

Government Committee

Senator David C. Farnsworth, Chairperson



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GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

LEGISLATION ENACTED

executive session; school safety plans (S.B. 1012) – Chapter 59 E

An emergency measure effective June 5, 2020, that allows a public body to discuss or consider matters relating to school safety operations, plans or programs in an executive session.

executive sessions; security plans (S.B. 1042) – Chapter 63

Allows a public body to hold executive sessions to discuss or consult with designated representatives regarding security plans, procedures, assessments, measures or systems related to the security or safety of buildings, facilities, operations, critical infrastructure information and information technology maintained by the public body. Records, documentation, notes and other materials that are made for, or provided in, an executive session relating to security plans, procedures or systems are exempt from public disclosure.

auditor general; continuation. (S.B. 1130) – Chapter 35

Continues the Office of the Auditor General for 10 years, until July 1, 2030, retroactive to July 1, 2020.

legislative council; continuation (S.B. 1297) – Chapter 41

[SEE THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE.](#)

annexation of territory; requirements (S.B. 1303) – Chapter 77

Prohibits a city or town from annexing territory if the annexation would result in an unincorporated territory that is surrounded by multiple cities and towns and exempts territory that was already surrounded by multiple cities and towns at the time of the annexation. Removes the ability of a city or town to annex territory without complying with statutory contiguousness and county island requirements if the territory is bordered by the same city or town on at least three sides.

reviser's technical corrections; 2020 (S.B. 1399) – Chapter 45

Makes annual non-substantive technical reviser's corrections to correct defective or conflicting statutory text from the previous session's legislative enactments.

ombudsman-citizens aide; continuation; reports; assistants (S.B. 1408) – Chapter 44

Continues the Office of the Ombudsman-Citizens Aide for eight years, until July 1, 2028, retroactive to July 1, 2020. Requires the Office of the Ombudsman-Citizens Aide to annually, rather than semi-annually, present a report of the Office of the Ombudsman-Citizens Aide's activities during the previous fiscal year to the Legislative Council. Decreases, from two to one, the number of assistants the Office of the Ombudsman-Citizens Aide must appoint to help investigate certain complaints.

electric cooperatives; broadband service (S.B. 1460) – Chapter 84

[SEE THE NATURAL RESOURCES & ENERGY COMMITTEE.](#)

public contracts; payment methods (S.B. 1510) – Chapter 87

Allows a contractor for a public works construction project to opt for the city, town, county or special taxing district to accept an assignment of money market accounts or demand deposit accounts in lieu of statutory retention methods. The amount deposited into a money market account or demand deposit account may not be released by the financial institution to the contractor without written authorization by the city, town, county or special taxing district.

family college savings program; treasurer (S.B. 1528) – Chapter 88

Beginning October 1, 2020, transfers administration and oversight of the Family College Savings Program (Program) and Program Trust Fund (Fund) from the Arizona Commission on Postsecondary Education (ACPE) and Family College Savings Oversight Committee (Oversight Committee) to the State Treasurer and State Board of Investment (BOI). Repeals the Oversight Committee and establishes the Program Advisory Committee (Advisory Committee). The Advisory Committee must assist the State Treasurer in promoting and raising awareness of the Program to residents of Arizona, with an emphasis on increasing access to the Program among economically disadvantaged, minority and underrepresented student populations. Outlines Advisory Committee membership and terminates the Advisory Committee on July 1, 2028.

Requires the State Treasurer, rather than the ACPE, to implement the operation of the Program using one or more financial institutions to act as depositories of the Fund and Program managers. Requires the BOI, rather than the ACPE, to act as trustee of the Fund. Transfers, from the ACPE to the State Treasurer, authorities, duties and oversight of the Program and the Fund, including the: 1) adoption of rules; 2) retention of professional services; 3) designation of trust interests to each account owner; and 4) deposit and investment of monies in the Fund with financial institutions. Requires the State Treasurer, rather than the Oversight Committee, to solicit proposals from financial institutions to implement the Program. Requires the BOI, on recommendation from the State Treasurer, to select the financial institution or institutions to implement the Program based on outlined criteria. The State Treasurer, on approval of the BOI, may use certain existing investment funds when selecting financial institutions to act as depository and manager of the Program.

Transfers, from the ACPE to the State Treasurer, all full-time equivalent positions, property, records and appropriated and non-appropriated monies related to the Program. The ACPE must cooperate and coordinate with the State Treasurer to ensure a successful transition of the Program. Exempts the BOI from rulemaking requirements for one year to adopt rules relating to the Program. All rules adopted by the ACPE relating to the Program remain in force until superseded by rules adopted by the BOI or the State Treasurer. Modifies the definition of a *qualified higher education expense* and *qualified withdrawal* to align with federal program requirements.

budget procedures; budget reconciliation; 2020-2021. (S.B. 1690/H.B. 2907) – Chapter 56

[SEE THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE.](#)

civics celebration day; civics education (H.B. 2625) – Chapter 25

[SEE THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.](#)

building permits; utilities; restrictions; prohibitions (H.B. 2686/S.B. 1222) – Chapter 3

[SEE THE NATURAL RESOURCES & ENERGY COMMITTEE.](#)