ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Fifty-sixth Legislature Second Regular Session

HB 2080: elections; municipal vacancies; primary Sponsor: Representative Hendrix, LD 14 Committee on Municipal Oversight & Elections

<u>Overview</u>

Allows a municipality to authorize the prevailing candidate at the primary election for a mayor or council seat in which the serving member is appointed, to assume office immediately upon the certification of the election.

<u>History</u>

Elections for mayor and council take place during a primary election. To be declared elected, a candidate must receive the majority of all votes cast at that election. The *majority of all votes cast* is determined by calculating the total number of votes cast for all candidates for an office divided by the number of seats to be filled; this number is then divided by two and rounded to the highest whole number. If no candidate receives the majority of votes cast, or if the number of seats to be filled is more than the number of candidates who receive a majority of votes cast, the number of candidates who advance to the general or runoff election is equal to twice the number of seats to be filled for the office (A.R.S. § 9-821.01).

Provisions

- 1. Specifies that if the person serving as mayor or councilmember holds that office by appointment at the time of the primary election:
 - a) the candidate to fill the vacancy that receives the majority of all votes cast at that primary election for that office, is declared elected to that office effective after the certification of the election and upon taking the oath of office; and
 - b) the appointed member's term of office ends when the elected candidate takes the oath of office. (Sec. 1, 2).
- 2. Makes technical and conforming changes. (Sec. 2)

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