

Senate Engrossed

**FILED**

**MICHELE REAGAN**  
**SECRETARY OF STATE**

State of Arizona  
Senate  
Fifty-third Legislature  
First Regular Session  
2017

**CHAPTER 14**  
**SENATE BILL 1157**

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 13-4503, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO COMPETENCY HEARINGS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

2 Section 1. Section 13-4503, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
3 read:

4 13-4503. Request for competency examination; jurisdiction  
5 over competency hearings; referral

6 A. At any time after the prosecutor charges a criminal offense by  
7 complaint, information or indictment, any party or the court on its own  
8 motion may request in writing that the defendant be examined to determine  
9 the defendant's competency to stand trial, to enter a plea or to assist  
10 the defendant's attorney. The motion shall state the facts on which the  
11 mental examination is sought.

12 B. Within three working days after a motion is filed pursuant to  
13 this section, the parties shall provide all available medical and criminal  
14 history records to the court.

15 C. The court may request that a mental health expert assist the  
16 court in determining if reasonable grounds exist for examining a  
17 defendant.

18 D. ~~Once~~ EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION E OF THIS SECTION, AFTER  
19 any court determines that reasonable grounds exist for further competency  
20 proceedings, the superior court shall have exclusive jurisdiction over all  
21 competency hearings.

22 E. THE PRESIDING JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT IN EACH COUNTY, WITH  
23 THE AGREEMENT OF THE JUSTICE OF THE PEACE OR MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE, MAY  
24 AUTHORIZE A JUSTICE COURT OR MUNICIPAL COURT TO EXERCISE JURISDICTION OVER  
25 A COMPETENCY HEARING IN A MISDEMEANOR CASE THAT ARISES OUT OF THE JUSTICE  
26 COURT OR MUNICIPAL COURT.

27 F. A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE OR MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE, WITH THE  
28 APPROVAL OF THE PRESIDING JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT AND THE JUSTICE OR  
29 JUDGE OF THE RECEIVING COURT, MAY REFER A COMPETENCY HEARING TO ANOTHER  
30 JUSTICE COURT OR MUNICIPAL COURT THAT IS LOCATED IN THE COUNTY.

**APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR MARCH 14, 2017.**

**FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE MARCH 14, 2017.**

Passed the House March 9, 2017,

by the following vote: 59 Ayes,

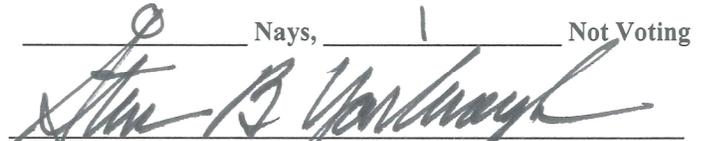
0 Nays, 1 Not Voting

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

Passed the Senate February 9, 2017,

by the following vote: 29 Ayes,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nays, 1 Not Voting

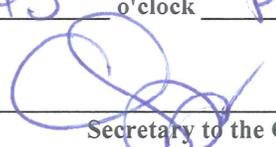
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA  
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR

This Bill was received by the Governor this

14 day of March, 2017,

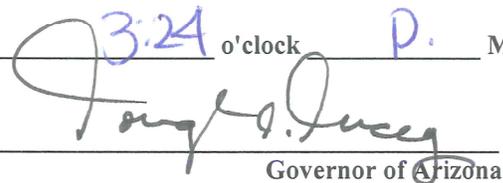
at 1:43 o'clock P. M.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary to the Governor

Approved this 14<sup>th</sup> day of

March, 2017,

at 3:24 o'clock P. M.

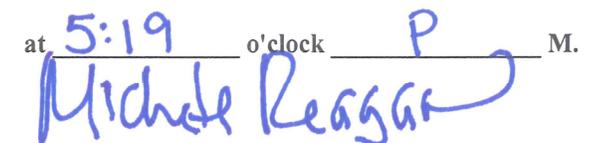
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor of Arizona

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE

This Bill was received by the Secretary of State

this 14 day of March, 2017,

at 5:19 o'clock P. M.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of State

S.B. 1157