So I guess, you know, one thing I -- I was
6 asked about this yesterday by a reporter and I said,
7 you know, the first threshold thing is that, you know,
8 any candidate who signs up to be a candidate faces the
9 potential of having the petition challenged. I mean,
10 that's sort of life.
11 But we haven't seen that yet. You know, I
12 don't know how that gets resolved either, but I do
13 think that in many cases in this type of situation, you
14 know, I think my experience -- and I will say,
15 Christina -- or, Commissioner Werther and Gina and Mike
16 have their own -- the courts tend -- I mean,
17 substantial compliance is the standard. You comply
18 with the thing that was there. You know, I don't know.
19 I think that there's a pretty decent argument on
20 those -- on those behalf, just to speculate a little
21 bit about it.
22 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you, Tom.
23 Any other questions in open session before we
24 vote to go into executive session?
25 (No response.)

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1 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Okay. I would entertain a
2 motion to go into executive session to discuss this
3 item.
4 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Mr. Chairman, I move
5 to go into executive session for Item No. IV.
6 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you,
7 Commissioner Werther.
8 Is there a second?
9 COMMISSIONER PATON: I'll second.
10 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you,
11 Commissioner Paton.
12 I will call the roll and move to go into
13 executive session.
14 Commissioner Werther.
15 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Aye.
16 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Paton.
17 COMMISSIONER PATON: Aye.
18 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Crump.
19 COMMISSIONER CRUMP: Aye.
20 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Chair votes aye.
21 We'll be in executive session. Thank you.
22 (The following section of the meeting is in
23 executive session and bound under separate cover.)
24 * * * * *
25 (End of executive session. Public meeting

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1 resumes at 10:35 a.m.)
2 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: We are back in regular
3 session.
4 Is there a motion by any Member of the
5 Commission?
6 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Mr. Chairman, I'd like
7 to move to authorize our outside counsel to make an
8 application for attorneys' fees and costs in the action
9 Clean Elections Commission v. Fontes and also to
10 authorize outside counsel for the engagement in defense
11 of the Commission in any appeal.
12 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you,
13 Commissioner Werther.
14 Let me just ask a clarifying question of
15 Mr. Richards. Do we need to make this in two motions,
16 or are you okay with it in one motion?
17 MR. RICHARDS: I think it might be best in
18 two motions. It's involving two separate proceedings,
19 so it's probably best in two.
20 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Okay. Thank you.
21 Commissioner Werther, could you --
22 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Yeah, I'll withdraw my
23 motion.
24 And then the first motion is to authorize
25 outside counsel in the matter of the Clean Elections

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1 Commission v. Fontes to submit the application for
2 attorneys' fees and costs.
3 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you,
4 Commissioner Werther.
5 Is there a second?
6 COMMISSIONER PATON: I'll second.
7 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: It's been moved and
8 seconded that we authorize our attorneys to file a
9 motion for reimbursement of attorneys' fees. I'll call
10 the roll.
11 Commissioner Werther.
12 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Aye.
13 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Paton.
14 COMMISSIONER PATON: Aye.
15 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Crump.
16 COMMISSIONER CRUMP: Aye.
17 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Chair votes aye.
18 The motion is approved 4-to-nothing.
19 Did you have another motion,
20 Commissioner Werther?
21 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Yes. Mr. Chairman, I
22 would like to move to authorize our outside counsel,
23 again, for the Clean Elections Commission v. Fontes
24 case, for their engagement in defense of the Commission
25 in any appeal.

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1 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you,
2 Commissioner Werther.
3 Is there a second?
4 COMMISSIONER PATON: I'll second.
5 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you,
6 Commissioner Paton.
7 It's been moved and seconded that we appeal
8 the remaining issues in this case. I'll call the roll.
9 Commissioner Werther.
10 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Aye.
11 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Paton.
12 COMMISSIONER PATON: Aye.
13 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Crump.
14 COMMISSIONER CRUMP: Aye.
15 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Chair votes aye.
16 The motion is approved 4-to-nothing.
17 Thank you very much, Bill and Sam, for your
18 time and your expertise.
19 MR. RICHARDS: Thank you.
20 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Item V, discussion and
21 possible action on proposed amendments to A.A.C.
22 R2-20-702, use of clean funds. This is a discussion
23 and possible action on a proposed amendment to Rule
24 R2-20-702 regarding the use of Clean Election funds.
25 Tom, do you want to walk us through this

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1 proposed amendment?
2 MR. COLLINS: Yes. Commissioners, you may
3 recall that we talked about this last year. This was a
4 rule that we -- we initially discussed this as -- in
5 two steps. First step was to restore into the text of
6 the Administrative Code the specific items that are
7 prohibited for clean candidates to use clean funds for,
8 you know, and that -- that aspect of the rule, you
9 know, we -- and we were able to -- only to research so
10 far that -- we don't know exactly why they were
11 removed, we don't have anything on our end that says
12 why, and Secretary's Office doesn't have anything on
13 its end, but we are where we are, so that does that.
14 We -- you know, as a practical matter, those
15 items are essentially personal use items, or not direct
16 campaign expenses, so, you know, we have -- we have
17 been functioning fine providing those as examples and
18 guidance that -- but restoring them into the rules also
19 provides some clarity, right. So, in other words, we
20 haven't had a case yet where a particular item like
21 that was an issue and we haven't had, you know,
22 anything fall through the cracks, right. So this is
23 kind of a belt-and-suspenders thing at this point, but
24 it's an important belt.
25 With respect to the second point of

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1 discussion at the meeting when we discussed this, we
2 had talked about how to -- how to -- how to deal with
3 the sort of household expenses, household member issue.
4 And we had some questions from Commissioner Crump along
5 the lines of how we might compare that to what other
6 states do and the impact on candidates. And, you know,
7 our reflection on that, you know, in the ensuing period
8 of time is that probably the better way to deal with
9 that, rather than try to find a codification that goes
10 beyond what we've already said about family members,
11 would be to treat that as an auditable issue.
12 You know, we've -- I think we have a line, or
13 we have in the past sometimes had a line in the audit
14 about disclosing family member issues, so we can -- we
15 can adjust that. And that would have -- give us a
16 better understanding of whether or not this is going to
17 be a regular thing, and if it is a regular thing,
18 whether it's a -- you know, we need to actually codify
19 something.
20 You know, the statute itself, the Clean
21 Elections Act itself recognizes that family members can
22 work for candidates. The rules have always recognized
23 that. So, you know -- so, you know, it does get a
24 little -- and then -- and then -- you know, it also
25 gets into an issue of, you know, how do you -- I mean,

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1 I'll just be honest with you. When I was even drafting
2 the proposal that we originally had that we did not
3 advance for public comment, you know, we got into an
4 issue of how do you define that, what relationships do
5 you want in, what relationships do you want out. So we
6 think better to leave that alone. And as I say, I
7 think with the specifics here restored we'll be in a
8 stronger place than we were beforehand.
9 The only other thing I'll note is, you know,
10 again, I don't know that this is necessary, but our
11 statute provides for the Commission, if you're
12 unanimous, to allow for an independent -- an immediate
13 effective date. The Governor's Regulatory Review
14 Council is not bound by that, but they do give it
15 consideration. If you're not unanimous, that's --
16 that's not an option.
17 So if -- so it's up to you if you want to
18 indicate that. The notice, I believe, specified that
19 that was a possibility. And in any event, it would
20 help us, in our interactions with GRRC, to have that
21 included in a motion. We don't always ask for that, I
22 don't think, but just to have that in the record. If
23 you all are unanimous, to be clear in the record that
24 we would like to have this have an immediate effective
25 date.

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1 And that's -- that's what I have. Thank you,
2 Mr. Chairman.
3 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Okay. Tom, I just want to
4 clarify. So you are asking us to do what with this
5 amendment, approve it --
6 MR. COLLINS: Yes.
7 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: -- put it out --
8 MR. COLLINS: No. This is approve, yes. I'm
9 sorry. Yeah.
10 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Okay. Approve it and ask
11 that that approval take effect immediately --
12 MR. COLLINS: Correct.
13 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: -- if we are unanimous?
14 MR. COLLINS: Correct.
15 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Okay. Thank you.
16 Any questions for Tom from Members of the
17 Commission?
18 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Mr. Chairman, I just
19 have a clarifying question.
20 So, Tom, you were saying that if this is
21 approved, so any issues would come up through the
22 audit?
23 MR. COLLINS: No. The rule itself would --
24 you know, which is what we've been telling people the
25 entire time this wasn't on the books, right. The rule

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1 itself would go into effect upon GRRC's approval, if
2 they gave it immediate approval.
3 The specific issue that we had talked about
4 in the drafting process and public comment process was
5 whether we want to go farther and get underneath more
6 the interaction where you have a household member who
7 is working for a candidate and how do you deal with
8 this question of whether or not they are -- for
9 example, you know, if I work for -- if I work for the
10 candidate and the candidate is paying me, is that money
11 going into the household budget, right. How do you --
12 how do you delineate that. And that's a hard question
13 and we --
14 You know, we know that the -- that the
15 statute and rules have always allowed family members to
16 work for candidates, so we're not in a position where
17 we can prohibit that. So how you measure whether or
18 not money is going into the household budget, right --
19 if I hire my boyfriend as a campaign consultant and we
20 live together and I pay him, you know, \$6,000, let's
21 say, and then our mortgage is, you know, \$2,500, I
22 mean, how do you -- how do you -- how do you know,
23 right, because everything becomes sort of fungible. So
24 it's a real challenge from a regulatory perspective.
25 Our -- we don't think that -- we don't know

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1 how often that happens. We don't -- we do think that
2 having the specific articulation, right, in the rules
3 restored around household gives us a little more oomph
4 than just the direct campaign expenditure piece that we
5 have in place, right.
6 It doesn't necessarily -- it shouldn't, as I
7 say, change any outcomes of any enforcements, but it
8 will reemphasize, hey, you know, household -- you can't
9 do it. So that, I think, flags for a candidate, you
10 know, I've got to be aware of how this money is being
11 spent. And maybe that means you -- you know, you -- I
12 mean, whatever that means.
13 And then we have our field audits that we do
14 on the clean candidates, and we can work with our
15 auditors to develop a better question that is going to
16 be more tailored than any rule could be to try to sort
17 of dipstick whether or not there's a reason to believe
18 somebody is using clean money for household expenses
19 when it appears they're not.
20 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Thank you.
21 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Any other questions or
22 comments from Members of the Commission?
23 (No response.)
24 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: So, Tom, you are -- you are
25 asking us to approve an amendment to Rule R2-20-702?

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1 MR. COLLINS: Correct.
2 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Okay. Thank you.
3 Do we have a motion reflecting that?
4 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Mr. Chairman, I'd like
5 to move the approval of the proposed amendment to the
6 Arizona Administrative Code R2-20-702 and also, if
7 unanimous, that it take immediate effect.
8 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you,
9 Commissioner Werther.
10 Is there a second?
11 COMMISSIONER PATON: I'll second.
12 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: It's been moved and
13 seconded that we approve the proposed amendment to
14 Rule R2-20-702. I'll call the roll.
15 Commissioner Werther.
16 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Aye.
17 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Paton.
18 COMMISSIONER PATON: Aye.
19 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Crump.
20 COMMISSIONER CRUMP: Aye.
21 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Chair votes aye.
22 Motion is approved unanimously.
23 Thank you, Tom.
24 MR. COLLINS: Thank you.
25 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Item VI, discussion and

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1 possible action on MUR 25-03, Monica Timberlake.
2 Item VI is a discussion and possible action on whether
3 probable cause exists to believe violations of the
4 Clean Elections Act and Rules occurred in MUR 25-03
5 involving Monica Timberlake, a 2024 legislative
6 candidate.
7 Commissioners, you have the Executive
8 Director's brief. First, we will hear from the
9 Executive Director, Tom, and then we will hear from
10 Ms. Timberlake or her representative if they are
11 present.
12 Tom.
13 MR. COLLINS: Yes. Thank you, Commissioners.
14 And just so you know, your independent adviser,
15 Craig Morgan, is here if you have questions that are
16 legal that are not mine to answer because they're not.
17 The first thing I wanted to say is that I got
18 an e-mail from Ms. Timberlake this morning or maybe
19 late last night that stated that she has an appointment
20 on Thursdays that makes her unavailable for meetings.
21 She also said in that that she would or had or was
22 going to put in the mail a cashier's check for some
23 remaining Clean Elections funds that she admits that
24 she has. So, I don't expect her to be here.
25 The second thing I want to say is, you know,

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1 these proceedings that we have around the repayment and
2 failure to file have obviously taken a considerable
3 amount of time. We're almost -- we are getting closer
4 to the end of these for this past year, and it took us
5 basically -- it took us a year to get this done -- get
6 this far. And I am -- wanted sort of -- I wanted to,
7 you know, thank the Commission for your patience as
8 we -- as staff members have tried to work through these
9 issues.
10 You know, one of the things that we tried to
11 do at the outset of this matter was tried to get
12 something on record early to -- you know, with respect
13 to repayment in order to, you know, get our -- get --
14 you know, demonstrate that we were moving and taking it
15 seriously, and we have done that. Now, there was a
16 period of time where we were optimistic we might get to
17 a different place, and that's gone on, so we've
18 provided I don't know how many different types of
19 notice.
20 But all that said, it does take a long time.
21 And even in an ideal situation where we have -- it
22 would take -- you know, a Commission getting to a final
23 penalty order, which would be not this step, but the
24 next step, takes at least three votes of the
25 Commission. So there's no -- there's really no way to

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1 get these done in fewer than three months if everything
2 lines up to do it in successive meetings, right.
3 So the year is a pain, it's -- and I really
4 appreciate your patience with that, but, you know,
5 looking at it, it's not necessarily clear we could have
6 cut it back too, too many. We probably maybe could
7 have shaved a month here and a month there, but -- you
8 know, part of this is, if this goes this way, that's
9 the way it goes. So I appreciate your patience with me
10 and us working through this.
11 So the third thing is obviously we believe
12 that there is probable cause to believe that
13 Ms. Timberlake violated the Clean Elections Act and
14 Rules in the manner set forth in the -- in the brief.
15 You know, next we will -- if we were -- if you were to
16 find so, we would return next month with a final order
17 imposing a penalty recommendation if we weren't able to
18 resolve this short of that.
19 The late filing matter is a serious matter
20 and the non-filing matter is a serious matter and we --
21 we take it seriously. The maintenance of books and
22 records, I mean, these are all things that candidates
23 are given notice of, they agree to through their
24 decision to apply for participation under 16-947, and
25 they -- and they -- they agree to that.

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1 We also -- on the repayment issue, there is
2 one repayment order, as you know, that we issued that
3 was not appealed. There was additional penalties
4 provided for failure to repay in this case. We will
5 look at that next month, but we do say that the
6 payment -- the failure to repay is itself a violation.
7 And so that is, again, one of the things that we are
8 saying there is probable cause to believe. And then
9 finally, excuse me, the failure to provide records is
10 itself a violation, right, so --
11 So we think that -- in each of those matters
12 we think the facts are pretty unequivocal, that they're
13 -- and that there has -- those are violations.
14 To the extent we've had communication with
15 Ms. Timberlake, you know, that communication has
16 typically been around -- and this is in the exhibits --
17 her inability or -- to complete some of these
18 processes. And, you know, I would simply say, I mean,
19 to the extent that's an effort at a -- at a defense, I
20 don't think that that's -- I don't think that that is a
21 -- I don't think -- the standard here is excusable
22 neglect, and I don't think that the neglect is
23 excusable.
24 So, you know, I would urge the Commission to
25 vote to find probable cause to believe here, and I'll

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1 answer any questions if you have any.
2 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: I just want to point out
3 that this is -- and this is not a poor reflection on
4 Tom, it's on the respondent here -- that it has been in
5 August of 2024 when we provided Ms. Timberlake with
6 \$31,000 plus for her campaign, and since then we've
7 received no reports, we've been chasing her around the
8 state, she's responded only to say she has personal
9 issues and can't be there. We were supposed to take
10 this up last month, and she said she couldn't be
11 present, so we delayed it a month just in the interest
12 of fairness.
13 I mean, now it's been more than a year and a
14 half that we've been trying to get some resolution to
15 this for providing more than \$31,000 in public money to
16 this candidate and not knowing what happened to it. So
17 I think we've got to move ahead and find probable cause
18 exists that she has violated the Act.
19 Any comments or questions from Members of the
20 Commission?
21 (No response.)
22 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Hearing none, do I have a
23 motion regarding probable cause in MUR 25-03?
24 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Mr. Chairman, I'd like
25 to move that the Commission finds probable cause to

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1 believe that respondent Monica Timberlake violated the
2 Act and Rules as outlined in the Executive Director's
3 brief dated February 11, 2026.
4 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you,
5 Commissioner Werther.
6 Is there a second?
7 COMMISSIONER PATON: I'll second.
8 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Thank you,
9 Commissioner Paton.
10 It's been moved and seconded that we find
11 probable cause in MUR 25-03. I will call the roll.
12 Commissioner Werther.
13 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Aye.
14 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Paton.
15 COMMISSIONER PATON: Aye.
16 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Crump.
17 COMMISSIONER CRUMP: Aye.
18 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Chair votes aye.
19 The vote is 4-to-nothing.
20 Just for the record, Ms. Timberlake I don't
21 believe is here. I don't see her on Zoom. I don't see
22 any indication that a representative for her is here.
23 If either Ms. Timberlake or her representative is here,
24 please identify yourself and we will be happy to hear
25 from you.

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1 (No response.)
2 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Hearing none -- nothing, we
3 will move on.
4 Item VII, public comment. This is the time
5 for consideration of comments and suggestions from the
6 public. Action taken as a result of public comment
7 will be limited to directing staff to study the matter,
8 rescheduling the matter for further consideration, or
9 responding to criticism. Please limit your comments to
10 no more than two minutes.
11 Does any member of the public wish to
12 comment?
13 (No response.)
14 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Anyone on Zoom wish to
15 comment?
16 (No response.)
17 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Hearing -- hearing from no
18 one, the public may also submit comments by e-mail at
19 ccec@azcanelections.gov.
20 Item VIII, adjournment. At this time, I
21 would entertain a motion to adjourn.
22 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Mr. Chairman, I move
23 to adjourn.
24 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Is there a second?
25 COMMISSIONER PATON: I'll second.

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1 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: It's been moved and
2 seconded that we adjourn. I will call the roll.
3 Commissioner Werther.
4 COMMISSIONER WERTHER: Aye.
5 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Paton.
6 COMMISSIONER PATON: Aye.
7 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Commissioner Crump.
8 COMMISSIONER CRUMP: Aye.
9 CHAIRMAN KIMBLE: Chair votes aye.
10 We are adjourned. Thank you.
11 (The meeting concluded at 10:56 a.m.)
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**CITIZENS CLEAN ELECTIONS COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT
April 23, 2026**

Announcements:

- The Clean Elections civic education programming, *Inside the Issues – Water Security*, was filmed on April 18 at ABC15 Studios. The forum is in editing and expected to be shared and broadcast with media partners in May. Panelists included:
 - Sarah Porter, Director of the Kyle Center for Water Policy
 - Vineetha Kartha, Colorado River Programs Manager for CAP
 - Sharon Megdal, Director, University of Arizona Water Resources Research Center
 - Maxwell Wilson, Water Resources Management Advisor, City of Phoenix.



- The next local election is May 19. The voter registration deadline is April 20 and voting begins April 22. The following jurisdictions have elections: Benson, Douglas, Flagstaff, Tempe, Guadalupe, Goldfield Ranch Fire, and Mammoth.
- The primary election is July 21. The voter registration deadline is June 22 and voting begins June 24.
 - Legislative debates begin April 30 and federal/statewide debates begin May 13.
 - The Voter Education Guide will begin arriving in households June 12. Currently, there are 247 candidates eligible to be printed in the guide.
 - Any candidate running for office in Arizona is eligible to submit a candidate profile for display on the website.

Voter Education and Outreach: Partnership and Youth Engagement Focus

- Expanded education partnerships: Engagement with K–12 and higher education partners to integrate civic education and student participation opportunities (e.g., Laveen School District; Scottsdale Community College).
- Strengthened government coordination: Collaboration with election officials and local government offices to align voter education resources and outreach efforts (e.g., Yuma County Recorder’s Office; City of Phoenix Youth & Education Office).
- Focused youth engagement: Participation in school-based civic initiatives and community events to support early civic participation and voter awareness, including outreach tied to student-led programs and public events.
- Delivered programming and training: Workshops on constructive civic dialogue, election officer certification training, and debate moderator preparation.
- Supported long-term capacity: Ongoing participation in advisory efforts and partnerships with civic organizations (e.g., Tomorrow We Vote) to build sustainable voter education infrastructure and reach first-time voters.

Administration:

- 41 participating candidates. 15 participating candidates have received Clean Elections funding. 8 participating candidates have filed for funding.
- Legislative activity. The governor has stated that she will not sign additional bills until lawmakers provide a budget proposal.
- We are working on finalizing plans for the Election Science Reform and Administration Conference with Arizona State University’s Mechanics of Democracy Lab and former Maricopa County Supervisor Bill Gates. Clean Elections will host a discussion opportunity at the conference the first week of June.

Legal:

- Arizona Citizens Clean Elections Commission v. Fontes, No. CV2025-064149 in Superior Court for Maricopa County.
 - The No Labels Party filed a notice of appeal April 13, 2026.
- Center for Arizona Policy v. Arizona Secretary of State, Arizona Supreme Court No. CV-24-0295-PR.
 - Awaiting decision. Oral argument was held September 11. This is a state constitutional challenge to Proposition 211.
- Americans for Prosperity v. Meyer, No. 24-2933 (9th Cir.).
 - Awaiting decision following May Oral Argument.
- Montenegro v. Fontes, Arizona Court of Appeals, No. 1 CA-CV 26-0154.
 - Briefing is underway on this appeal regarding appeal from Superior Court.

- The Power of Fives, LLC v. Clean Elections, CV2021-015826, Superior Court for Maricopa County & Clean Elections v. The Power of Fives, LLC et al. CV2022-053917, Superior Court for Arizona. Oral argument on summary judgement was held last month.
- Branch et al. v. Collins, et al., CV2024-004136, Superior Court for Maricopa County. Ongoing.

Other litigation

- Heap v. Galvin, CV2025-020261, Superior Court for Maricopa County.
 - The Court held that the Board unlawfully controlled the Recorder’s IT systems, staff, and election infrastructure, and impaired the Recorder’s ability to perform statutory duties. It ordered the Board to provide adequate funding and prohibited the use of budget authority to override election functions.
- Candidate qualifying challenges
 - Candidates for federal, state and local offices faced challenges regarding their petition and nomination paperwork.

Appointments:

- Staff continues to monitor appointments, and direct interested applicants to the appropriate officials.

Complaints:

- MUR 25-03, Timberlake, this agenda.
- MUR 25-04, Turning Point
- MUR 25-05, Turning Point
- MUR 25-06, Timberlake
- MUR 26-01, Marshall, withdrew.
- MUR 26-03, Turning Point.

2026 Regulatory Agenda:

The Commission may conduct a rulemaking even if the rulemaking is not included here. The Commission will consider revisions to Ariz. Admin. Code § R2-20-702 related to use of funds on this agenda. The following information is provided under A.R.S. § 41-1021.02:

- Notices of Docket Opening:
 - 32 A.A.R. 694 (candidate statement pamphlet), https://apps.azsos.gov/public_services/register/2026/12/contents.pdf. This agenda.
 - 32 A.A.R. 266 (use of funds), apps.azsos.gov/public_services/register/2026/4/contents.pdf.

- 31 A.A.R. 2255 (revision and addition of funding rules),
https://apps.azsos.gov/public_services/register/2025/27/contents.pdf.
- Notices of Proposed Rulemaking:
 - 32 A.A.R. 669 (candidate statement pamphlet)
https://apps.azsos.gov/public_services/register/2026/12/contents.pdf
 - 32 A.A.R. 245 (use of funds),
apps.azsos.gov/public_services/register/2026/4/contents.pdf.
 - 31 A.A.R. 2141 (revision and addition of funding rules),
https://apps.azsos.gov/public_services/register/2025/27/contents.pdf.
- Supplemental Notices 31 A.A.R.3917 (setting our next meeting to consider rules related to campaign finance report and monitoring of clean candidate funds).
https://apps.azsos.gov/public_services/register/2025/40/contents.pdf.
- Federal funds for proposed rulemaking: **None**
- Review of existing rules: **Five Year Report Approved 9/2/2025**
- Notice of Final Rulemaking: Notice of final rulemaking for NPR 31 A.A.R. 2141 (revision and addition of funding rules) pending publication.
- Rulemakings terminated: **None.**
- Privatization option or nontraditional regulatory approach considered: **None Applicable.**

2026 Legislative Update

[HB 2001](#) - Elections; early voting; tabulation

Sponsor

Selina Bliss (R)

Summary

Makes broad updates to election procedures, focusing on early voting, polling locations, and ballot handling. It tightens identification and chain-of-custody requirements, adds new deadlines and penalties for mishandling early ballots, and updates rules for mailing, returning, and processing ballots. The bill also authorizes counties to use voting centers and implement on-site tabulation of early ballots with strict verification, staffing, and security protocols.

Action Taken

[HB 2006](#) - Sample ballots; mailing date

Sponsor

Nick Kupper (R)

Summary

Requirements are imposed to mail sample ballots at least fourteen days before primary and general elections to each household with registered voters, excluding those on active early voting lists. Sample ballots must include a disclaimer that they cannot be used as official ballots, and the state or local seal with "official voting materials" must be displayed on the mailing. Provisions clarify the preparation, review, and distribution process of sample ballots for primary, general, city, town, and special district elections, including cost reimbursement to the secretary of state.

Action Taken

Passed House Federalism, Military Affairs, & Elections 5-1

Passed the House 55-5 and sent to the Senate

Passed Senate Judiciary and Elections 7-0

Passed Senate 29-0 and was sent to the Governor

Signed by Governor

[HB 2009](#) - Constitutional amendments; foreign contributions prohibited

Sponsor

Nick Kupper (R)

Summary

Contributions from foreign nationals are prohibited for committees primarily organized to influence Arizona constitutional amendment ballot propositions, including signature collection and campaign support. Committees must verify contributors' status, disclose funding sources, return prohibited contributions, and include disclaimers if over 20% of funding is from nonresidents, with violations classified as class 1 misdemeanors subject to civil penalties. Definitions clarify foreign nationals,

residents, and nonresidents, and exceptions apply to federal political committees, independent expenditures, and volunteer services.

Action Taken

Passed House Federalism, Military Affairs& Elections 4-3

[HB 2022](#) - Elections; July primary; curing; observers

Sponsor

Alexander Kolodin (R)

Summary

Primary elections are rescheduled from the first Tuesday in August to the last Tuesday in July starting in 2026, with related adjustments to election dates for political subdivisions. Signature cure periods for early ballots are extended, and daily updates of voters with signature issues are required to be provided to qualified political parties. Provisions for ballot replacement centers, party observers, and challenger appointments at polling places are clarified, and nomination and initiative petitions with the former primary date are validated for the 2026 election.

Action Taken

Passed House Federalism, Military Affairs & Elections 5-2

Passed the House 56-0 and was sent to the Senate

Passed the Senate 27-1 and was sent to the Governor

Signed by the Governor

[SB 1003](#) - Elections; canvass; certification; acknowledgment

Sponsor

John Kavanagh (R)

Summary

Sections 16-642 and 16-646 of the Arizona Revised Statutes are amended to specify deadlines and procedures for canvassing and acknowledging election results by county, state, and local governing bodies. Requirements are imposed for the content, certification, and mailing of official canvass statements, including the use of a uniform electronic format for transmitting election results to the secretary of state to facilitate statewide canvassing. Provisions clarify postponement rules for canvass acknowledgments and designate permanent public record maintenance responsibilities for official canvass documents.

Action Taken

Passed Senate Judiciary and Elections 4-3

Passed the Senate 16-11 and was sent to the House

[SB 1006](#) - Campaign finance; aggregate report; amount

Sponsor

John Kavanagh (R)

Summary

Campaign finance reporting requirements are amended to increase the threshold for itemizing in-state individual contributions from \$100 to \$200 per election cycle and to allow non-disclosure of residential addresses for protected individuals. Aggregate reporting of contributions under \$200 is required unless contributors consent to identification, and detailed itemization of receipts and disbursements is

maintained with expanded categories. Independent expenditure and ballot measure expenditure reporting thresholds and content requirements are also specified.

Action Taken

Passed Senate Judiciary and Elections 4-3
Passed the Senate 16-11 and was sent to the House
Passed House Federalism, Military Affairs, & Elections 4-3

[SB 1027](#) - Public notices; government website posting

Sponsor

John Kavanagh (R)

Summary

Requirements are imposed for government entities in Arizona to post public notices electronically on their official websites, including maintaining the full text in a designated public notices section with a prominent homepage link and retaining the notice for the entire required publication period. A reference advertisement must also be published in a newspaper, meeting specific size, content, and contact information criteria, to direct the public to the online notice. Compliance with these provisions is deemed legally equivalent to traditional newspaper publication, and government entities must keep a permanent electronic record of the posting.

Action Taken

[SB 1029](#) - Candidate committees; posthumous closure

Sponsor

John Kavanagh (R)

Summary

Posthumous closure procedures for candidate committees are established, allowing designated individuals to act as treasurer and manage surplus funds after a candidate's death. Campaign finance reporting penalties are modified to permit waiver of fines for reports due after a candidate's death. Surplus committee funds are regulated for transfer, donation, or repayment, with specific conditions for contributions to other candidate committees and officeholder expense accounts.

Action Taken

Passed Senate Judiciary and Elections 7-0
Passed the Senate 29-0 and was sent to the House
Passed House Federalism, Military Affairs, & Elections 7-0
Passed the House 57-3 and was sent to the Governor
Signed by Governor

[SB 1037](#) - Voting; equipment; internet; custody; violation

Sponsor

Mark Finchem (R)

Summary

SB 1037 imposes strict security requirements on voting equipment, mandating that all vote recording and tabulating machines lack internet connectivity, prohibit remote access, and maintain detailed user logs and tamper-proof custody records. It requires the secretary of state to certify voting systems based on federal standards and cybersecurity best practices, with penalties for unauthorized use or modifications. Additionally, continuous video recording of counting center activities must be posted online, and chain-of-custody protocols must ensure bipartisan oversight of all election equipment and data storage devices.

Action Taken

Passed Senate Judiciary and Elections 4-2
Passed the Senate 16-11 and was sent to the House
Passed House Federalism, Military Affairs, & Elections 4-2

[SB 1038](#) - Cast vote record; public record

Sponsor

Mark Finchem (R)

Summary

Requirements are imposed on county recorders in Arizona to make voter information and cast vote records publicly available within one hour after polls close for each election. The public record must include the name, voter identification number, political party registration, and a sortable cast vote record without any randomization or alteration of the original files. These records are explicitly designated as public under the new section 16-407.04 added to Title 16, Chapter 4, Article 1 of the Arizona Revised Statutes.

Action Taken

Passed Senate Judiciary and Elections 4-2
Passed the Senate 17-12 and was sent to the House
Passed House Federalism, Military Affairs, & Elections 4-3

[SB 1040](#) - Voter registration rolls; internet access

Sponsor

Mark Finchem (R)

Summary

Access to voter registration rolls is required to be provided through a public internet portal without fees, and county recorders are mandated to supply school district precinct registers upon request. Provisions for the preparation, contents, and distribution of precinct registers are updated, including electronic transmission and detailed voter information sharing with political parties. Restrictions on the use and dissemination of voter registration data are reinforced, with penalties for unauthorized use, and a statewide voter registration database is maintained under uniform standards.

Action Taken

Passed Senate Judiciary and Elections 4-2
Passed the Senate 16-11 and was sent to the House
Passed House Federalism, Military Affairs, & Elections 4-3

[SB 1057](#) - Watermark; paper ballots

Sponsor

Mark Finchem (R)

Summary

Section 16-504 of the Arizona Revised Statutes is repealed and replaced to require vendors providing ballot paper with antifraud measures to hold ISO 27001, ISO 17025, or ISO 9001:2015 certification. Ballot fraud countermeasures must include at least three specified security features such as unique watermarked security paper, secure holographic foils, branded holograms, complex security backgrounds, variable digital infill, specialized inks, stealth numbering, micro-numismatic ultraviolet designs, forensic fraud detection technology, or unique bar/QR codes accessible only to voters for ballot tracking. These provisions aim to enhance the security and integrity of paper ballots used in elections.

Action Taken

Passed Senate Judiciary and Elections 4-2
Passed the Senate 16-11 and was sent to the House
Passed House Federalism, Military Affairs, & Elections 4-3

[SB 1060](#) - Voter registration; temporary absence

Sponsor

Wendy Rogers (R)

Summary

Sections 16-103 and 16-593 of the Arizona Revised Statutes are amended to allow qualified persons temporarily absent from Arizona to register to vote via affidavit or federal postcard application, with registration permitted up to 7:00 p.m. on election day for those covered under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act. Eligibility to vote using a federal write-in early ballot is extended to U.S. citizens who have never resided in the U.S. but have a parent registered to vote in Arizona. Rules clarifying voter residence determination are updated to reflect these provisions and specify conditions under which residence is maintained or lost.

Action Taken

Passed Senate Judiciary and Elections 3-2
Passed the Senate 16-11 and was sent to the House
Passed House Federalism, Military Affairs, & Elections 4-2

[HCR 2002](#) - Legislature; lifetime term limits; salary

Sponsor

Stacey Travers (D)

Summary

Lifetime term limits are imposed on Arizona state legislators beginning in 2027, restricting senators and representatives to a maximum of four terms each in their respective chambers during their lifetime, regardless of consecutive service. Legislative salaries are set at \$35,000 per year starting with the 2027 legislature and are adjusted biennially based on changes in the consumer price index. A commission on salaries for elective state officers is authorized to recommend pay rates for elected

officials, with legislative salary recommendations subject to voter approval at the next general election.

Action Taken

[HCR 2004](#) - Photo enforcement systems; prohibition

Sponsor

Teresa Martinez (R)

Summary

HCR 2004 prohibits the use of photo enforcement systems by local authorities and state agencies to identify traffic violations related to excessive speed or failure to obey traffic control devices. It repeals existing statutes authorizing such systems and emphasizes that law enforcement must remain with trained officers, preventing outsourcing to private entities. The measure is submitted to voters for approval to become law.

Action Taken

Passed House Transportation and Infrastructure 6-1
Passed the House 37-19 and was sent to the Senate
Passed Senate Judiciary and Elections 4-3

[HCR 2005](#) - Legislative session; adjournment

Sponsor

Justin Wilmeth (R)

Summary

An amendment to the Arizona Constitution is proposed to require the legislature to hold annual sessions beginning the second Monday of January and adjourning no later than April 30 each year. The governor is authorized to call special sessions limited to specified subjects outlined in the call. The amendment is submitted for voter approval at the next general election.

Action Taken

Passed House Government 4-3
Passed the House 42-14 and was sent to the Senate

[SCR 1004](#) - Photo enforcement systems; prohibition

Sponsor

Wendy Rogers (R)

Summary

Photo enforcement systems are prohibited from use by local authorities or state agencies to identify violations of speed limits or traffic control devices. Sections of Arizona Revised Statutes related to photo enforcement are repealed or amended to remove authorization for such systems. Enforcement authority is reserved exclusively for trained law enforcement officers, preventing outsourcing to private entities and aiming to prioritize public safety over revenue generation.

Action Taken

Passed Senate Appropriations, Transportation, and Technology 6-4
Passed the Senate 16-12 and was sent to the House
Passed House Technology and Infrastructure 4-2

SCR 1005 - Elections; foreign contributions; prohibition

Sponsor

Mark Finchem (R)

Summary

Foreign contributions from corporations, persons, or nongovernmental sources are prohibited from being given, accepted, or used to influence the outcome of elections on ballot measures in Arizona. Entities required to file campaign finance reports must certify under penalty of perjury that they have not accepted or used such foreign contributions. Federally recognized sovereign tribal nations are exempt from these restrictions.

Action Taken

Passed Senate Judiciary and Elections 4-3
Passed the Senate 16-13 and was sent to the House
Passed House Federalism, Military Affairs, & Elections 3-2

HB 2431 - Appropriation; consolidated elections facility

Sponsor

Selina Bliss (R)

Summary

\$15 million is appropriated from the state general fund in fiscal year 2026-2027 to the Arizona state treasurer for distribution to Yavapai County to support a consolidated elections facility. Distribution of funds requires Yavapai County to provide at least 50% matching capital costs in writing. The appropriation is exempt from lapsing until June 30, 2029.

Action Taken

HB 2221 - Elections; tribal consultation; voting locations

Sponsor

Brian Garcia (D)

Summary

Section 16-411 of the Arizona Revised Statutes is amended to require county boards of supervisors to consult with tribal representatives when designating polling places, combining or splitting precincts, and authorizing voting centers or emergency voting centers in counties with tribal lands. Provisions are added to ensure tribal consultation in election precinct boundary adjustments, polling place designations, and the use of voting centers, while maintaining requirements for public notification, emergency designations, and voter wait time management. Coordination with state agencies to provide state-owned facilities as voting locations is also mandated beginning in 2026.

Action Taken

HB 2318 - School districts; elections; term limits**Sponsor**

Matt Gress (R)

Summary

Term limits are imposed on school district governing board members in Arizona for districts with at least 250 students, prohibiting candidacy after eight consecutive years of service unless four years have passed since the last term. Election procedures are amended to require rotation of candidate name positions on ballots and clarify term lengths for newly formed or restructured boards. Current board members may complete their terms, but all future candidates are subject to the new term limits under HB 2318.

Action Taken

Passed House Education 6-5
Passed the House 33-27 and was sent to the Senate
Passed Senate Education 4-3

HB 2506 - Voting centers; board of supervisors**Sponsor**

Stephanie Stahl Hamilton (D)

Summary

Voting centers and early voting drop-off centers are authorized for use in Arizona elections, allowing any county voter to cast ballots at designated locations regardless of precinct. Election boards for voting centers must include representatives from the two largest political parties and may include minors under specific conditions. Provisions are established for early ballot requests, replacement ballots, emergency voting centers, and notification of provisional ballot status, with updated procedures for polling place designation, electioneering restrictions, and voter registration updates.

Action Taken

HB 2512 - Municipal; county measures; filings; actions

Sponsor

Stephanie Stahl Hamilton (D)

Summary

Section 19-141 of the Arizona Revised Statutes is amended to clarify that city or town clerks, county election officers, and recorders cannot reject initiative or referendum filings based on constitutionality and must follow specified procedures for distribution, filing deadlines, and challenges. Actions contesting the validity of initiatives or referenda must be filed within five calendar days, with expedited court hearings and appeals to ensure timely resolution before elections. Penalties are imposed on contractors for late mailing of pamphlets, and courts are required to expedite litigation to allow for proper ballot preparation and distribution.

Action Taken

HB 2510 - Early voting; hours; emergency voting

Sponsor

Stephanie Stahl Hamilton (D)

Summary

Early voting locations are required to remain open until 7:00 p.m. on the weekend preceding election day and at least until 3:00 p.m. on the Monday before the election, with possible extension to 7:00 p.m. County boards of supervisors are authorized to establish emergency voting centers with specified locations and hours, allowing voter registration updates on-site. Polling place designations and consolidations are regulated to ensure adequate access, with provisions for emergency designations restricting electioneering within facility property, and methods to reduce voter wait times are mandated.

Action Taken

HB 2505 - Early voting; hours; weekends; emergencies

Sponsor

Stephanie Stahl Hamilton (D)

Summary

Early voting locations are required to remain open until 7:00 p.m. on the Saturday and Sunday immediately preceding election day, with extended hours on the Monday before the election as determined by the county recorder. Emergency balloting procedures are expanded to allow qualified electors experiencing unforeseen circumstances after 7:00 p.m. on the Friday before the election to request special voting accommodations, including updating voter registration information. Early ballot request and distribution processes are clarified, including penalties for improper handling of request forms by candidates or organizations.

Action Taken

HB 2366 - Voting centers ban; precinct size

Sponsor

Rachel Keshel (R)

Summary

Precinct boundaries are limited to a maximum of 2,500 registered voters, and the use of voting centers is prohibited except for emergency voting centers authorized by a specific board resolution. Election boards must be appointed for each precinct or voting location with specified party representation, and minors aged 16 or older may serve as election clerks under supervision. Early ballot procedures are expanded to allow on-site tabulation at designated polling places or voting centers, with strict identification and affidavit requirements, while electioneering restrictions are reinforced within 75 feet of polling places and early voting locations.

Action Taken

HB 2656 - Election worker harassment task force

Sponsor

Seth Blattman (D)

Summary

An election worker harassment task force is established within the Arizona Secretary of State's office, composed of appointed members from the Attorney General's office, law enforcement, election workers, and election officers representing multiple political parties. The task force is charged with coordinating, investigating, prosecuting, or referring election worker harassment violations and must submit annual reports on its activities to state leadership and post them online. Administrative support, meeting space, and record retention are provided by the Secretary of State.

Action Taken

HB 2511 - Early ballot collection; limitations; repeal

Sponsor

Stephanie Stahl Hamilton (D)

Summary

Limitations on early ballot collection are repealed, allowing only voters, their family members, household members, or caregivers to handle or return ballots. Penalties for ballot abuse, including unauthorized collection or handling of ballots, are clarified and maintained, with specific felony classifications for violations. Instructions for voters and election officers are updated to reflect these changes, emphasizing lawful ballot handling and signature requirements for mail-in ballots.

Action Taken

SB 1168 - Ballots; categories; count

Sponsor

Shawna Bolick (R)

Summary

Requirements are imposed on Arizona election officials to maintain and publicly post detailed counts of physical and electronic ballots by category, including early, regular, provisional, and federal-only ballots. Hand counts are mandated for selected precincts and races with specific procedures for random selection, party involvement, and thresholds for expanding recounts, including full jurisdictional hand counts if discrepancies exceed designated margins. A vote count verification committee is established to set and review these margins, oversee hand count accuracy, and ensure transparency through public reporting and source code review when necessary.

Action Taken

Passed Senate Judiciary and Elections 4-3
Passed the Senate 16-11 and was sent to the House
Passed House Appropriations 15-2

SB 1229 - Early voting; identification; emergency voting

Sponsor

Brian Fernandez (D)

Summary

Early voting procedures are expanded to include extended hours for on-site voting locations and emergency balloting provisions for voters experiencing emergencies shortly before elections. Identification requirements are clarified, allowing voters to verify identity when returning early ballots at voting locations, which are then processed without additional signature verification. Signature cure processes are enhanced with daily updates to political parties, and strict chain of custody protocols are imposed for early ballots returned at polling places on election day.

Action Taken

HB 2220 - Polling places; accessible equipment

Sponsor

Brian Garcia (D)

Summary

Requirements are imposed for accessible voting devices at polling places in Arizona, mandating that each device be programmed to offer all ballot styles for the entire jurisdiction regardless of location. Election officials must notify political party chairmen of device inspection times before elections, ensure sufficient voting booths and devices are provided, and designate independent observers for election software installation and modifications. These provisions amend Arizona Revised Statutes section 16-447 to enhance accessibility and transparency in election administration.

Action Taken

HB 2628 - Ballot delivery; collection

Sponsor

Lorena Austin (D)

Summary

Requirements are imposed on ballot handling and delivery in Arizona, including prohibitions on collecting early ballots from non-family members except under specific conditions, and mandates for voter instructions emphasizing lawful ballot return. Penalties for ballot abuse, including unauthorized collection, solicitation, or possession of ballots, are clarified and classified as felonies, with enhanced penalties for patterns of ballot fraud. Mail ballot affidavit procedures and voter assistance disclosures are updated to include new delivery options and signature requirements effective 2026 under HB 2628.

Action Taken

HB 2902 - Electoral college; support

Sponsor

Steve Montenegro (R)

Summary

Section 16-410.01 is added to Arizona Revised Statutes affirming the importance of the Electoral College in presidential elections, emphasizing its constitutional foundation, role in ensuring nationwide participation, and its function in guaranteeing election outcome certainty.

Action Taken

Passed House Federalism, Military Affairs, & Elections 4-2
Passed the House 31-21 and was sent to the Senate

HB 2901 - Voting equipment; requirements; origin

Sponsor

Steve Montenegro (R)

Summary

Requirements are imposed on vote recording and tabulating machines used in Arizona elections, mandating that beginning January 1, 2029, all parts and components must be sourced and assembled entirely within the United States. Certification and use of voting equipment must comply with the Help America Vote Act and be approved by a designated committee, with provisions for emergency use and revocation of certification for noncompliance. Exemptions are provided for machines acquired before January 1, 2028.

Action Taken

Passed House Federalism, Military Affairs, & Elections 4-2

HB 2508 - Ballot measures; descriptive title; summary

Sponsor

Stephanie Stahl Hamilton (D)

Summary

Requirements are imposed on the form and content of ballot measures in Arizona, including numbering conventions, official and descriptive titles, and the inclusion of an impartial summary of principal provisions not exceeding fifty words. The secretary of state and attorney general must approve and prominently post the impartial summary online at least thirty days before ballots and publicity pamphlets are printed, and provide the summary to the filing committee. Notices regarding the amendment restrictions under Proposition 105 (1998) must be printed on ballots for state statutory measures, and alternative concise ballot formats with specific content elements are authorized.

Action Taken

HB 2805 - Electronic signatures; nomination petitions

Sponsor

John Gillette (R)

Summary

A secure online signature collection system is established by the Secretary of State for nomination petitions for candidates in specified local districts, including school, community college, hospital, and multi-county water conservation districts. Equal access to the system is mandated for all candidates in certain elections regardless of political party affiliation or nomination method, with uniform application of rules and prohibitions on discriminatory restrictions. The system must verify elector identity and transmit filings to election officials, allowing candidates to collect all petition signatures electronically.

Action Taken

Passed House Federalism, Military Affairs, & Elections 5-2

Passed the House 31-25 and was sent to the Senate

Passed Senate Judiciary and Elections 4-2

HB 2504 - Ballot measure amendments

Sponsor

Stephanie Stahl Hamilton (D)

Summary

Sections 19-102.01 and 19-111.01 of Arizona Revised Statutes are repealed, and a new section 19-111.01 is added to allow political committees to submit proposed ballot measure descriptions to the attorney general for pre-approval and legal sufficiency review. Requirements are imposed on registration and regulation of paid and non-resident circulators for statewide initiative and referendum petitions, including application details, disqualification criteria, and enforcement mechanisms. Ballot measure numbering, official and descriptive title formatting, and impartial summary posting procedures are revised to enhance transparency and restore the people's right to legislate by initiative and referendum under the Arizona Constitution.

Action Taken

HB 2509 - Campaign finance; corporate contributions; registration

Sponsor

Stephanie Stahl Hamilton (D)

Summary

Requirements are imposed on corporations, limited liability companies, and labor organizations to register and report contributions exceeding specified thresholds to political action committees or similar entities in Arizona. Contribution disclosures must include detailed information about the contributor, recipient, candidate supported or opposed, and contribution date, with notarized verification required within five days. Civil penalties up to three times the contribution amount and misdemeanor charges are established for noncompliance or false filings under HB 2509.

Action Taken

HB 2655 - Election committee; security standards; practices

Sponsor

Seth Blattman (D)

Summary

An election security standards and practices committee is established by the Secretary of State in consultation with local election officials and technical experts to develop and disseminate required and recommended election security controls and a self-assessment questionnaire for jurisdictions. A process and schedule are imposed for regular review and updates of security standards, including public comment opportunities, with biennial submission of updated standards and compliance questionnaires by jurisdictions. Compliance with the standards is confirmed through self-assessments submitted to the Secretary of State every even-numbered year.

Action Taken

HB 2372 - School board candidates; electronic signatures

Sponsor

Stacey Travers (D)

Summary

Section 16-317 of the Arizona Revised Statutes is amended to require the Secretary of State to provide a secure online system for qualified electors to sign nomination petitions for city, county,

school board, justice of the peace, constable, and precinct committeeman candidates. Candidates may collect up to 110% of the minimum required nomination petition signatures through this online system starting in 2025, expanding from the previous allowance through 2024. The system must verify elector identity and transmit filings to the appropriate election officer.

Action Taken

HB 2630 - Election officers; privacy protections

Sponsor

Lorena Austin (D)

Summary

HB 2630 expands privacy protections for election officers and other eligible persons by prohibiting public access to their personal identifying information in county recorder, assessor, treasurer, and Department of Transportation records upon court order. It establishes procedures for eligible persons to file affidavits requesting redaction or sealing of such information to reduce threats to their safety, and criminalizes the unauthorized dissemination of election officers' personal information when it poses an imminent threat. The measure also clarifies definitions and extends confidentiality provisions to include family and household members of election officers.

Action Taken

HB 2507 - Early ballot return; voter intimidation

Sponsor

Stephanie Stahl Hamilton (D)

Summary

Section 16-1018 of the Arizona Revised Statutes is amended to classify as a class 2 misdemeanor the act of knowingly interfering with or harassing individuals delivering or attempting to deliver voted ballots to lawful recipients or receptacles. Additional unlawful acts related to voting, such as electioneering near polling places, removing ballots, and soliciting voters to show ballots, are reaffirmed and detailed. These provisions regulate conduct to protect the integrity and security of early ballot return and voting processes in Arizona.

Action Taken

HB 2789 - Nominating petitions; in lieu fee

Sponsor

Lupe Diaz (R)

Summary

An in-lieu filing fee option is established for candidates seeking ballot access in Arizona elections beginning in 2028, allowing payment of a fee instead of submitting nomination petition signatures. The Secretary of State is required to set and publish the fee and provide a notarized form for candidates to declare payment in lieu of petitions. This option excludes candidates for U.S. Senator, Representative in Congress, and President or Vice President.

Action Taken

HB 2219 - Ballot receptacles; electioneering limits**Sponsor**

Brian Garcia (D)

Summary

Seventy-five-foot limits are extended to include designated ballot receptacles, prohibiting electioneering and unauthorized presence within these areas while accessible to the public. Election officials, party representatives, and challengers are restricted from displaying political materials or electioneering within these limits, and photography is prohibited. Violations of these provisions and other specified unlawful acts related to voting conduct are classified as class 2 misdemeanors under HB 2219.

Action Taken

HB 2557 - Candidate petitions; felony disclosure**Sponsor**

Quang Nguyen (R)

Summary

Sections 13-911, 16-314, and 16-341 of the Arizona Revised Statutes are amended to require candidates submitting nomination petitions to disclose any felony sexual offense convictions involving a minor, including those sealed or expunged. Procedures for sealing criminal records are clarified, specifying exceptions for certain offenses and mandating disclosure of relevant convictions on nomination petitions. Nomination petitions must include a candidate-completed statement regarding such felony convictions, enhancing transparency in candidate qualifications.

Action Taken

Passed House Judiciary 9-0
Passed the House 37-16 and was sent to the Senate
Passed Senate Judiciary and Elections 5-2
Passed the Senate 17-9 and was sent back to the House

SB 1609 - New political parties; party name

Sponsor

Thomas "TJ" Shope (R)

Summary

Requirements are imposed on new political parties in Arizona to ensure their names are distinguishable and exclude terms like "unaffiliated" or "independent." Procedures for petition signatures and ballot representation for new parties at primary, general, county, and municipal elections are clarified and standardized. Election officials are mandated to recognize political parties by their petitioned names, and the act applies retroactively from December 31, 2024, with immediate effect.

Action Taken

Passed Senate Judiciary and Elections 7-0

SB 1568 - Early ballots; registration signatures; curing

Sponsor

Jake Hoffman (R)

Summary

Requirements are imposed on early ballot requests in Arizona, including mandating that voter registration records contain a handwritten signature obtained within the past five years before mailing ballots and before comparing signatures on returned ballots. Signature cure processes are expanded with daily updated lists of voters needing to cure signatures provided to political parties, candidates, and third-party organizations upon request. Early voting procedures are regulated to ensure timely ballot distribution, signature verification, and secure ballot processing, with penalties established for improper handling of early ballot request forms and unauthorized ballot mailings.

Action Taken

Passed Senate Judiciary and Elections 4-3

Passed the Senate 16-12 and was sent to the House

Passed House Federalism, Military Affairs, & Elections 4-3

SB 1569 - Special election boards; voter registration

Sponsor

Jake Hoffman (R)

Summary

Section 16-549 of the Arizona Revised Statutes is amended to regulate the appointment and duties of special election boards for ill or disabled voters, including procedures for personal ballot delivery and voting. Special election board members are prohibited from collecting, processing, or facilitating voter registrations while acting on behalf of the county recorder or election officer. Compensation and travel reimbursements for board members are prescribed, and emergency provisions for ballot delivery to hospitalized voters are established.

Action Taken

Passed Senate Judiciary and Elections 4-3

SB 1237 - Election procedures manual; consultation

Sponsor

John Kavanagh (R)

Summary

Rules governing election procedures, including early voting, ballot handling, and electronic voting system security, are revised to require consultation with county recorders and legislative election committee leaders before the Secretary of State prescribes them. An official instructions and procedures manual must be issued biennially before general elections, approved by the governor and attorney general, and include rules for fax and internet transmission of ballots and requests for absent uniformed and overseas voters. Violations of these rules are classified as class 2 misdemeanors, and expert personnel must be provided to review electronic voting systems and recommend statutory or procedural changes.

Action Taken

Passed Senate Judiciary and Elections 4-3
Passed the Senate 16-11 and was sent to the House
Passed House Federalism, Military Affairs, & Elections 4-3
Passed the House 31-21 and was sent back to the Senate

SCR 1031 - Legislative districts; population; census; citizenship

Sponsor

Jake Hoffman (R)

Description

SCR 1031 proposes a constitutional amendment to require legislative districts to be drawn based on citizen population rather than total population, mandating a state-run census of United States citizens and establishing a State Census Fund. It directs the transfer of \$5,000,000 annually from the Citizens

Clean Election Fund to the State Census Fund to finance the required census. The bill also outlines the structure and procedures of the independent redistricting commission, emphasizing the use of citizen population data for legislative district mapping and referencing the principle that only United States citizens may participate in state elections.

Action Taken

Passed Senate Government 4-3

Passed the Senate 16-11 and was sent to the House

SB 1687 – Strike Everything Amendment – May Primary Date

Sponsor

Jake Hoffman (R)

Description

The bill amends election laws to move primary elections beginning in 2027 to the Tuesday before the last Monday in May and consolidates election dates to increase voter participation and reduce costs.

Action Taken

Passed Senate Judiciary and Elections 4-3

Passed the Senate 16-12 and was sent to the House

Passed House Federalism, Military Affairs, & Elections 4-3

SB 1138 – Strike Everything Amendment - Automated license plate readers

Sponsor

Mark Finchem (R)

Description

The Strike Everything amendment would redirect the 10% surcharge that funds the Clean Elections fund to the Highway User Revenue Fund (HURF).

Action Taken

Passed Senate Appropriations, Transportation and Technology 6-3

Katie Hobbs
Governor

Thomas M. Collins
Executive Director



Mark S. Kimble
Chair

Steve M. Titla
Galen D. Paton
Christina Werther
Sam Crump
Commissioners

State of Arizona
Citizens Clean Elections Commission

1110 W. Washington St. - Suite 250 - Phoenix, Arizona 85007 - Tel (602) 364-3477
Fax (602) 364-3487 - www.azcleelections.gov

MEMORANDUM

To: Commissioners

From: Tom Collins

Date: April 21, 2026

Subject: Updating R2-20-113 to reflect new statutory language

Last session, the legislature updated the voter education guide statute to include countywide and supervisorial candidates. In order to make commission rules reflect the statute, I recommend the Commission update a correlated administrative rule. The recommendation additionally updates the rule to include additional information the Commission includes in the candidate statement pamphlet.

Currently, A.A.C. R2-20-113 states:

A. The Commission shall publish a candidate statement pamphlet in both the primary and general elections as required by A.R.S. § 16-956(A)(1). Commission staff shall send invitations for submission of a 200 word statement to every statewide and legislative candidate who has qualified for the ballot. Statements submitted for the primary candidate statement pamphlet shall be used for the general candidate statement pamphlet unless otherwise stated by the candidate.

B. The following candidates will not be invited to submit a statement for the candidate statement pamphlet:

1. In the primary election: write-in candidates for the primary election, independent candidates, no party affiliation or unrecognized party candidates.
2. In the general election: write in candidates

I recommend the Commission adopt the language below:

A. The Commission shall publish a candidate statement pamphlet in both the primary and general elections as required by A.R.S. § 16-956(A)(1). Commission staff shall send invitations for submission of a 200 word statement, 100 word biography, and headshot photograph to ~~every statewide and legislative candidates~~ identified in A.R.S. 16-956(A)(1) who ~~has~~ have qualified for the ballot. Statements submitted for the primary candidate statement pamphlet shall be used for the general candidate statement pamphlet unless otherwise stated by the candidate.

B. The following candidates will not be invited to submit a statement for the candidate statement pamphlet:

1. In the primary election: write-in candidates for the primary election, independent candidates, no party affiliation or unrecognized party candidates.
2. In the general election: write in candidates

NOTICES OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

The APA requires an agency file a Notice of Rulemaking Docket Opening which outlines its rulemaking intentions under A.R.S. § 41-1021. A docket opening and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking are often filed at the same time and published in the same Register issue. If they are not filed at the same time, information on where the docket opening was published is listed in the preamble of the proposed rulemaking.

An agency must allow at least 30 days to elapse after the publication of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the Register before scheduling any oral proceedings. Written public comments shall be accepted for at least 30 days after the published notice. Refer to A.R.S. §§ 41-1013, 41-1022 and 41-1023.

Questions about the notice can be answered by the person listed in item #5 of the preamble.

Refer to item #11 for information on how to comment on this notice, the close of record to comment, and information related to oral proceedings.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

TITLE 2. ADMINISTRATION

CHAPTER 20. CITIZENS CLEAN ELECTIONS COMMISSION

[R26-29]

PREAMBLE

- 1. Permission to proceed with this proposed rulemaking was granted under A.R.S. § 41-1039 by the governor on: Pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1039(E)(2)(c), the Commission is not required to obtain permission to proceed with this rulemaking.
2. Article, Part, or Section Affected (as applicable) Rulemaking Action R2-20-113 Amend
3. Citations to the agency's statutory rulemaking authority to include the authorizing statute (general) and the implementing statute (specific): Authorizing statute: A.R.S. § 16-956(A)(7) Implementing statute: A.R.S. § 16-956(A)(1)
4. Citations to all related notices published in the Register that pertain to the current record of the proposed rule: Notice of Rulemaking Docket Opening: 32 A.A.R. 694, March 20, 2026 (in this issue); File Number: R26-34
5. The agency's contact person who can answer questions about the rulemaking: Name: Thomas Collins Title: Executive Director Address: 1802 W. Jackson St. Phoenix, AZ 85007 Telephone: (602) 364-3477 Email: ccec@azcleelections.gov Website: www.azcleelections.gov
6. An agency's justification and reason why a rule should be made, amended, repealed or renumbered, to include an explanation about the rulemaking:

2025 Ariz. Sess. Laws ch. 202 (57th Leg., 1st Reg. Sess.) amended A.R.S. § 16-956 to expand candidate statement pamphlet eligibility to include countywide and supervisorial candidates. This rulemaking updates the Commission's correlated administrative rule to align with the amended statute and ensure consistency between Commission rules and current law. The proposal also updates the rule to reflect the information the Commission includes in the candidate statement pamphlet, such as statement length, biographical information, and submission parameters.

The rule references A.R.S. § 16-956(A)(1) rather than restating the statutory candidate categories. This approach is consistent with Arizona's incorporation-by-reference framework under A.R.S. § 41-1028. Reproducing the statutory language in full would be cumbersome and could create confusion or inconsistency if the statute is amended. A direct citation preserves statutory primacy while ensuring the rule remains aligned with the governing law.

Using a statutory cross-reference reduces drafting and maintenance costs and improves regulatory clarity by keeping the rule focused on procedural implementation rather than duplicative statutory text. The incorporated material is fully identified by statute and subsection and is readily accessible to the public through official sources, including the Arizona Legislature's website. Consis-

tent with A.R.S. § 41-1028, the reference incorporates the statute as it exists at the time of rule adoption and does not automatically incorporate future amendments. This approach minimizes redundancy and reduces the risk of conflict between the rule and future statutory changes.

In the event of unanimous adoption, the Commission may make a rule effective immediately. A.R.S. § 16-956(A). The Commission has, in such circumstances, requested the Governor’s Regulatory Review Council allow for immediate effect.

7. A reference to any study relevant to the rule that the agency reviewed and proposes either to rely on or not to rely on in its evaluation of or justification for the rule, where the public may obtain or review each study, all data underlying each study, and any analysis of each study and other supporting material:

Not applicable

8. A showing of good cause why the rulemaking is necessary to promote a statewide interest if the rulemaking will diminish a previous grant of authority of a political subdivision of this state:

Not applicable

9. The preliminary summary of the economic, small business, and consumer impact:

There is little to no economic, small business, or consumer impact, other than the cost to the Commission to prepare the rule package, because the rulemaking simply aligns with statute. Thus, the economic impact is minimized

10. The agency’s contact person who can answer questions about the economic, small business and consumer impact statement:

Name: Thomas Collins
Title: Executive Director
Address: 1802 W. Jackson St.
Phoenix, AZ 85007
Telephone: (602) 364-3477
Email: ccec@azcleelections.gov
Website: www.azcleelections.gov

11. The time, place, and nature of the proceedings to make, amend, repeal, or renumber the rule, or if no proceeding is scheduled, where, when, and how persons may request an oral proceeding on the proposed rule:

The Commission will accept written comments until April 23, 2026 at 10 a.m. Written comments may be sent to ccec@azcleelections.gov or to Citizens Clean Elections Commission, 1802 W. Jackson St., Number 129, Phoenix, AZ 85007.

The Commission will review and discuss any comments, and potentially adopt the amendment at its regular business meeting April 23, 2026 at 10 a.m. The Commission will take oral public comment at that time.

More information on Commission meeting dates, times and means of attending are available on the Commission’s website: <https://www.azcleelections.gov/commission-meetings>. A person interested in requesting an oral proceeding pursuant to A.R.S. 41-1023(C) should send that request in writing to:

Name: Thomas M. Collins
Title: Executive Director
Mailing Address: 1802 W. Jackson St.
Phoenix, AZ 85007
Telephone: (602) 364-3477
Email: ccec@azcleelections.gov

Commission meetings are held at:
Citizens Clean Elections Commission
1110 W. Washington St., Suite 250
Phoenix, AZ 85007

12. All agencies shall list other matters prescribed by statute applicable to the specific agency or to any specific rule or class of rules. Additionally, an agency subject to Council review under A.R.S. §§ 41-1052 and 41-1055 shall respond to the following questions:

None

a. Whether the rule requires a permit, whether a general permit is used and if not, the reasons why a general permit is not used:

Not applicable

b. Whether a federal law is applicable to the subject of the rule, whether the rule is more stringent than federal law and if so, citation to the statutory authority to exceed the requirements of federal law:

Not applicable

c. Whether a person submitted an analysis to the agency that compares the rule’s impact of the competitiveness of business in this state to the impact on business in other states:

Not applicable

13. A list of any incorporated by reference material as specified in A.R.S. § 41-1028 and its location in the rules:

None

14. The full text of the rules follows:

TITLE 2. ADMINISTRATION

CHAPTER 20. CITIZENS CLEAN ELECTIONS COMMISSION

ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section
R2-20-113. Candidate Statement Pamphlet

ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

R2-20-113. Candidate Statement Pamphlet

- A. The Commission shall publish a candidate statement pamphlet in both the primary and general elections as required by A.R.S. § 16-956(A)(1). Commission staff shall send invitations for submission of a 200 word statement, 100 word biography, and headshot photograph to ~~every statewide and legislative candidate~~ candidates identified in A.R.S. 16-956(A)(1) who has have qualified for the ballot. Statements submitted for the primary candidate statement pamphlet shall be used for the general candidate statement pamphlet unless otherwise stated by the candidate.
- B. No change

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

TITLE 18. ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

CHAPTER 9. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL

[R26-30]

PREAMBLE

1. Permission to proceed with this proposed rulemaking was granted under A.R.S. § 41-1039 by the governor on:
July 1, 2025

<u>2. Article, Part, or Section Affected (as applicable)</u>	<u>Rulemaking Action</u>
Article 11	New Section
R18-9-1101	New Section
R18-9-1102	New Section
R18-9-1103	New Section
R18-9-1104	New Section
R18-9-1105	New Section
R18-9-1106	New Section
R18-9-1107	New Section

3. Citations to the agency’s statutory rulemaking authority to include the authorizing statute (general) and the implementing statute (specific):

Authorizing statute: A.R.S. §§ 49-104(B)(4), 49-202(A), 49-203(A)(1)
Implementing statute: A.R.S. §§ 49-221, 49-203(A)(4)

4. Citations to all related notices published in the Register that pertain to the current record of the proposed rule:
Notice of Rulemaking Docket Opening: 31 A.A.R. 3065; Issue Date: September 26, 2025; Issue Number: 39; File Number: R25-221

5. The agency’s contact person who can answer questions about the rulemaking:

Name: Jonathan Quinsey
 Title: Legal Specialist
 Division: Water Quality
 Address: 1110 W. Washington St.
 Phoenix, AZ 85007
 Telephone: (602) 771-8193
 Email: quinsey.jonathan@azdeq.gov
 Website: https://azdeq.gov/rulemaking/aml

6. An agency’s justification and reason why a rule should be made, amended, repealed or renumbered, to include an explanation about the rulemaking:

A. Background and Purpose of this Rulemaking

This rulemaking establishes a new Article 11 in Title 18, Chapter 9 of the Arizona Administrative Code (A.A.C.) to codify the Ari-

Thomas M. Collins
Executive Director



State of Arizona
Citizens Clean Elections Commission

1110 W. Washington St. - Suite 250 - Phoenix, Arizona 85007 - Tel (602) 364-3477 - Fax (602) 364-3487 - www.azcleanelections.gov

Via Email

April 20, 2026

Clean Elections Commission
Craig Morgan, Independent Legal Advisor
C/O Paula Thomas, Executive Officer
1802 W. Jackson St. #129
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Monica Timberlake
PO Box 1131
Quartzsite AZ 85346

Notice of Hearing re: MUR 25-01 & Summary of Proposed Order

Commissioners and Ms. Timberlake:

Included with the email delivering this letter is a draft Order and Notice of Appealable Agency Action in the matter of Monica Timberlake, MUR 25-01.

This letter also serves as **notice** to Ms. Timberlake that this matter will be considered at the Commission's regular meeting at 10 a.m. April 23, 2026. You may attend in person at 1110 W. Washington, Suite 250, Phoenix, Arizona 85007 or via Zoom at **<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86838844941> Meeting ID: 868 3884 4941.**

Finally, this letter provides a summary of the findings of fact and conclusions of law in the proposed order and my proposed disposition.

Factual Background

Ms. Timberlake applied for certification as a participating candidate on February 28, 2024. As part of that certification, she agreed to comply with the Citizens Clean Elections Act and Commission rules, including timely filing of campaign finance reports, maintaining and producing books and records, and cooperating with Commission audits.

Ms. Timberlake applied for Clean Elections funding in July 2024 and qualified in August 2024 after submitting sufficient qualifying contributions. She received \$31,760 in Clean Elections funds.

Reporting and Audit Failures

Following her pre-primary report on July 27, 2024, Ms. Timberlake ceased filing required campaign finance reports for extended periods. Although she initially communicated with auditors and acknowledged issues with her reporting and bookkeeping, she did not respond to subsequent communications necessary to complete the audit. As a result, auditors reported that they were unable to review expenditures or perform required audit procedures.

The Executive Director issued notice of a complaint and potential repayment obligation in March 2025. On May 22, 2025, the Commission determined there was reason to believe violations had occurred and ordered repayment of Clean Elections funds. That order was delivered and not appealed. Ms. Timberlake later filed late campaign finance reports in June and November 2025.

Ms. Timberlake has also acknowledged that she retains approximately \$5,000 in Clean Elections funds.

Enforcement History and Findings

On March 26, 2026, the Commission determined that there was probable cause to believe Ms. Timberlake violated the Act and Commission rules. The draft Order finds probable cause that she violated:

A.R.S. § 16-942(B) and A.A.C. R2-20-110(A) by failing to timely file required campaign finance reports;

A.A.C. R2-20-115, and related provisions, by failing to maintain adequate records;

A.A.C. R2-20-104(C), R2-20-115, and R2-20-403 by failing to cooperate with the audit and produce required documentation; and

A.R.S. § 16-953 by failing to return unused Clean Elections funds.

The Order sets out the statutory penalty structure for reporting violations, including per-day penalties, the statutory multiplier triggered when reporting thresholds are exceeded, and the cap at two times the amount not reported. The total potential penalty exposure for late reports is calculated at \$317,600.

Penalty Recommendation

The draft Order reflects mitigation based on Respondent's eventual filing of reports, reducing the late-filing penalty to \$31,760. The Order also addresses additional violations related to recordkeeping, audit cooperation, and failure to return funds.

The proposed penalties are:

\$31,760 for failure to timely file campaign finance reports;

\$1,000 for recordkeeping violations;

\$1,000 for failure to return Clean Elections funds; and

\$1,000 for failure to cooperate with the audit and provide records.

The total proposed civil penalty is \$34,760.

Procedural Rights

If approved, the order constitutes an appealable agency action. Ms. Timberlake is advised of her right to request an administrative hearing within 30 days of receipt of the order, as well as the availability of an informal settlement conference under A.R.S. § 41-1092.06. The order also includes standard provisions regarding interest accrual and collection.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Collins
Executive Director

STATE OF ARIZONA

CITIZENS CLEAN ELECTIONS COMMISSION

MUR 25-03
**ORDER ASSESSING PENALTIES AND NOTICE
OF APPEALABLE AGENCY ACTION**

In the Matter of:

Monica Timberlake, Respondent

The Citizens Clean Elections Commission (“Commission”) shall enforce the provisions of the Citizens Clean Elections Act (“Act”). Pursuant to those duties, the Commission hereby issues this Order and Notice of Appealable Agency Action.

Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law

- A. Respondent applied for certification as a participating candidate on February 28, 2024. Order Assessing Penalties Exhibits (Exhibits) 1.
- B. As a participating candidate, Respondent agreed to:
 - 1. Comply with all requirements of the Act and Commission rules.
 - 2. Be subject to all enforcement actions by the Commission as authorized by the Act and Commission rules.
 - 3. Have the burden of proving that expenditures made by or on behalf of the candidate were for direct campaign purposes.
 - 4. Keep and furnish to the Commission all documentation relating to expenditures, receipts, funding, books, records (including bank records for all accounts), and supporting documentation and other information that the Commission may request in accordance with Commission rules.

1 5. Permit an audit and examination of all receipts and expenditures, including those
2 made by the candidate, the candidate's authorized committee, or any agent or
3 person authorized to make expenditures on behalf of the candidate or committee.

4 The candidate and the candidate's authorized committee shall also provide any
5 material required in connection with an audit, investigation, or examination
6 conducted by the Commission. The candidate and authorized committee shall
7 facilitate the audit and examination and shall pay any amounts required to be
8 repaid.

9 6. Pay any civil penalties included in a conciliation agreement or otherwise imposed
10 against the candidate.

11 7. File all campaign finance reports with the Secretary of State in an electronic format
12 in a timely manner.

13 *Id.*

14 C. Respondent applied for clean elections funding on July, 15, 2024. Exhibits 3-11

15 D. Respondent provided sufficient qualifying contributions to meet the statutory
16 requirements for \$31,760 in clean elections funding on August 5, 2024. Exhibits 12.

17 E. Respondent ceased filing periodic campaign finance reports after her pre-primary
18 report on July 27, 2024. Exhibits 14-17.

19 F. Respondent communicated with Clean Elections auditors to provide initial information
20 regarding her book-keeping policies and an acknowledgment of her late reports, but
21 has not responded to subsequent communications related to her reports. Exhibits 18.

22 As a result of Respondent's actions, the Clean Elections auditors were "unable to
23 review any of the expenses, contributions, or perform any other procedure as required
24 for our testing of the [Respondent's] Clean Elections funding." Exhibits 20.

25 G. The Executive Director provided notice of a complaint possible repayment and an
26 opportunity to respond in a letter dated March 10, 2025. Exhibits 25-27.

- 1 H. The Executive Director recommended the Commission determine there was reason to
2 believe violations of the Act and Rules had occurred and recommended the
3 Commission order Respondent to repay the clean elections funding she had received.
4 Exhibits 28-33.
- 5 I. On May 22, 2025, Respondent wrote an email to Commission staff where she stated
6 that behavioral health issues and two car accidents had resulted in her lack of
7 communication. Exhibits 65.
- 8 J. On May 22, 2025, the Commission determined there was reason to believe that
9 violations of the Clean Elections Act and Rules had occurred and ordered Respondent
10 to repay the clean elections funds she had received. Ariz. Citizens Clean Elections
11 Comm'n, Public Hearing Transcript (May 22, 2025) at 21,
12 [https://storageccec.blob.core.usgovcloudapi.net/public/docs/1295-05222025-
14 Minutes_Condensed.pdf](https://storageccec.blob.core.usgovcloudapi.net/public/docs/1295-05222025-
13 Minutes_Condensed.pdf). Exhibits 60-61.
- 14 K. The Repayment Order was delivered to Respondent via Federal Express. Exhibits 62.
- 15 L. Respondent did not appeal the Repayment Order.
- 16 M. Respondent filed late campaign finance reports on June 13, 2025, June 19, 2025, and
17 November 11, 2025. Exhibit at 76.
- 18 N. Respondent admitted she retains \$5,000 in clean elections funding. Exhibits 97-98.
- 19 O. The Executive Director issued a Compliance Order to Respondent on January 21,
20 2026. Exhibits 84.
- 21 P. On March 26, 2026, the Commission found probable cause to believe Respondent
22 violated the Clean Elections Act and Rules, Ariz. Citizens Clean Elections Comm'n,
23 Public Hearing Transcript (March 22, 2026) at 30-31,
24 [https://storageccec.blob.core.usgovcloudapi.net/public/docs/1423-03262026-
26 Minutes_Condensed.pdf](https://storageccec.blob.core.usgovcloudapi.net/public/docs/1423-03262026-
25 Minutes_Condensed.pdf). Exhibits 95-96.
- Q. Participating candidates are required to file campaign finance reports "that include all
receipts and disbursements for their current campaign account." A.A.C. R2-20-110(A).

1 Reports must be filed on the dates established in A.R.S. § 16-927 and Commission
2 rules. Failure to file is subject to penalties under A.R.S. § 16-942(B).

3 Respondent's failure to file is illustrated by Table 1, Arizona Secretary of State's Office
4 Campaign Finance Reporting System.

5 R. Penalties under § 16-942(B) for reporting violations are \$210 per day for legislative
6 candidates (with the adjustment required under § 16-959(A)), up to twice the amount
7 unreported. Those fines are doubled if the amount not reported is in excess of an
8 amount set by statute (greater than 10 percent of the general spending limit of \$31,
9 760). That threshold is met here. Fines are also limited to two times the amount not
10 reported. Here the amount not reported is \$31,760. Consequently, the total fine for
11 each late report is capped at \$63,520.

12 S. Calculations:

13 August 12, 2024: 305 days x \$420 = \$128,100 reduced to \$63,520

14 October 15, 2024: 241 days x \$420 = \$101,220 reduced to \$63,520

15 October 26, 2024: 236 days x \$420 = \$99,120 reduced to \$63,520

16 November 12, 2024: 360 days x \$420 = \$151,200 reduced to \$63,520

17 January 15, 2025: 296 days x \$420 = \$124,320 reduced to \$63,520.

18 Total Possible Fine: \$317,600.

19 T. Participating candidates must maintain and preserve books and records of campaign
20 transactions and are subject to audit. A.A.C. R2-20-115(A)–(B).

21 U. Respondent has acknowledged that she was not able to file reports because of issues
22 with the records that she kept. Exhibits 65. There is probable cause to believe she
23 violated A.A.C. R2-20-115.

24 V. If the Commission has reason to believe by a preponderance of the evidence that a
25 participating candidate is not in compliance with the Act or Commission rules, then in
26 addition to other penalties under law, the Commission may decertify a candidate, deny

1 or suspend funding, order repayment of funds, or impose a penalty not to exceed
2 \$1,000 for a participating candidate for the legislature. A.A.C. R2-20-222(A).

3 W. Participating candidates are required to return unused monies to the Commission.
4 A.R.S. § 16-953. Here, apart from the repayment order, Respondent states she has
5 \$5,000 in remaining money in her account. There is probable cause to believe
6 Respondent violated A.R.S. § 16-953.

7 X. If the Commission has reason to believe by a preponderance of the evidence that a
8 participating candidate is not in compliance with the Act or Commission rules, then in
9 addition to other penalties under law, the Commission may decertify a candidate, deny
10 or suspend funding, order repayment of funds, or impose a penalty not to exceed
11 \$1,000 for a participating candidate for the legislature. A.A.C. R2-20-222(A).

12 Y. Participating candidates must maintain and preserve books and records of campaign
13 transactions. A.A.C. R2-20-115(A)–(B). Candidates must produce such records to the
14 Commission and auditors upon request. A.A.C. R2-20-104(C); R2-20-403.

15 Z. Respondent agreed to these requirements when submitting her 2024 Candidate
16 Statement of Organization and Clean Elections Agreement. Despite requests from staff
17 and auditors, Respondent did not provide required documentation.

18 AA. Respondent's failure to provide records impaired the Commission's ability to confirm
19 proper use of Clean Elections funds, including whether monies were used for direct
20 campaign purposes or returned as required by A.R.S. § 16-953.

21 BB. Based on Respondent's failure to cooperate with the audit and failure to produce
22 required books and records, there is probable cause to believe she violated A.A.C. R2-
23 20-104(C), R2-20-115, and R2-20-403.

24 CC. If the Commission has reason to believe by a preponderance of the evidence that a
25 participating candidate is not in compliance with the Act or Commission rules, then in
26 addition to other penalties under law, the Commission may decertify a candidate, deny

1 or suspend funding, order repayment of funds, or impose a penalty not to exceed
2 \$1,000 for a participating candidate for the legislature. A.A.C. R2-20-222(A).

3 DD. Because the Respondent has filed reports the Commission reduces the potential
4 penalty regarding later filings to \$31,760. A.R.S. 16-957(B).

5 **FAILURE TO COMPLY**

6 After the Order informing Respondent that the Commission had determined that there was reason to
7 believe Respondent had violated requirements of the Act, the expiration of fourteen days, and service
8 of an order requiring compliance, Respondent remained out of compliance. Accordingly, the
9 Commission has made a public finding that the Respondent violated the Act issues this Order
10 assessing a civil penalty in accordance with A.R.S. § 16-942 and A.A.C. R2-20-109(F)(3), and R2-20-
11 222(A).

13 **PENALTIES**

14 The Commission imposes penalties as follows:

15 Late filing: \$31,760

16 Recording keeping: \$1,000

17 Failure to return money: \$1,000

18 Failure to cooperate with audit and supply records: \$1,000

19 Total: \$34,760.

20 **ORDER**

21 WHEREFORE, the Citizens Clean Elections Commission hereby imposes a civil penalty of \$320,600.

22 This civil penalty will be satisfied upon receipt of payment to the Citizens Clean Elections Commission
23 at its mailing address 1802 W. Jackson St. #129, Phoenix, Arizona 85007. Interest shall accrue and
24 become immediately payable on any amount that remains unpaid thirty days after the date of this
25 Order, unless the Respondent has requested an administrative hearing. Interest shall accrue at the
26 statutory rate of prime plus one (1) percent (7.75%) pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1201(A). This Order
constitutes a fine, penalty, or forfeiture payable to and for the benefit of a governmental unit, and not

1 compensation for actual pecuniary loss; and pursuant to 11 USC § 523 such obligations are not subject
2 to discharge in bankruptcy. In the event legal action is necessary to enforce collection hereunder,
3 Respondent shall additionally pay all costs and expenses of collection, including, without limitation,
4 reasonable attorneys' fees.

5 **Respondent may request an administrative hearing to contest this Order by submitting a written**
6 **request for a hearing within 30 days of receipt of this Order. The written request for a hearing**
7 **shall be sent to the Citizens Clean Elections Commission mailing address, 1802 W. Jackson St.**
8 **#129, Phoenix, Arizona 85007.**

9 If you request a hearing, you may request an informal settlement conference pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-
10 1092.06.

11 Individuals with a disability may request reasonable accommodation by contacting the Citizens Clean
12 Elections Commission mailing address 1802 W. Jackson St. #129, Phoenix, Arizona 85007, Telephone:
13 (602) 364-3477; and during a hearing by contacting the Office of Administrative Hearings, 1400 West
14 Washington, Suite 101, Phoenix, Arizona 85007, Telephone: (602) 542-9826. Requests should be
15 made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

16
17 Dated this ___ day of April , 2026.

18
19 By:

20 Thomas M. Collins, Executive Director for the
21 Commission
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